

MB COLLECTION

Interior designer Marie Burgos teamed with her husband, noted photographer Francis Augustine, to design a new line of products. Many are inspired by the culture of the island of Martinique, where they both grew up. Among the offerings are furniture designs and lighting, including the "Sisters" pendant. (marieburgosdesign.com)

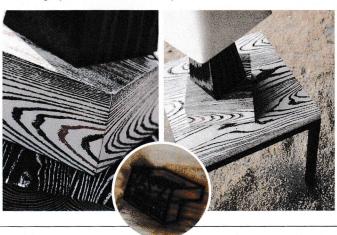
Chelsea Textiles

Take a seat in paradise no matter where you live. The new Tropical furniture collection from Chelsea Textiles features pieces crafted from real and faux bamboo. Offerings include the "Petal" chair, based on a French midcentury design. It's made by hand using real bamboo. (chelseatextiles.com)



Clay Aronson

History doesn't rank ash as the most desirable wood for furniture making. But history lacks woodworker Clay Aronson's vision—and his distinctive exposed-joinery technique, which he pairs with unique contrasting finishes. This lowan's affinity for craftsmanship has resulted in a sleek collection of contemporary furniture that makes good design out of unfortunate circumstances. Ash trees, planted in communities throughout the Midwest for their ability to grow tall—and quickly—are now being removed due to infestations of the pesky emerald ash borer. Aronson, informed by a degree in architecture, saw purpose beyond firewood for the compromised trees. "Each piece has a history," he says. "I know the origin of every log that I mill to make something that's heirloom quality. We're making the urban wood movement that salvages trees available to the market, and that's especially rewarding." (aronsonwoodworks.com) —Krissa Rossbund



Stephanie Seal Brown

Growing up in the quiet of bucolic Oklahoma and Kentucky, Stephanie Seal Brown learned to weave. "Weaving simply hooked me; it is an art form of design and mathematics, creating something both practical and beautiful," Brown says. She bought her first Swedish hand loom in 1997 and now, splitting her time between New York and Kentucky, the designer weaves small batches of textiles, including linen tapes, towels, pillows, and accessories. (stephaniesealbrown.com)

