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DRESSING THE DECK

By Roger Grody

A greater consciousness of exterior spaces is fueling product lines that bring a sense of indulgence outdoors.

Opening the sails with custom fabric by Brook Perdigon Textiles

Twenty years ago, fashionable options for outdoor living were limited, with unimaginative aesthetics and synthetic finishes dominating even high-end furnishings. But with sophisticated outdoor spaces now de rigueur in luxury residences, exciting new design solutions have emerged.

The trend was already accelerating, but demand for designer-quality products for exterior living spaces skyrocketed during the pandemic. Homeowners developed a greater appreciation for the outdoor spaces available to them—not just in mild climates, but across the nation. Amenities like fireplaces and chandeliers are making their way outside, while entire furniture lines are being redesigned to accommodate indoor-outdoor lifestyles.

With showrooms across the country, JANUS et Cie is considered a premier manufacturer of resort-style outdoor furniture. The company's hospitality clients—five-star properties like Raffles Singapore and Hotel du Cap-Eden-Roc on the Côte d'Azur—further burnish the brand's reputation. JANUS et Cie's collections frequently involve collaborations with world-class designers, resulting in products such as the Strada high-back settee by Italian architect Paola Navone or the stylish Gina recamier by Piero Lissoni.

Carolina Zhang, JANUS et Cie's vice president of product development, was particularly enthusiastic about a partnership with pioneering architect Philippe Starck. "This collaboration has been an extraordinary opportunity to

share in Starck's vision of a distinctively nature-inspired collection forged in excellence to withstand the elements and be enjoyed for generations to come," she said at the debut of the Serengeti collection.

Brown Jordan is another company offering an impressive spectrum of high-end outdoor furniture that includes its new Oliver collection from designer Ann Marie Vering, inspired by the bucket seats of a 1964 Fiat Jolly and by the carefree Mediterranean lifestyle the car evokes. "As people continue to use their outdoor spaces as an extension of their interiors, outdoor spaces have become more of a focal point and are given as much attention as their indoor counterparts," maintains Gene Moriarty, the company's president



Chaise from the Oliver Collection by Brown Jordan



Boat dressings by Brook Perdigon Textiles



Oceana Lounge Chair by Sutherland Furniture



House MEGA MAX umbrella by Tuuci

Photo credit: Andrew Stewart (left and bottom left), Adrian Gaut (top right), Sutherland Furniture (bottom middle), Tuuci (bottom right)

and CEO. "Many Brown Jordan pieces are designed with both outdoor and indoor living in mind and can be used in both settings," he adds.

Los Angeles-based Brook Perdigon Textiles recently introduced Outbounds, a collection of performance fabrics resistant to children, pets, and natural elements. "The pandemic turned the outdoor spaces that we once used sparingly into all-the-time living spaces," reports founder Brook Perdigon. "They became the additional room to escape to, and if you were brave enough to entertain, the outdoors became the place to do it," she adds.

Noting her Outbounds collection is suitable for both indoor and outdoor use, Perdigon suggests, "Each design provides a modern and durable backdrop

for relaxed living and casual entertaining." With these fabrics, designers can adapt virtually any kind of furniture to the outdoors, no longer constrained by the product lines of outdoor furniture manufacturers.

Tuuci, a Miami-headquartered brand specializing in shade solutions, has brought newfound excitement to the humble umbrella. The company's sculptural parasols, trellises, and cabanas can transform any backyard into a resort environment. Recently introduced at Salone del Mobile, Milan's influential trade show, is the Ocean Master MEGA MAX Classic, which gracefully spans up to 24 feet while resisting wind gusts of 75 miles per hour.

"Tuuci's passion is to create comfort and accessibility in the harshest

environments on earth," explains Dougan Clarke, the company's founder, CEO and chief product architect. "Focusing on engineering and robust design, while leaning into our marine roots, has allowed us to create architectural structures for the ultimate outdoor destination," he says.

Sutherland Furniture, a brand that premier professionals turn to for sophisticated outdoor living spaces, recently released its Oceana line, designed by Bannenberg & Rowell, whose usual medium is superyachts. Simon Rowell, creative director of the UK-based yacht design firm, states, "Our first major production furniture range represents the same synthesis of movement, experience and pioneering spirit. And comfort."