



## BOOKS

**THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN YEARBOOK 2007 (\$135, Laurence King)** Design junkies, this is what you've been waiting for. Celebrating its 21st edition, this showcase of the very best in international domestic design is guest-edited by acclaimed Spanish designer Patricia Urquiola. She presents 240 pages of the best furniture, lighting, tableware, textile and product designs from the last two years. All the pieces have been carefully chosen by Urquiola for their relevance to current design trends, and are rewarded with lavish colour photographs, technical information and designer biographies.

**STUDIO (\$80, R. Ian Lloyd Productions)** Sixty-one of Australia's leading artists open their studios and their souls in this gloriously illustrated testimonial to their talent. Just how do people such as David Bromley, Ken Done and Annette Bezor work their magic? Do they suffer 'creative block' – and if so, how do they overcome it? Is their art an obsession or merely a job? Art critic John McDonald poses those questions and more in his efforts to find out what makes them tick, while R. Ian Lloyd's divine photography shows the subjects head-down in their studios and reproduces some of their work. Superb.



Ian Factor's love of Bauhaus and Shaker design is evident in the simple lines of his Stack of Drawers (left), side table (below) and coffee table (bottom).

## THE X-FACTOR

THIS DESIGNER INJECTS A SENSE OF FUN INTO HIS STREAMLINED TIMBER PIECES

There's more to Ian Factor's unique furniture than meets the eye. Influenced by the clean lines of Shaker furniture and the sophistication of Bauhaus design, visual effortlessness is the key to his current collection, designed and handmade at his Factor Design workshop in Mittagong, NSW. Chests of drawers, side tables, stools and coffee tables are functional yet uncomplicated, with splashes of colour adding a touch of whimsy.

As important as Ian's designs are the materials used to make them. His handcrafted works are constructed from eco-friendly timbers such as 'good wood' endorsed by Greenpeace and sustainable Forest Stewardship Council timbers from New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

Inspired by the works of Dutch design company Droog, Ian's 'Stack of Drawers' was nominated for the VIVID Student Award and displayed at this year's Furnitex trade fair in Melbourne. Consisting of seven individual units, with different veneers and drawer fronts kept in place by magnets, this flexible system can be assembled into various configurations. "How you decide to use them is only limited by your imagination," explains Ian. This rings true for all of his pieces, where elegance, the unexpected and bursts of colour dominate.

Ian's work is available at Flying Pig Precinct Galleries, Berry NSW; (02) 4464 3402, and Koskela, Surry Hills NSW; (02) 9280 0999, [www.koskela.com.au](http://www.koskela.com.au). To find out more about Factor Design, visit [www.highlandsnsw.com.au/factordesign](http://www.highlandsnsw.com.au/factordesign) or call 0411 354 400.



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## CULT CLASSIC >>> BESTLITE LAMP SERIES BY ROBERT DUDLEY BEST

**THE FORM** The original metal BestLite BL1 (right) desk lamp was inspired by a visit to Paris's 'Exposition Internationale Des Arts Décoratifs et Industriels Modernes' in 1925. The expo showcased many Bauhaus designs, with their revolutionary appearance requiring an equally new approach to lighting. **DESIGNED BY** Robert Dudley Best (1892–1984). Best studied design in Paris and Düsseldorf, and was good friends with Bauhaus principal Walter Gropius. **WHAT MAKES IT SPECIAL?** The simple design of the BestLite was ahead of its time – the influential *Architects' Journal* declared it the first manifestation of Bauhaus in the UK. It has been in continuous production since 1930 and is part of the collection of the Design Museum in London. According to legend, Winston Churchill used a BestLite desk lamp in his air-raid shelter during World War II. **EXPECT TO PAY** From \$554 for the BL7 wall lamp, up to \$1459 for the BL3 floor lamp. The BL1 desk lamp is \$1055. Available in Black, White, Ivory or Chrome. **BUY AT** Corporate Culture, 1300 768 626, [www.corporateculture.com.au](http://www.corporateculture.com.au).



CULT CLASSIC WORDS BY DAVID HARRISON. IAN FACTOR WORDS BY HANDE RENSHAW. MAIN PHOTOGRAPH BY AMANDA PRIOR