

Product

Martyn Lawrence Bullard's New Outdoor Furniture Line for Harbour Knows Exactly What It's All About

The AD100 designer teams up with the Australian furniture purveyor for a thoroughly modern collection meant for indoor-outdoor living

By Madeleine Luckel

June 3, 2019



MLB Arm Chairs dot the backyard area of the Abernathy House in Palm Springs. The home, where the photoshoot for the collection took place, was designed by architect William Cody and exemplifies the area's signature midcentury modernism.

Photo: Courtesy of Harbour

"So many people look at their outdoor spaces and panic," AD100 designer [Martyn Lawrence Bullard](#) tells AD PRO. The tony Southern California homes that Bullard has designed (think: [Alessandra Ambrosio's](#) Santa Monica abode and [Kylie Jenner's](#) Hollywood Hills palace) indicate that despite this fact, outdoor spaces are integral to Bullard's work. And indeed they are now more so than ever, considering that Bullard has partnered with [Harbour](#) to create a luxurious yet streamlined collection of outdoor furniture pieces.

[Harbour](#) is a frequent destination for individuals and interiors professionals seeking out high-quality outdoor designs. "We started the company as a family business," Harbour's Nick Condos explains, adding that his father founded the brand in 1976. "We draw on our Australian upbringing and lifestyle," he continues on to add. "Living by the beach a big part of that." With the sound of Pacific Ocean waves crashing in the distance and a view of the Sydney Opera House now coming into focus, Harbour's story and specialty begin to make sense.



MLB Dining Chairs and the MLB Dining Table make for an idyllic setting for outdoor eating. The table's width is meant to accommodate the family-style sharing that often goes into contemporary entertaining, Bullard says.

Photo: Courtesy of Harbour

This new line from Harbour and Bullard, dubbed the MLB Collection, consists of chairs (seated and lounge) as well as tables (coffee, end, and dining room). It's the perfect antidote to that all-too-common panic Bullard describes, and a well-timed offering considering that warmer months are now under way.

"For us, the [concept] was to create a collection that would really mix-and-match," Bullard notes. "The whole idea [was to] be able to decorate your backyard or terrace the way you decorate your living room." This may get to the heart of the matter, in that on the oceanic continent where Harbour first got its start, there isn't nearly as much of a distinction between indoor and outdoor pieces of furniture as your average American might think. But in order to make this vision a reality, the designs in question must be innately sturdy. "It was a challenge manufacturing things that would be hardy outdoors," Bullard says, adding that that was "one of the things Nick worked really hard on." (In particular, the designer emphasizes just how impressive the MLB Dining Table is. With its brass banding and large size in comparison to other outdoor tables currently on the market, it is a notable highlight of the line.)



Two MLB Easy Chairs help form a poolside vignette.

Photo: Courtesy of Harbour

In the case of the MLB Collection, size really was also at the forefront of Bullard's focus. The designer notes that he drew upon "midcentury inspiration but scaled for today's living." The results, photographed purposefully in Palm Springs's [Abernathy House](#), an example of the area's midcentury modernism, are "bigger and loungier," as Bullard puts it. "The pieces are also somewhat timeless," he adds. "Designers are coming in and saying, 'We would use this indoors as well.'" Indeed, therein lies the point: For all the selection's sleek lines and informality, the collection is ultimately made for modern-day living.



Another look look at the MLB Arm Chairs, MLB Dining Chairs, and MLB Dining Table.

Photo: Courtesy of Harbour