

# DESIGN'S NEXT WAVE: EIGHT NEW BRANDS TO KNOW

WITH BREAKOUT COLLECTIONS RANGING FROM HIGH-END FURNITURE TO HANDMADE OFFICE SUPPLIES, THESE FORWARD-LOOKING FIRMS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE ARE REINVENTING MORE THAN JUST YOUR HOME DECOR.



**MADE IN RATIO**  
LONDON

Ambitious, futuristic, *practical*—the new line of mass-produced furniture is a utilitarian departure for Tasmanian designer Brodie Neill, who is better known for wildly innovative, wildly impractical pieces like sculptural 600-pound glass loungers than for anything you can actually sit on. As the line's name suggests, it's a balancing act. Neill calls it an "experimental platform" that he hopes will prove his own marketability. Exhibit A: the Cowrie chair (\$3,900), made from a single piece of plywood curved into a sultry shell-like seat. [madeinratio.com](http://madeinratio.com)

**NOBLE & WOOD**  
LONDON

This modernist furniture line from British designer Paul Blease, launched in September, is inspired by (and named after) his grandfather, K. Wood, a former cabinet-maker. After working for major kitchen-design companies like Green and Fay, Blease began developing his own line of walnut stools, copper hooks, mirrors, and magazine racks that combine elemental materials like marble and leather with sophisticated, high-gloss production values. [nobleandwood.com](http://nobleandwood.com)

**PLUEERSMITT**  
ZURICH AND LONDON

Things are not what they seem in the debut collection from the up-and-coming Swiss duo Dominic Plueer and Olivier Smitt. The two met while working in the studio of famed designer Alfredo Häberli and bonded over their love of minimalism and abstract design. When they started their own line, they tried to move past a "preconceived

vision of rudimentary products" by offering transformative takes on rugs, side tables—one made from CNC-milled slabs of onyx marble and another cast in three colors of resin—and the delicate Vase N°1 (\$335), an inverted blown-glass object that looks like a lighting fixture. [plueersmitt.com](http://plueersmitt.com)



**WRONG FOR HAY**  
LONDON

Sebastian Wrong has never been shy about having fun with his name (see his concept store, The Wrong Shop, and his ongoing WrongWoods project with Richard Woods). His new line with the Danish furniture company Hay continues this tradition while hitting all the right aesthetic

notes—elegantly curved chairs and sofas by Wrong himself that are supplemented with new pieces from emerging notables like the Icelandic duo Snæfrid & Hildigunner, whose perforated calendar (\$24) lets you tear away at the year one day and one chit at a time. [wrongforhay.com](http://wrongforhay.com)

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**HINIKA SINGAPORE**

"Think globally, act locally" is a tired maxim, but Jarrad Lim is living it. The Aussie designer trained in Europe under Castiglioni disciple Patricia Urquiola before launching his new collection in Singapore in order to be close to expert Malaysian craftsmen and wood sources. The design-without-borders vibe carries through Lim's furniture—like the Logg cabinet (\$2,660)—which mashes up Japanese minimalist and Scandinavian mid-century traditions. [hinika.com](http://hinika.com)

**MAKERS WITH AGENDAS COPENHAGEN**

Is design a political act? It is, according to this manifesto-loving Danish trio. And although shelves, chairs, and hanging hooks may not seem to solve societal ills, "we believe that to be involved in the design of a chair or the design of health-care policies is the same," cofounder Julien De Smedt says. And considering inventive products like the Accordion table (starting at \$400), which unfolds laterally to create an ever-expanding table base, who could argue? [mwa.eu](http://mwa.eu)



**OFFICINE TAMBORRINO OSTUNI, ITALY**

Steel magnate Licio Tamborrino partnered with local design students to create this line of fifties-inspired metal furniture featuring colorful wire chairs and the Vinile drawers (starting at \$615). "We wanted to recover the sense of craftsmanship that's part of our heritage," Tamborrino says. [officinetamborrino.com](http://officinetamborrino.com)



**SOMETHING GOOD VENICE, ITALY**

Noted designers Giorgio Biscaro and Matteo Zorzenoni teamed with graphics studio Zaven to create Italy's answer to Warby Parker. They enlist local artisans to offer gallery-worthy limited-edition pieces—turned-iron cups, nested cutting boards—at accessible prices. [somethinggood.it](http://somethinggood.it)

# BUY THE BOOK

UPGRADE YOUR HOME LIBRARY WITH THE YEAR'S BEST DESIGN RELEASES.

**SWANS: LEGENDS OF THE JET SOCIETY** (Assouline, \$195) documents the decadent transcontinental adventures of the upper crust from the fifties to the eighties, before private planes became the domain of pop stars and professional athletes.

Filled with gratuitous high-design-spa porn, **OASIS** (Gestalten, \$60) will have you squirreling away your frequent-flier miles for a pilgrimage to watery Edens like Paraty House in Rio or Utah's Amangiri.

Lust over the jaw-dropping homes of Richard Avedon and Coco Chanel, courtesy of famed photographer **FRANÇOIS HALARD** (Rizzoli, \$75), who got his start shooting Yves Saint Laurent's apartment in the 1980s.

The first comprehensive monograph of Japan's beloved design icon **SHIRO KURAMATA** (Phaidon, \$150) comprises two volumes, sheathed in a pink plastic casing, chockablock with detailed histories of the designer's favorite pieces, including his Lucite shelves and steel-mesh chairs.

Twenty years after Design Hotels began marketing the world's most stunning accommodations, the hospitality service has compiled every one of its 244 properties into a massive 800-page tome, **THE DESIGN HOTELS BOOK, ANNIVERSARY EDITION** (Gestalten, \$89).

In **CITY PARKS: PUBLIC PLACES, PRIVATE THOUGHTS** (Harper Collins, \$50), Catie Marron, cochairwoman of New York's High Line, invites notables like Bill Clinton and literary types such as Zadie Smith to reminisce about their favorite green spaces in the world.

—M.K.



Designed by Joseph Magliaro, the Penta-base Bookrest is modeled on a 1970s plastic vinyl-album organizer, so it's big enough to hold—and show off—oversize page-turners. Starting at \$1,400; [tableofcontents.us](http://tableofcontents.us)

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