

# luxe

INTERIORS+DESIGN®

LOS ANGELES





# SCENE

WRITTEN BY MAILE PINGEL

## PROPER ENGLISH

KENSINGTON WALK BY ZOFFANY

WRITTEN BY KATE ABNEY



When Zoffany design lead Peter Gomez set out to create Kensington Walk, the brand's latest collection of textiles and wallcoverings, he didn't need to look far. As a champion of emerging creatives, he first turned to an artist he'd worked with before, Royal College of Art alum Sam Wilde. It was Wilde's drawings of koi carp (like those seen in the exotic Kyoto Gardens of Kensington) that got his wheels turning. The result was Eastern Palace (shown

far left), a pattern taking its cues from the neighboring Japan House London and depicting the Asian nation's main islands guarded by fauna and native botanicals. Tucked away from the flurry of urban life, yet still touting the perks of it, Kensington "carries within it a sense of escapism—a real, refined luxury we wanted to capture," Gomez says. The collection's remaining SKUs thus sprung from the West London enclave's many storied sites. There is Cope's Trail, a Jacobean floral partly inspired by the late Holland House; Long Water, an abstracted botanical based on scenery of Hyde Park; and Persian Tulip (shown left), pulling from the ornamented Arab Hall at Leighton House. If Kensington Walk sounds diverse, then so is Kensington, a melting pot of a community historically home to artists from all corners of the globe, much like Zoffany. "The English aesthetic," Gomez explains, "is very much borrowed from worldly influences that did not originate in the U.K." [zoffany.com](http://zoffany.com)



## MEET THE MAKER

JAMES DE WULF

James De Wulf creates avant-garde furnishings from concrete, a medium he finds fascinating for its liquid-to-stone quality. "I'm a big materials guy, and concrete was a fun discovery for me," recalls the former investment banker. What began as a foray into making countertops in 2004 ultimately became an art furniture business with a clientele including Albert Hadley and Tory Burch. Newly returned to Los Angeles after several years in Europe, De Wulf has released his Exo series, a collection of indoor-outdoor concrete tables inlaid with bronze and stainless steel. At once brutalist and graceful, the tables derive their forms from the exoskeletons of microscopic organisms. To emphasize their organic nature, De Wulf eschewed the rigidity of traditionally round or oval tabletops and gave the pieces meandering edges that "keep them approachable and fun," he explains. "It's the culmination of all my knowledge," he says of the collection, available through his website. [jamesdewulf.com](http://jamesdewulf.com)



PROPER ENGLISH PHOTOS: COURTESY ZOFFANY.  
MEET THE MAKER PHOTO: GIANNI FRANCHELLUCCI.

# WHAT'S IN STORE

INSPIRED BY NATURE



**KALE TREE SHOP:** Santa Monica-based interior designer Sarah Barnard's Kale Tree Shop, so named for the hardiness of the plant, offers homewares inspired by the intersection of art, design and nature. "My design firm is rooted in creating healthy spaces, but beautiful products made of mindful materials aren't always widely available," says Barnard. "I've worked with local artisans to create personalized pieces, so I decided to start a shop with limited, seasonal collections." There are floral wallpapers and fabrics inspired by her garden, rugs of bamboo silk or New Zealand wool, and furniture, too, including a hand-carved Butterfly Dreams bed. "Surrounding ourselves with nature improves our overall well-being," she says. "We're inviting people to incorporate nature into their homes in alternative ways." This summer brings a new mangrove-pattern area rug and fresh prints inspired by the California brown pelican. [kaletree.com](http://kaletree.com)

**NOMA COLLECTIVE:** In Orange County, interior designer Rebecca Haskins has launched Noma Collective, offering consciously designed home goods in partnership with artisans across the globe, with a particular focus on female-led cooperatives. Noma acts as a bridge between conscious consumers and lesser-known artisans, whose life stories are intrinsically linked with the wares they make. "People are shopping with their values in mind, not only for environmental best practices but for sourcing and labor," says Haskins. This summer, she's adding new cotton blankets from a family-owned workshop near Oaxaca City, Mexico. "Our aesthetic has always been about natural, earthy elements, and our designs are made with naturally-sourced materials," she says. "These bring a real sense of serenity into people's homes." [nomacollective.com](http://nomacollective.com)



