

CALIFORNIA HOMES

The Magazine of Architecture, The Arts & Distinctive Design



cloth & paper

A Bright Idea

Embrace Summer Sunshine With These Cheerful Outdoor Fabrics In Eye-Catching Tones And Patterns



- 1) Created by designers Doug and Gene Meyer, **Link Design's** new collection of outdoor fabrics, is a perfect combination of retro inspired patterns and fresh colorways.
- 2) New from Manuel Canovas, **Lantana** implements the lively patterns prevalent in Canovas's collections. Moisture resistance and vibrant patterns allow for an easy interchange between indoor and outdoor.
- 3) Chic fabric house **Kale DK** has recreated the look of traditional outdoor fabric with its new outdoor collection. Seen here in Cliffole and Goldeneye, each pattern complements each other seamlessly.
- 4) Classic and youthful in Emerald Green, **Strix**, from the new **Christopher Farr Cloth** outdoor collection, creates a handcrafted feel with complex weaves and hand-painted effects.

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the Covet List

From Innovative Wallcoverings to Striking Light Fixtures, These Designers Are Devising Products That We Can't Wait To Get Our Hands On

BY VANESSA BRUNNER



- 1) "Jellyfish," is part of the new collection hand-painted wallcoverings by **Shirley Robinson Finishes**. Using techniques not implemented since the seventeenth century, this luxurious collection features a wide range of design, all completely customizable.
- 2) Inspired by the Art Deco movement and couture designs of the 1920s, **Mokum's** new Moderne collection pays tribute to the eclectic feel of the era while still maintaining a contemporary and opulent aesthetic.
- 3) Strong yet subtle with clean lines and a statement-making silhouette, the Venetian Pendant, by **Gary Hutton**, is part of Thomas Lavin's eye-catching Lavender line.
- 4) Known for defying the traditional perspective of wallcoverings, **Lori Weitzner's** "Newsworthy" wallpaper is an elegant and abstract combination of rows of cut newspaper.

NOTEBOOK

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Christopher Farr

**This Artist's Vision
Has Revolutionized
The Design Of
Contemporary Rugs
And He Is Now
Introducing A New
Line Of Outdoor Fabric**

**BY VANESSA BRUNNER
PORTRAIT BY C. HANS ECKHARDT**

An artist first, and a designer second, Christopher Farr's expertise and influence have spanned numerous fields. Always maintaining his personal level of artistry and thoughtfulness in each piece he produces, he creates product that inspires new levels of luxury and quality.

Initially a painter, Farr attended the Slade School of Fine Art in London. He made his break to the business of interiors when he started designing his own line of contemporary rugs in the late 1980s. "I saw that there was nothing contemporary on the market, and I decided to start my own line to fill the gap," he says.

Along with business partner Matthew Bourne, Christopher Farr Rugs have completely changed the industry of modern rug design. Starting with a small shop in North London, and expanding to a now international enterprise, Christopher Farr's success is due in part to his distinct and definite artistic vision. His skills as a painter were quickly transferred over to rug making—it was simply a change in medium.

The move to textiles was also a very natural one for Farr, and in 2000 he founded Christopher Farr Cloth with business partners Matthew Bourne and Michal Silver. Farr's fine art training and love and knowledge of contemporary design are a huge part of the Cloth collection, with his detailed perspective and hand visible in each pattern. "Design and sampling the fabrics give me the most satisfaction," he says.

Inspired by the California weather, Christopher Farr decided to take Christopher Farr Cloth to the next level with a recent launch of indoor/outdoor fabrics. He says, "Having lived in California for six years, with its warm, indoor and outdoor climate, it just made sense for me to move the fabrics outside.

Always a step ahead of the crowd, Farr chose to take a different and more modern approach to out-



Curica (above) and Carnival (left) can all be found in Christopher Farr Cloth's new Indoor/Outdoor collection.

door fabrics. "I liked the idea of finding a graphic that worked with the landscape, rather than trying to merge or blend in with the outdoors.

Using only materials of the highest quality, Christopher Farr Cloth has over thirty designs of prints and weaves. The printed collection is produced in the United Kingdom, with many of the fabrics hand printed by the same company that produced the original collection of fabrics by Michael Zsell.

Christopher Farr has been a revolutionary figure in contemporary rugs, and now in textiles—taking his designs and placing them in relevant surroundings. When asked what his design aesthetic is, he replies, "I think that's for others to say, I don't really have a view. The work is out there, and has been for over twenty years. There's a definite thread running through all of it."

*Christopher Farr Cloth is available at De Sousa Hughes, **Thomas Lavin**, and **other** Christopher Farr locations. For more information, please visit www.christopherfarrcloth.com*