

THE KING OF CARDBOARD: GILES MILLER

It's sturdy, stylish and sustainable, and British designer Giles Miller knows exactly how to bring out its softer side. Cardboard creations in all forms commanded centrestage at London's 100% Design, with Giles' intricately carved baroque furniture pieces the star of the show. "He has a true vision," says HB style editor Stephanie Powell, who was transfixed by Giles' intricate handiwork and extraordinary imagination. "He brings a wonderful theatricality and a playful sense of grandeur to a material that's commonly cast aside." Visit gilesmiller.com for details.



THE RISING STAR: DONNA WILSON

We're happy to report that rising UK craft queen Donna Wilson is as sunny in person as her endearing knitted creations. HB stylist Lesiele Hailame (pictured left with Donna) got a sneak peek at the material maven's newest designs and fell head-over-heels with the vivid primary colours and sweet faces that populate Donna's new pieces. "Adorable is the only word to describe Donna's unique style," says Lesiele. "I discovered that she grew up in the Scottish Highlands, which contributed to her love of knitting and craft. Her pieces are entirely made by hand - incredible!" Available from Space, visit spacefurniture.com.au.

international design report

Each September, the design darlings converge in London and Paris for two of the world's biggest trade shows, 100% Design and Maison et Objet. Home Beautiful stylists Stephanie and Lesiele were among the style set; here are the designers and collections that captured their hearts WORDS VANESSA KEYS

MOST COVETABLE COUTURE: 'MAH JONG' SOFA, JEAN PAUL GAULTIER

The enfant terrible of French fashion has lent his kooky couturier style to Parisian furniture house Roche Bobois. On display for the first time at Masion et Objet, Jean Paul Gaultier's 'Mah Jong' sofa is a decadent reinterpretation of German designer Hans Hopfer's iconic 70s modular fabric couch. The trademarks of Hans' original design are all still there: delicate curves, intricate piping and a lovely lean aesthetic, but Jean Paul has raised the glamour stakes by emblazoning evocative patterns from some of his most iconic couture collections onto the fabric. Anyone have a few thousand dollars to spare? Visit roche-bobois.com for details.



THE NEW CERAMICISTS:

NATALIE DEROUET AND SANDRA HAISCHBERGER

The newest buzzword in earthenware is ethereal, evidenced by a new generation of European crafters who are redefining the rules of clay. French ceramiste Nathalie Derouet crafts translucent, nature-inspired vessels that boast an incredible paper-thin delicacy. We love the spider web effect of her 'Lace' bowls (pictured below, left). At the other end of the spectrum is ceramicist Sandra Haischberger of Vienna-based label Feinedinge; her pastel-pretty 'Alice Tea and Dining' pieces (below, right) are handmade using tinted Limoges porcelain. Visit nathaliederouet.com and feinedinge.at.