## LAUNCHES

NEW + NOW

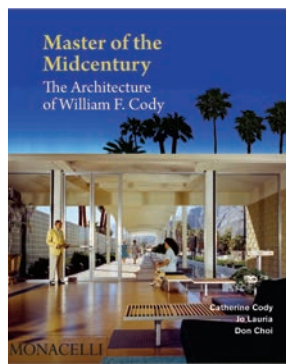
**Logan Montgomery Textiles** has partnered with artist Liesel Plambeck to create a new indoor-outdoor jacquard-woven palm-print fabric called Sabal. Plambeck, who has worked with Kelly Wearstler, Georg Jensen and Mehraban, developed the design as an oversize repeat that creates a strikingly artful effect on furnishings. It is available at Una Malan in West Hollywood. Interior designer Kara Smith of **KES Studio** will launch her new rug collection, Dusk, at Marc Phillips this summer. The geometric abstractions play on perceptual phenomena theories (light, volume, scale) explored during Southern California's Light and Space movement of the 1960s and 1970s. For his first tile collection, called Sensuale, L.A. designer **Ryan Saghian** looked to London, finding inspiration in its many boroughs. The terrazzo tiles, designed to be mixed and matched, are named for famous London streets: Carnaby (shown left), Savile, Shaftesbury and Strand. The collection is available through his showroom and online.

WHAT'S IN STORE PHOTOS: TOP, ACE MISIUNAS; RIGHT, COURTESY NOMA COLLECTIVE. LAUNCHES PHOTO: COURTESY RYAN SAGHIAN.



# SHELF LIFE

THREE NEW TITLES CELEBRATE THE MANY VIBRANT FACETS OF CALIFORNIA DESIGN, YESTERDAY AND TODAY.



## MASTER OF THE MIDCENTURY: THE ARCHITECTURE OF WILLIAM F. CODY

This first monograph on the work of William F. Cody is written by the architect's daughter, Catherine Cody, alongside curator Jo Lauria and architectural historian Don Choi—the team who organized his 2016 exhibition, *Fast Forward: The Architecture of William F. Cody*, at the A+D Museum. The book explores Cody's prolific career

through his masterful renderings and images by such notables as Julius Shulman. While most associated with Palm Springs, Cody worked throughout the West, as well as Mexico, Honduras and Cuba, with each project exemplifying his passion for experimental design and his innate understanding of leisure and luxury. [monacellipress.com](http://monacellipress.com)



## A TALE OF WARP AND WEFT: FORT STREET STUDIO

Artists Brad Davis and Janis Provisor founded Fort Street Studio in 1996 and quickly became leaders in the world of luxury handmade carpets. The couple's painterly approach revolutionized an industry that was in need of

new methods and creative spirit. Long a favorite resource for designers around the world, the book features several projects by California-based firms, including Jordan Design Crew, Kathy Guild Interior Design and Scavullo Design. The book's layout celebrates the artistic nature of the collections and pays a visit to the studio's weaving factory, which has produced rugs for design executives and celebrities alike. [rizzoliusa.com](http://rizzoliusa.com)



## PATINA HOMES

This latest book from Steve and Brooke Giannetti illustrates their signature style through a dozen projects, beginning with their own farm in Ojai. Each house is presented with a biography-like entry that feels fitting for these friendly homes. California projects include Atherton, Malibu, Santa Monica, Palm Desert and Oceanside, but the East Coast and Europe are represented, too. As Steve recalls in his introduction, childhood summers spent at his family's decorative plaster studio near Washington, D.C., gave him an appreciation for old-world craftsmanship and comforting, chalky patinated hues—elements that still inform his vision today. [gibbs-smith.com](http://gibbs-smith.com)