

A weekly roundup of local design news, trends, and events

BY BRADLEY LINCOLN



Guerrilla Marketing

It's mid-June, so that means the Merchandise Mart and River North in general will be taken over by attendees of one of the biggest international design trade shows in the world, [NeoCon](#), running June 14–16. The fair is not open to the public, but that doesn't mean industry outsiders can't take advantage of some ancillary exhibits and parties that pop up for the occasion. Morlen Sinoway's [Guerrilla Truck Show](#) is one of the zaniest, energetic events of the week, and a uniquely Chicago happening that makes me proud to be a part of this city's design community. Morlen, a furniture designer and [home-design-shop proprietor](#), came up with this renegade concept six years ago (*Chicago Home + Garden* was an early supporter/sponsor), and it's definitely the place to be next Tuesday night from 5:30 p.m. till, oh, let's say 9 p.m. (but the party tends to linger on, so you'll want to clear your Wednesday morning calendar, trust me). Independent furniture designers and artists pull U-Haul trucks up to the docks along Fulton Market, and the public is invited to check out the goods and nosh and slosh with DJs and live music for ambience. If you don't have a good time and see some fantastic new indie design, I'll personally give you a full refund (admission is free). Head over to 1052 W. Fulton Market to begin, and call 312-432-0100 with questions.



Murmurings

The action over on Fulton won't be just on the docks, however, as lots of other neighborhood galleries and studios have special NeoCon-nected doings planned for Tuesday night. [Studio Murrur](#) and [Loll Designs](#) will be introducing their No.9 Collection of smart outdoor furniture made from recycled HDPE (high-density polyethylene) at a reception hosted by the [Ugly Step Sister Gallery](#) from 6–8:00 p.m. (RSVP to rsvp@studiomurrur.net) I blabbed about this collaborative venture [earlier in](#)

[the year](#), and am psyched to see the goods in person. Murrur's T.J. Thomas told me the collection has just been picked up by [Room & Board](#), and will be available exclusively through them in eight bold colors (this lounge chair is expected to retail for \$599). The consortium of Chicago furniture designers known as [Object Society](#) will also be kicking off its second annual members' exhibition of new works at a party in the gallery at 217 N. Carpenter Street from 6–10 p.m., with sustenance from hot boîtes [Avec](#) and [Publican](#) and live music, so of course you'll want to stop in and see what that's all about while you're in the hood.