



From above: **Ligne Roset** polyester **Saparella** chair, from £1,248, footstool, from £577, and **diabolo**, from £1,303. **Sunbrella** acrylic curtains from the **Windows** Collection, from £73.85 per m. **Living Divani** fabric **Extrasoft** sofa, from €9,978

push the boundaries. Piero Lissoni's 30-year design directorship of Italian brand **Living Divani** is a case in point; his **Extrasoft** sofa system (from €9,978, pictured bottom right), a series of modular seats that can be configured as desired in a geometrical arrangement, exemplifies his intelligent approach and elegant, understated aesthetic. Belgian architect and designer Vincent Van Duysen's unmistakable blend of warm, tactile minimalism is equally evident in the **Franck** series (dining chair, £2,646, and dining table, £14,788, both pictured overleaf, and side table, £4,868) conceived for US brand **Sutherland Furniture** in 2018, fusing simple silhouettes in teak with grey stone.

Spanish outdoor furniture specialist **Kettal's** design credentials derive from numerous high-profile collaborations, from Marcel Wanders and Konstantin Grcic to the Bouroullec brothers and the prolific Patricia Urquiola, whose new **Band** chair (from £745) for the brand sees textural **Terrain** fabric stretched over teak frames in a mélange of modern colours inspired by landscape hues. Last year, Urquiola weaved her magic on Kettal's **Vimini** Lounge series (two-seater sofa, from €4,535, coffee table, from €765, and dining armchair, €998), a collection defined by woven wicker reinterpreted as a sinuous form that is modern yet recalls classic braiding and baskets.

The woven aesthetic is still very much a trend this year, given the focus on comfort. This is certainly true of Danish company **Cane-line**, which has introduced new

woven-rope additions of its **Peacock** chair (from £595, pictured on previous page) reworked in its own weather- and UV-resistant polypropylene rope. "We developed the **Soft Rope** technique with weavers in Indonesia," says CEO Brian Djernes. "It's a tight weave requiring both strength and a delicate touch. The lounge chair takes a weaver two to three days to finish, but ensures that the furniture is as comfortable as possible."

The same desire informed Hong-Kong-based architect and designer André Fu's first foray into outdoor furniture. **Rock Garden** (lounge chair, from €3,048, side table, from €1,139, and sofa modules, from €9,976 for a set), launched in April with furniture brand **Janus et Cie**, is the culmination of his quest to counter the rigid profiles of

traditional garden furniture and capture the fluidity of Japanese garden design. "It is a very specific proposition to design for the outdoors – the materials tend to be stiff and the engineering required to join the elements together is a critical consideration," he says. "I used teak because it works well outside, but counterbalanced the masculine lines with a curved armrest so that the overall shape is rather poetic and oriental in expression."

But comfortable seating is just one ingredient in the mix that conjures glamorous outdoor living – cooking, dining, even sleeping are increasingly important, just as they are inside the home. Enter contemporary outdoor kitchens – **Cane-line's** **Drop** series, for example, teams a slick aluminium kitchen concept (from £5,305) with a coordinated table (£2,215, both pictured on previous pages), while **Exteta** has two striking designs, one fusing leaf-rust marble with steel (10th kitchen, from £35,648), the other set on wheels and encased in mahogany (**Roller** kitchen, from £11,895) – alongside statement centrepieces such as Paola Navone's marble and terracotta **Nevada** dining table (price on request) and **Dedon's** **Rilly** (€6,250, pictured overleaf) by **GamFratesi**, a canopied two-seater lounge/daybed, both unveiled at Milan Design Week.

Soft furnishings – those finishing touches that not only instil a sense of warmth and luxury into a room, but pull a design scheme together – are a big design story for 2019. "We're seeing more people hanging curtains around pergolas and daybeds to create softer areas protected from the elements," says Pieter Verhelst, marketing manager for **Sunbrella**. Consequently, it recently launched its 3m-wide **Windows** Collection (from £73.85 per m, pictured above), crafted from solution-dyed acrylic (in which dye is applied to the naked acrylic rather than the finished yarn so that the colour permeates to its core and doesn't fade), offered in 58 colour and texture options – all UV-resistant, rot- and mould-proof.





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