

DesignLA

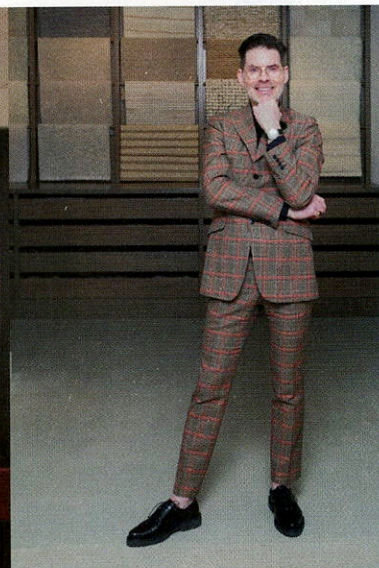


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ED RUSCHA AND BILLY AL BENGSTON / CO COLLECTIONS
FIRE HOUSE HOTEL / BLUM & POE / DISC INTERIORS
APPARATUS / ROBIN COTTLE JEWELRY / CULVER CITY

ARTIST JOHANNES GIRARDONI
AND EYRC ARCHITECTS IN VENICE



Photos by Steven Perloff

A LAVIN EXPANSION

“We outgrew our space,” says Thomas Lavin (*top right*) about his newly expanded showroom in the Pacific Design Center. “We added four thousand square feet, bringing the total to seventeen thousand. And we have twelve thousand square feet at the Laguna Design Center, where we opened in 2014.”

Lavin already presided over one of the city’s largest multi-line showrooms, but the Los Angeles design market continues to grow. “Last year we had the opportunity to bring on some exceptional collections—Jonathan Browning, Joe Jeup, John Pomp, Troscan. And Jiun Ho is expanding his collection [*middle right*]. In addition, we’re launching a new collection, Atelier Purcell. We’ve represented products since we opened in 2000 that have felt like secrets and need more display space, such as Rosemary Hallgarten rugs and Tuell and Reynolds fireplaces.”

Significant floor space is devoted to Liaigre (*top and bottom right*), the 30-year-old lifestyle brand that encompasses everything from furniture to lighting to textiles and rugs. “Liaigre is sophisticated and luxu-

rious and resonates with clients who care about quality and timelessness,” notes Lavin.

Fabrics are one of Lavin’s passions, and he now has more space in which to display them. “Everyone needs fabric!” he says. “We have a wide range, not only aesthetically but also in terms of pricing. We represent major European brands such as Romo and JAB, and boutique collections such as de Le Cuona from London and C+C Milano from Italy. I’m excited by them all. Perhaps what I’m particularly enthusiastic about this year is our launch of Tibor. Sam Reich re-started his grandfather’s company, and he’s revived patterns that were once commissioned by Queen Elizabeth for Clarence House.”

After nearly 20 years in business, Lavin is clearly not slowing down. “It’s been an exciting ride,” he reflects. “The designers who knew me when I started have remained our staunchest supporters. For the younger designers, I share my knowledge and mentorship—I remember the joy and fear of starting my own business. But as my sister and CFO advised, we’re either growing or we’re shrinking. We’ve opted for the former.”

Thomas Lavin, Pacific Design Center
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