

ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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DESIGNERS' OWN HOMES



Discoveries by Designers



Mimi London

A penchant for organic materials led **Mimi London** to discover a very old orchard in Northern California that had a surplus of black walnut. "I've been curing these pieces for six years," says the celebrated California designer (above, sitting on a walnut low table). From smaller tables, London has moved on to create larger (10 feet by six feet) dining tables (above left), crafting only four or five each year. The hand-waxed tops are assembled like a puzzle from six to eight pieces of one tree. "The wood tells me what I can do and can't do," she says. "It's me designing with what is."

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Screen Time

Pamela Worley's latest collection of furniture and accessories was influenced by a Spanish aesthetic. The Texas designer works closely with artisans in Mexico who hand-craft the cast-iron pieces. A fire screen (left), one of her first designs, was based on an antique screen she saw in Europe.

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