



OBJECTS OF DESIRE

Poet and ceramicist Kylie Johnson is one creative soul. Not only has she self-published three poetry collections and released a line of handmade cards but her company, Paper Boat Press, has evolved and now produces ceramics – garnering a legion of devoted fans who swoon over its delicate quote tags and whimsical vessels in the process. We're delighted to report that Kylie has launched an online shop, allowing easier access to her inspiring handmade pieces of art. Keep your eyes peeled around Christmas; special one-off ornaments and presents will be up for grabs, many under \$20! Visit www.paperboatpress.bigcartel.com.

bright spark

How many designers does it take to change a light bulb? Two – the talented duo behind British label Suck UK. Designers Sam and Jude (surnames have been dropped for rock 'n' roll reasons) have taken inspiration from the curvaceous silhouette of the humble light bulb and put a new spin on an age-old design. The Wooden Bulb is crafted from laser-cut wood and snugly holds a regular, run-of-the mill light bulb. Hung from the ceiling or laid artfully on its side, this clever little light exudes a waffle-like ambient glow. Suck UK Wooden Bulb, \$249.95, Until, I300 668 818, www.until.com.au.

design paradox

For a man who so notoriously declared that "design is dead", Philippe Starck has certainly been busy, erm, designing! We're happy to report that far from slipping into quiet retirement, the design icon debuted his Masters chair for Kartell at the recent Milan Furniture Fair, proclaiming: "We weren't born just today; there have been masters before us." As such, his newest creation combines the outlines of three modern classic chairs – Charles and Ray Eames' Eiffel chair, Arne Jacobsen's Series 7 chair and Eero Saarinen's Tulip armchair. Starck believes that the union of these three design icons creates "a reflection on a new society." Reinvention is indeed the mother of creation, and who better to explore this idea than the master of reinvention himself? Look for the Masters chair at Kartell; call (02) 9369 3711 for more details.

A LITTLE RAY OF SUNSHINE

Here's a partnership with bright potential: Ikea and Unicef have joined forces to help improve the lives of children in the developing world. For every Sunnan lamp sold worldwide, one will be given to Unicef to light up the life of a child. The lamps glean their energy from sunlight with a rechargeable solar cell panel. The first shipments are bound for earthquake-torn Pakistan. What better reason to shop? Sunnan lamp, \$39.99 each, Ikea, www.ikea.com.au.



GOING DOTTY

An Etsy.com favourite, Auntie Cookie (aka Shannon Lamden) thrills us every time she fills her virtual store with new goodies. A follow-on from her previous Ampersand and Eyechart designs, Shannon has combined her infatuation for typography with flocking, creating Braille cushions. Each cushion contains a secret message that can only be cracked by those who read braille – and Shannon's sworn to secrecy on which words lie behind the mystery pattern. Braille flocked cushion covers in Black and White, \$45 each, Auntie Cookie, www.auntiecookie.etsy.com.





love is in the air

Right now we're more than a little jealous of anyone planning to tie the knot. Why? Dinosaur Designs has just launched its new online gift and wedding registry and it's absolutely chock full of deliciously evocative handmade resin vases and homewares. Best of all, there's not one toaster or blender in sight! For a closer look at the range, visit www.dinosaurdesigns.com.au.



the way we live

While designing its new collection, the talented folk at Mokum looked far beyond the grey skyscrapers that punctuate the city skyline and found themselves inspired by the vast Australian landscape. Peppered with warm corals, heady reds and fresh eucalyptus greens, Mokum's Australian Botanicals Outdoor collection is made from 100 per cent recycled outdoor fabrics and produced using cradle-to-cradle environmentally friendly manufacturing processes. The fabrics are specifically designed to withstand the harsh Aussie climate and are stain resistant, too! Available from August, the collection starts at \$170/metre. Visit www.mokumtextiles.com or call 1300 667 390 for details.



wheelbarrow wonder

Seven years ago, New Zealand designer Matt Moriarty stood in his backyard and pondered the potential uses of the humble wheelbarrow. The discovery that the metal bucket seat was actually quite comfortable (albeit a little cold) got his mind ticking. "I thought, 'Why spend valuable resources producing new materials when something that already exists does the job?'" says Matt. Fast forward seven years and Matt's original idea for a wheelbarrow chair has come a long way. The ingenious Baro sports a bucket seat sourced from a local manufacturer's production line, padding made from water-resistant foam and a cushion constructed from recycled fabric scraps that cleverly resemble broken concrete. Suited for indoors and out, the chair comes flat-packed to cut down on packaging costs. We applaud Matt's resourcefulness; in fact, it's had us rethink the contents of our own backyards. Baro chair, \$1349 including freight; visit www.baro.co.nz for details.

BUELLER...BUELLER...BUELLER...

Remember the glass-walled garage famously wrecked in the 1980s classic *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*? Our penchant for stalking overseas real estate led us to the discovery that the iconic house was recently put on the market. Surrounded by dense forestry and cantilevered over a ravine, the spacious four-bedroom Illinois home features spectacular wall-to-wall windows, sleek timber ceilings and of course, a three-car garage with breathtaking views. Sigh. Anyone have a cool US\$2.3 million to spare?



IMAGE (BUELLER) PARAMOUNT PICTURES