

contract

Hospitality in Context

Interiors with a sense of place

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Elegantly Waiting

Brad Ascalon designs Ascent, a modular seating system, for the Swedish furniture company Mitab



New York-based designer Brad Ascalon (pictured), who founded his eponymous studio in 2006, has completed a second collaboration with Swedish furniture manufacturer Mitab. Ascent is a modular seating system designed for public environments. "The idea for this project was to rethink the notion of lobby and airport seating by establishing a completely new visual language for this category of contract furniture," says Ascalon.

Ascent features individual upholstered seats that rest on a monolithic wooden base. The base's top provides table surfaces for users while incorporating power and USB charging ports. The seating system comes in two sizes: One measures 80 inches long and incorporates a maximum of three seats, and a larger version measures 106 inches long and accommodates up to four seats.

"Ascent accentuates the soft, organic seat by contrasting that form with a monolithic, geometric base," Ascalon explains. "The combination of these opposing dynamics of lightness and stability brings unexpected whimsy and beauty to a static seating category, as well as the environments in which they live."

The seats are made of plywood with cold foam upholstered in a range of textile options. Wooden bases, which feature ash veneer with chamfered edges, are available with a stain or transparent lacquer. Ascent can be customized to create a variety of seating configurations and upholstery color combinations. —MURRYE BERNARD

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