

BY BRIDGET FABI

MAISON & OBJET

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What the collections from four up-and-coming designers from the home décor industry's most influential international trade show say about the direction the market is heading.

The following four designers caught our eye with their fresh creations, and they embrace an emerging design sensibility summed up by design royalty Philippe Stark at the show: "I can see something that I have been waiting for - the emergence of political thinkers who are much more politically and socially aware than those who came before them."

OLIVIA HAVILAND & FREDDY DEANE, SMILING PLANET

Market directions represented: Eco-friendly, diverse, global, children's products

Inspired by his two young daughters to create a world for children that would be peaceful, thought-provoking and diverse, Freddy Deane wrote and illustrated *Smiling Planet*, a book about loving the world. A year ago he and wife Olivia Haviland decided to develop a product line dedicated to their children that supported peace and a respect for the environment, so they tapped into Olivia's family's expertise – dinnerware.

Offering up a collection of 100% recycled, BPA and toxin-free polypropylene dishes and placemats, organic t-shirts and books featuring Freddy's whimsical illustrations, Smiling Planet is already a hit with parents and children worldwide.

www.smilingplanet.net



Olivia Haviland and Freddy Deane (pictured with their daughters) have combined their respective talents and backgrounds to create a whimsical line of children's products that promote diversity and respect for the planet.



Mother-and-daughter design duo Yvonne and Rebecca Drury fuse the latest home décor colours with vintage prints for a fun and on-trend collection of textiles and products which are also eco-friendly.

YVONNE & REBECCA DRURY, MISS PRINT

Market directions represented: Vintage prints, pattern and eco-friendly manufacturing

Londoners born and bred, mother-and-daughter team Yvonne, 47, and Rebecca, 28, both graduated with honours in textile design. In 2005, the pair launched their business selling products made from 1950's-inspired hand-painted prints from their east London studio. Using the process of silk-screen printing by hand, they take great care to produce a range of interior products that are superior in quality and design. All Miss Print products are manufactured in the United Kingdom using non-toxic materials and water-based organic inks.

In 2009, wall vinyls, wallpaper and furniture were added to their range to rave reviews. Since then, they've designed a best-selling range for WHSmith and regularly exhibit their designs and creations in New York, Paris and London.

www.missprint.co.uk



JEREMY MAXWELL WINTREBERT, SPIRIT FRUIT GLASS

Market directions represented: Handicrafts, organic forms, global influences

Global nomad Jeremy Maxwell Wintrebert, 29, was born in Paris, but grew up travelling around Africa with his parents for their fruit export business. At the age of 18 he moved to the United States, eventually settling in Seattle where he discovered the art of hand-blown glass. After studying under master glass blowers in Murano, California and Florida, Jeremy moved back to Paris. Inspired by his memories of Africa, his meditations and his fascination with hot glass, the soft-spoken designer has produced a luscious collection of organic, vegetal forms with rich and striated colours.

www.jeremyglass.com



Parisian-born glass blower Jeremy Maxwell combines his vast travelling experiences into his collection of organic glass objects.



SAM BARON

Market directions represented: Functionality, images and forms inspired by nature, timeless design

French ceramist Sam Baron, 33, is a graduate of two French decorative art schools who lives and works in Portugal and Italy. Participating in high-profile shows in the last year, including the Milan Furniture Fair, Baron's latest creations include an eclectic range of retro-inspired porcelain for Bosa of Italy and Vista Alegre of Portugal, in addition to futuristic glass vases and occasional tables for Casamania. His work is strongly influenced by nature and cultural references. Animals and plant life are also featured prominently in his designs. But he also has a fun side and likes to use old-school icons such as VHS tapes and portable radio-cassette recorders in his work.

www.sambaron.fr



Sam Baron was chosen as one of the show's top 10 designers for 2010. The Parisian-born ceramist has developed collections for numerous high-profile clients including Vista Alegre and Collette.



Bridget Fabi is a freelance journalist, marketing specialist and product designer working in the fields of giftware and home décor. She is a frequent contributor to Retail News as the author of our Colourwatch and 10 Best departments.

FYI: 85,482 professionals from around the world attended Maison & Objet in January 2010. The number of Canadian visitors increased by 42 per cent compared to January 2009. ■