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## CIER E

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JUNE | JULY 2015



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## HOUCAIR

## HISTORIC INSPIRATION

Islamic Art, Reborn







Samer Al Ameen presents a new collection of tables and carpets inspired by the historical Alhambra Palace in Granada and other magnificent locales from Arab history.

While visiting the Alhambra Palace in Granada, Al Ameen became inspired. Upon finding two tiles that he had never seen before, an idea was born. These two particular patterns had never been recreated in the manner so common throughout the Arab world, they were fresh, they hadn't been exploited, overproduced or badly reproduced.

Al Ameen returned home from Granada and soon began working on a collection of carpets and tables, named Read Between the Tiles. The title came from the fact that the tiles were full of personality, it wasn't just about great design. For example, the tiles were all imperfect, and were designed that way, the idea being that the only perfection to be found was God, and therefore Man should never even attempt to attain

perfection. The patterns are also infinite and, some claim, are intended to represent the infinite depths of faith.

The collection consists of tables in black and white marble and copper, handmade carpets in silk and two sets of tableware that include a total of 18 different designs. The quality and artisanal nature of the works can be summed up by the fact that each carpet requires a minimum of six months to produce. While the initial collection is inspired by the Alhambra Palace, the second addition, according to Al Ameen, could take its inspiration from any other palace with a forgotten pattern, a street, a city or any surface that provides inspiration. The carpets will be sold at Alberto Levi Gallery in Milan and in New York, Sydney, Monte Carlo and Beirut. The tables and plates can be ordered through the Alberto Levi gallery. A fantastic homage to our heritage, it is wonderful to see such stunning designs being sold the world over, walkingobjects.com