

STUDY IN DESIGN

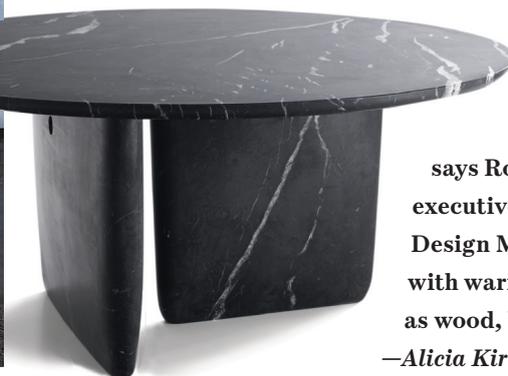
# WROUGHT IN STONE

## TABLED DISCUSSION

Scholten & Baijings  
Tuscan marble tables for  
Luce di Carrara. Right:  
Barber Osgerby Tobi-  
Ishi table with Carrara  
marble frame.



The French used it to build Versailles, and Michelangelo chiseled it into the *Pietà*. Marble—long associated with historic works—is back in vogue, thanks to an '80s design revival combined with consumer demand for natural, raw materials. Designers such as Lee Broom, Barber Osgerby for B&B Italia and Marcel Wanders for Baccarat are giving it playful, contemporary twists, creating everything from wineglasses to phone chargers. Architect Zaha Hadid debuted three new marble pieces for Citco at this year's Salone Internazionale del Mobile, including a black fireplace and a shelving system. "Post-recession, people are more comfortable buying things made from traditional



luxury materials that are built to last and that have been high value for hundreds of years," says Rodman Primack, executive director of Design Miami. Match it with warm materials such as wood, brass and leather.

—Alicia Kirby



## HELLO, VERTU-OSO!

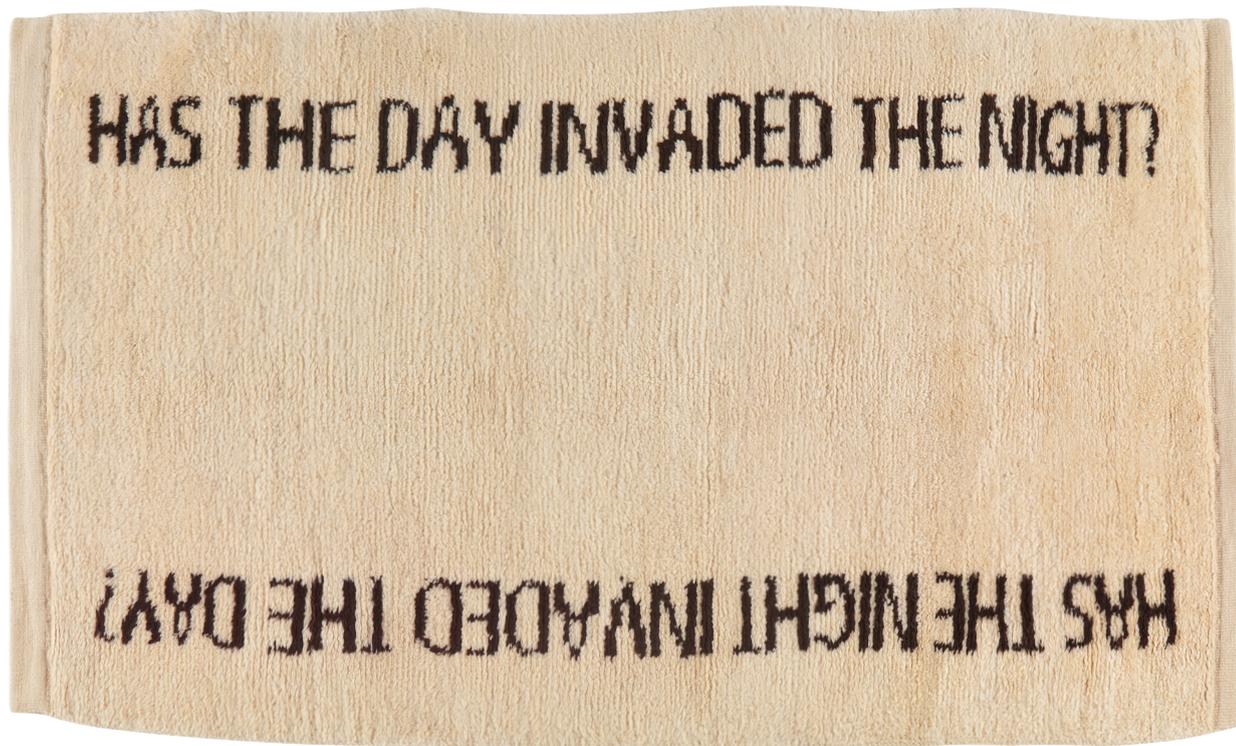
Made by hand in England, Vertu's latest smartphone, the Signature Touch, launched earlier this month (the black alligator version, above, costs \$14,100). A mobile-phone solution for the private-jet set, this elegant machine features a digital camera by Hasselblad, global Wi-Fi from iPass, Dolby Digital Plus virtual surround sound and a personalized concierge service. For details see Sources, page 98.

COLLECT IT

## TREAD SOFTLY

Five years ago, the late artist and sculptor Louise Bourgeois began a collaboration with rug designer Christopher Farr. Her inspiration was a diary entry dated February 7, 1995, when she wrote the phrase "Has the day invaded the night? Has the night invaded the day?" in a loose script. For the project,

Bourgeois wanted dark text embedded in a field of off-white natural wool fibers hand-woven in Morocco's Atlas Mountains—a nod to traditional Berber art from the Beni Ourain tribe. The edition of 12, her first and only rug design, is now available. \$15,000, christopherfarr.com



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY OF VENDORS (3); NANDA LANFRANCO (LOUISE BOURGEOIS)