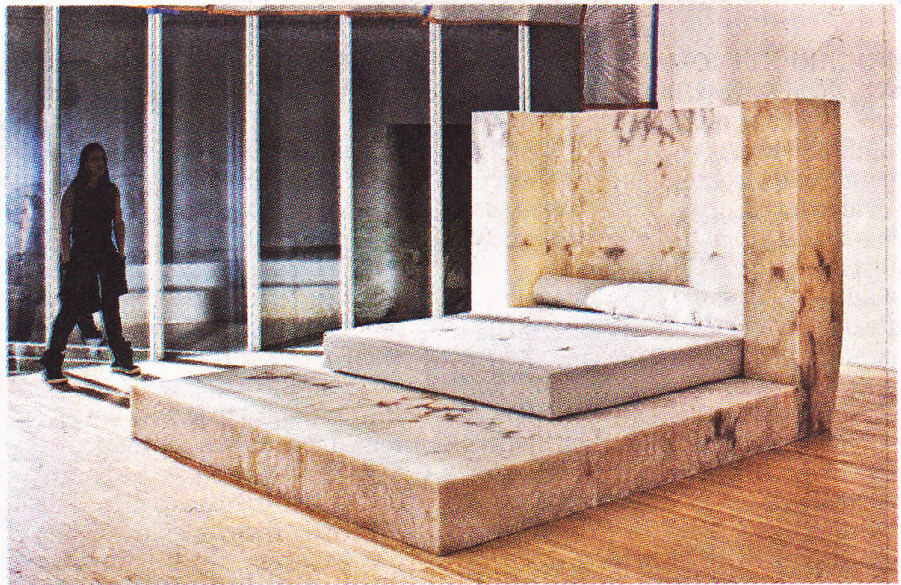


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For Heavy Sleepers

THE Paris-based fashion designer Rick Owens claims he fell into designing furniture simply because he needed something to sit on. And truth be told, the Art Deco and Robert Mallet-Stevens pieces he coveted were too big for his budget — and too polite in scale for the former French Socialist Party Headquarters that he now calls his home and office. “Like a typical American, I over-sized everything,” says Mr. Owens, a Los Angeles transplant. And he’s not kidding. “Pavane for a Dead Princess,” the first United States exhibition of his furniture designs, opens this weekend at Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn’s Salon 94 and includes a bed in alabaster and marble and a matching daybed. Total weight of the beds: two tons. Still, like Mr. Owens’s clothing, the furniture manages to be simultaneously brutal and elegant. Or as he puts it: “The bed is part Sleeping Beauty’s glass coffin and part Christ’s open tomb by way of Donald Judd and Richard Serra.”

ALIX BROWNE



DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN