

# CENTURION

| PROVENCAL BOUNTY | COATS TO COVET | OMANI HEIGHTS |  
| INTERIORS BY DESIGN | PERPETUALLY ON TIME |

AUTUMN 2014



Above: Zoé Ouvrier, [zoeeouvrier.com](http://zoeeouvrier.com), commissions via [galleryfumi.com](http://galleryfumi.com); left: Eleanor Lakelin, Chestnut burr hollow forms, [eleanorlakelin.co.uk](http://eleanorlakelin.co.uk); right: Sarah Campbell, Calico Birds, [sarahcampbelldesigns.com](http://sarahcampbelldesigns.com)

sense of movement and energy, while chairs are literally upended. Bespoke projects, such as a 10m staircase for an English client in Dubai and a "sleeping beauty" bed for a Moroccan princess, reveal his unconventional approach. His solo show at Carpenters Workshop Gallery in Paris (6 September to 20 December) should encourage further private commissions.

Theatrical furniture is a speciality of **Splinter Works**, a collaboration of British furniture makers Miles Hartwell and Matt Withington. Their technically ingenious creations are characterised by contrasting attributes of solidity and weightlessness or motion and stillness. This visual trickery works well in designs such as a hammock-like, carbon-fibre Vessel bathtub, an anthropomorphic, white leather Bodice Rocker and a wall-hung Dime cabinet whose spherical, shuttered form was inspired by a spinning coin.

Master woodworker **Michael Coffey** also takes an inspiringly fresh approach to furniture making. Handcrafting his tactile designs to bespoke commissions at his Massachusetts studio, he often uses exotic hardwoods, such as African Mozambique, to create the swooping, wing-like curves of cabinets, desks, chairs and tables. Part artwork, part functional furniture, this is contemporary woodworking at its sculptural best.

It is texture that most interests materials maestro **Paul Kelley**, who joyfully confounds expectations at his London workshop.

Facing page, top: Paul Kelley, Burnt oak drinks trolley, [pk-designs.co.uk](http://pk-designs.co.uk); bottom: Jonathon Coleman, Dance Circle (maquette), [jonathoncoleman.com](http://jonathoncoleman.com)





Bespoke desks handmade in copper/walnut or stainless steel/brass, dining tables in teak/cast acrylic and storage units in stainless steel, acrylic and wenge all feature in his oeuvre. He'll make a leather-clad armoire with a gold-leaf interior or a drinks cabinet in copper sheet, cast acrylic and walnut. Even concrete has its place in his exotic palette.

**FABULOUS FLOURISHES** Art, design and architecture are simultaneously embraced by Montpellier native **Zoë Ouvrier**, whose astounding folding screens and wood panels are on display in her Paris atelier. The graduate of Ecole des Beaux Arts uses traditional engraving techniques, hand-carving plywood to conjure visually arresting designs which are overlaid with oil and acrylic paints or, occasionally, lace embellishments. Branchy trees and other organic shapes weave dramatically across the surfaces, re-creating the interplay of light, shadow and patterns found in nature: a tour de force.

Nature similarly infuses the work of London-based artist and textile designer **Sarah Campbell**, who is renowned for her vibrant use of colour. One-off commissions include eye-zapping wall murals for a London apartment's exterior courtyard, and calico window blinds, brightly hand-painted with charming renditions of birds and flowers. Painterly cotton bed quilts, wall hangings and even place