





Out of the Box





har the



The full-service architecture and interior design firm of Durodeco makes contemporary heirloom furniture, either as experimental design pieces or as custom solutions for projects. Co-founded by architect Rachel Robinson and engineer Michael Dunham, they draw on their combined 25 years of experience in the design and construction industry to create innovative interiors and custom furniture designs. The Purl Collection settee and ottoman combines etched low-iron glass, woven merino wool yarn and cherry wood. Price upon request, durodeco.com.



DAUGHTER HANDWOVENS,

Alexandra Forby received a BFA in painting from the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) before picking up weaving as a hobby. Self-taught, weaving grew to be her vocation, and she set up her studio in 2016. Each piece starts with a sketch of the weaving pattern to determine the colors and gauge. "Every inch of the thread runs through my fingers multiple times," says Forby. "Watching the fibers turn from delicate thread to sturdy cloth is mesmerizing and never gets old." Three pocket apron, \$70, daughterhandwovens.com.



Nature is a recurrent theme for watercolorist Kelly Ventura. Her study of color, texture and light is evident in the expressive brush strokes. Ventura's artwork has been translated onto wallpapers and textiles, capturing her painterly style. The designs are digitally reproduced and printed onto paper and textiles in Litchfield, CT, using ecofriendly inks. Shown here, Peonia in Sage. \$80 per yard. kellyventura.com.

Michael Robbins and his team of talented artisans produce made-to-order pieces with meticulous attention to finish and detail. A designer and craftsperson, Robbins incorporates wood, metal and leather into many of his furnishings. The Plum Daybed is constructed of oiled black walnut wood, satin brass and chestnut bridle leather and upholstered in a Kvadrat fabric. Price upon request, available through Fair, fairdesign.com or mchlrbbns.com.

J.M. SZYMANSKI, BRONX, NY

Table No. 1, shown here, is the first table artisan Jake Szymanski ever designed and produced and is still one of his favorite pieces (and a best seller). The table is cast in solid steel with a warm black patina. The surface is hand worked with an angle grinder to create movement and texture. Szymanski's work demonstrates his fascination with unique geometries, raw materials and unusual forms and is heavily influenced by his time spent abroad in Nepal, Spain and Morocco. Table No. 1, nesting pair, \$3,800, available through Fair, fair-design.com, or jmszymanski.com.

ROSALIND SHAFFER, Local ceramic artist

and sculptor Rosalind Shaffer is captivated by the dimensionality and fluidity of clay. Her Luminous Collection includes functional art vessels like this finely textured porcelain bowl. Thrown on the wheel, Schaffer applies thin, torn strips to create multiple delicate layers on the organic form. Price upon request, rosalindshafferceramicart.com.





JAMES DE WULF,

Known for his concrete creations James De Wulf pushes the limits of this medium both functionally and aesthetically, with cutting-edge designs for indoor and outdoor furniture, and game tables. In a departure from concrete, De Wulf's lighting includes the Armadillo pendant, fashioned from solid brass scales stacked to resemble the shell of an armadillo, creating an interesting display of light. \$1,760, jamesdewulf.com.

1



DOORMAN.

Alex Geriner is the mastermind behind the New Orleans-based furniture brand Doorman. His company sources materials from the Gulf South with sustainability and preservation in mind. The team of woodworkers and artisans are masters in transforming unique materials into furniture, utilitzing reclaimed and architectural salvage, much of which still comes from the remnants of Hurricane Katrina. The Audubon pedestal dining table, designed

by Geriner in partnership with interior designer Sherry Shirah, is topped with solid planks of white oak, tapered with a surfboard edge and paired with a ribbed pedestal base. Pricing starts at \$3,850, doormandesigns.com.

MICHAEL ROBBINS,

OTTRA, Ottra stared as a side

project for the architectural firm of Zimmerman Workshop but has grown into its own award-winning brand. Principals Sofia and Adam Zimmerman's intention is to craft long-lasting heritage furniture that will be enjoyed for decades. Not surprisingly, the pieces are architectural in nature, composed of quality materials with meticulous detailing. The Modular Shelf, sculptural in form but functional in use, can be customized in number or positioning of shelves and wood species. In ash. as shown, \$5,360, ot-tra.com.

INDO, PROVIDENCE, RI

Urvi Sharma and Manan Narang, founders of Indo, both grew up in New Delhi but met while studying at the Rhode Island School of Design. Narang is an architect, furniture designer and maker and Sharma is a furniture and product designer. The award-winning duo employs traditional craft processes to create contemporary furniture and objects. Their cultural backgrounds add a unique perspective. Inspired by the technique of dyeing and weaving Ikat fabrics practiced in India, Indonesia and Japan, the lkat series mimics it's slightly "blurry" colorations. Ikat credenza, \$11,900, indo-made.com.