

As part of the **‘Come to Dinner’** exhibition, Tamart creates a fantasy dinner party featuring some of the influential figures who came into the lives of Amos Goldreich’s parents.

As Amos explains ‘The installation design comes from an idea about creating people centric spaces for hospitality and residential projects that used lighting in different ways. So the idea of a private dining room was born – a room within a room – at our Shoreditch space. I was also reviewing some of our extensive archive and found the original drawings for cutlery designed by both my parents for a 1960s hospitality project that never came to fruition. The idea struck me that we could create a fantasy dinner party of people my parents knew. These one-off place settings will also be on show at our exhibition.’

Robin Day

1915 to 2010. British furniture designer.

London, 1954. Day sat on the panel assessing furniture at the Central School of Arts and Crafts. Among the work in front of him was a three-legged stool with a half-moon seat, by the 23 year old Tamar de Shalit. That stool is the Central Stool. It was the first design Tamart put into production, seventy three years later.



Nelson Mandela

1918 to 2013. Lawyer, revolutionary, President of South Africa.

Arthur joined uMkhonto weSizwe as a key figure in the ANC and the anti-apartheid movement and moved his family to Liliesleaf Farm in Rivonia. The Goldreichs were the household of record. A white family in a farmhouse, which made the property unremarkable to anyone watching. Mandela lived there as David Motsamayi, a farmhand. The farm was raided in July 1963. Arthur was arrested and held alongside him. Arthur escaped and fled through Dar es Salaam.



Jack Lenor Larsen

1927 to 2020. American textile designer.

He came to South Africa in 1961 and met Arthur. The trip gave Larsen the round Ndebele forms he later built his own house from, and it gave Arthur and Tamar a friendship that outlasted exile, relocation and four decades. They specified his fabrics on their projects ever after. His fabrics also adorned Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater residence and Jackie Kennedy’s 1960s redesign of the White House. Amos and his parents spent summers with Jack.



Miriam Makeba

1932 to 2008. Singer and activist.

Johannesburg, 1959. Arthur was thirty and designed the striking sets, costumes and album cover for King Kong, the jazz opera that put sixty-three black and white performers on one stage in front of mixed audiences, in open defiance of segregation. Makeba sang the lead. It was his first major stage commission and her last year of anonymity. The show reached London’s West End in 1961. In 1996 Amos was working in Berlin and saw Miriam in concert. He managed to send a note to her that he was Arthur’s son. She met him backstage, hugged him and told him to tell his father to come home.



Sir Charles Clore

1904 to 1979. British Entrepreneur and philanthropist.

In 1963 Clore commissioned Tamar to design his penthouse. She followed the total design approach, creating all interiors including indoor gardens, and designed all the furniture, lighting and home accessories. Among the designs she produced was a floor lamp. It is the origin of the light hanging over this table.



Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

1886 to 1969. Architect.

Arthur went to see him in the late 1960s to talk about how architects should be taught. He was setting up the design department at Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design at the time. He asked Mies how long it takes to become an architect. Twenty-eight years, Mies said.

