



These days outdoor space is at such a premium, the philosophy is 'if you've got it, flaunt it'. Interior designers, landscapers and garden designers are all ensuring their clients make the most of the space they have, and there's nothing prosaic about their ideas. Indeed, the most modest of courtyards can look a whole lot more interesting when installed with a fabulous statement piece.

Take for example Unopiù's whimsical Gipsy sails, which not only provide shelter but also look beautiful. Or for something more hi-tech, the Modern Garden Company's new 'Boom' sail is adjustable by remote control, so you won't need to move a muscle when the sun starts to shift.

On the ground, Ingarden's theatrical love seat, handcrafted in solid oak, makes a bold statement. And Evitavonni's new PicNik table by Extremis, crafted from a single sheet of aluminium, is one of the most exciting pieces of outdoor furniture we've seen this year. But for the ultimate in melodrama, Dedon's Obelisk truly is 'art for the garden', as the company's manifesto states. Tall, gleaming and futuristic, the stacked monolith breaks down into four stylish lounge chairs and a bijou table, perfect for serving aperitifs.

Conran's playful Frou Frou parasol, designed by Brussels-based Davy Grosemans, is great fun with its frivolous fringe of glossy tassels. Or for a striking centrepiece, Mode's firepit is what the cool crowd is gathering around.



This page, clockwise from top left: Squarestar gas firepit by Mode. The Conran Shop's fabulous Frou Frou parasol. Aluminium PicNik tables by Extremis, at Evitavonni. Bright orange 'Boom' by The Modern Garden Company. Solid oak love seat by Ingarden.
Opposite page: Dedon's towering Obelisk breaks down into four lounge chairs and a table