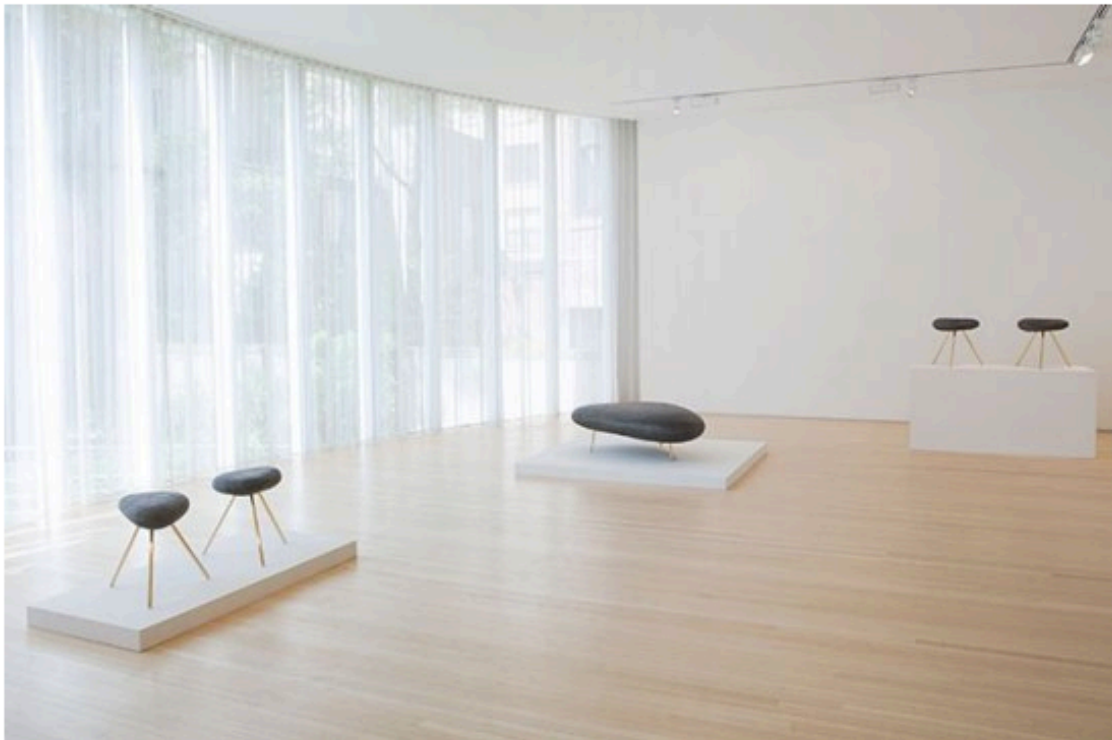


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# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

## Salon 94 Shows Martin Szekely's Stone-inspired Tables

By Hannah Martin



"It's not common to have a rock in your home," French designer Martin Szekely says matter-of-factly this morning at New York's Salon 94 gallery, where he is opening "Artefact," his first U.S. solo show in 20 years. In what feels like a departure from his trademark clean lines and severe silhouettes, Szekely has turned toward natural forms and materials, creating a series of stone-top tables modeled on a pebble he found on the beach in Normandy.

Szekely, a self-proclaimed rock collector, pocketed that particular stone for its flatness, which seemed to lend itself to the surface of a table. He later scanned the pebble and reproduced its exact dimensions on a larger scale in a shimmering quartzite that resembles the surface of the moon. Hollowing out each enlarged stone, he leaves only what he calls the "skin," about one centimeter thick, which perches, elegantly, on gold-plated steel legs.

"A pebble, by definition, is not just a rock," Szekely explains, "but a rock that has been sculpted by the sea."