

## ZEITGEIST

People and places in the air right now By AMY BROOMFIELD, PHOEBE FISHER AND GUY WOODWARD



Design: VILLIERS

If ever there was an example of talent running in the family, it's the Villiers brothers. There's the eldest, Harry, who specialises in art and design; Tim, whose skills lie in metalwork gained from experience in shipbuilding; and Hugo, who began his career creating elaborate sets for opera houses. In 1998, the three decided to pool their talents to form a furniture company. The formative period, it should be said, was not altogether conventional. Hugo likens them to a "rock band without a manager", referring to the haphazard jobs they took on in the early days. But in 2002, some fortuitous exposure earned the trio proper

recognition. The brothers had been asked to create a chair in the shape of a vegetable for a textile brand's press launch, and the quirky design grabbed all the attention, accidentally projecting the brothers into the limelight. An influx of bespoke commissions followed and Villiers the brand was born. Elegant console tables, lighting and life-sized sculptures in mixed metals are just some of the pieces for which it has since become known. And with an office right above the workshop, the brothers can constantly toy with new shapes and finishes, personally overseeing each piece to ensure it is honed to perfection.

Villiers Atlas table lamp £2,689

Available from Classics Room, Third Floor

FAMEED KHALIQUE At sixth-form college in Leicester, Fameed Khalique was asked to organise the annual fashion show; he duly pulled it off without a hitch, and was inspired to dream big: in 1985, he orchestrated the largest fashion show ever seen - Fashion Aid at the Royal Albert Hall. The charity event included 18 of the world's most famous designers, as well as heavyweight celebrities including Freddie Mercury and Boy George. Having set the bar high, he dabbled in various creative fields before finding his next calling, rare and beautiful textiles; today, his name is in the black book of every high-profile interior designer. Khalique's Kings Road studio is a treasure trove of semiprecious stones, hides and fabrics - and he can do just about anything with them. His cushion collection has metallic covers in leather hand-loomed with silk, while a coral crepe version is embroidered with pearlescent beads. CUSHIONS, FROM TOP Oscar from £688, Isadora from £335, Chloe £633 and Coco £548. Available from The Fabric Library, Third Floor

## Lolita lamp by Dutch brand Moooi, features a bluebell-shaped shade with a scalloped edge evoking the hem of a petticoat. The Slovenian designer also draws on the Golden Age of Hollywood and the elegance of film noir, while her third collection references the Olympics and Modernism: pieces include the Olympia dressing table with interlocking circular mirrors;





## EDWARD BARBER & JAY OSGERBY for THE RUG COMPANY

Having created art installations, fabrics and even the London 2012 Olympic Torch, Edward Barber

& Jay Osgerby have now made four children's rugs - Peacock, Tiger, Frog and Croco - in collaboration with The Rug Company. "It was a challenge to make the creatures real without scaring the living daylights out of the household," Osgerby says. Rug 2.29m x 1.52m, £2,558. Available from The Rug Company, Third Floor