

PEOPLE



MOD SQUAD

RH enlists a who's who of contemporary designers to create furniture and accessories for its rapidly expanding collections



There is such a wealth of creativity in the world," says Gary Friedman, the mastermind behind RH, the home-furnishings empire previously known as Restoration Hardware. "Our strategy has always been to find the best people." With that in mind, the company has recruited industry stars from around the world to contribute to the brand, which also encompasses a contemporary initiative, RH Modern, plus an alfresco collection, RH Outdoor. As Friedman explains, "We're working with a lot of personalities, but there is a shared set of beliefs about doing strong work and not cutting corners."

That a juggernaut business would nurture and promote outside minds is hardly a given. But RH appreciates the importance of intellectual cross-pollination. "By connecting with great talents you get great things," Friedman notes. *Architectural Digest* sat down with several of the designers at RH Modern's showrooms in Los Angeles and New York to learn more about their products. Meet the company's collaborators:

JONATHAN BROWNING

Following the debut of his wide-ranging collection of light fixtures for RH Modern, San Francisco-based Jonathan Browning turned his attention to another type of illumination—sleek outdoor lanterns made of warm solid brass. The line comprises three models, all decidedly more angular and pared down than RH's traditional offerings. Morency, Browning's personal favorite, takes its cues from midcentury experiments in bentwood (he cites the Cherner chair as an influence). "The design is one continuous ribbon of metal that forms the handle and the base," he says. "Its decorative appeal and function are one and the same, which is the essence of minimalism."

HARRISON AND NICHOLAS CONDOS

Simple forms meet coastal cool in the creations of Harrison and Nicholas Condos, Australian brothers who

From top: Jonathan Browning amid outdoor lanterns he created for RH. Brothers Harrison (left) and Nicholas Condos with chairs and a table from their Aegean line for the brand.

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