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**> ESPASSO**

38 North Moore Street

Tel: 212-219-0017

Designer: Matthew Bremer,
Architecture in Formation

Since opening the first Espasso showroom in Long Island City in 2002, Carlos Junqueira has gained a reputation as the premiere ambassador of mid-century and contemporary Brazilian furniture design in the U.S. On September 20, he moved his operation to a new location in Tribeca. Designed by Matthew Bremer's firm Architecture in Formation, the new exhibition gallery is an airy, minimalist 6,000-square-foot space on two levels of a former garment factory. Neutral in tone and expression, the interior forms an understated backdrop to contemporary and mid-century furniture alike, from the rich, tropical designs of Isay Weinfeld, to classic, elegant pieces by Lina Bo Bardi, Lucio Costa, and Oscar Niemeyer, among others. A grand staircase connects the first level to the basement level, doubling as an amphitheater with staggered platforms for display and seating. In addition to the furniture, an exhibition of contemporary Brazilian artists, curated by Ilene Kurtz-Kretzschmar, is currently on view.