

# THE *Makers*

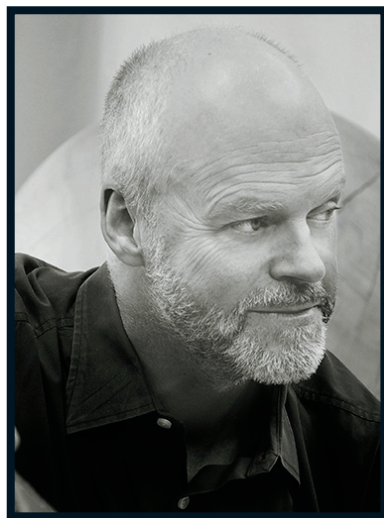


## ALEC SUTHERLAND RUGMAKER

**A FORMER TREE PLANTER** and firefighter, Alec has found his niche as a rugmaker with his Montreal-based company, Haut Beau. Using wool and spun tow linen from Belgium, his flatwoven rugs (*below*) are trimmed in simple fringe, and the designs are geometric and clean. “It took a long time to shake ideas of how things *should* look out of my head and allow myself to put things together the way I thought best,” Alec says. “That might be something that comes naturally to other creatives, but it was something I had to learn.”



The cracks in Brent Comber’s Drum tables make each one unique and dynamic.



## BRENT COMBER WOODWORKER

**“I DRAW INSPIRATION** from living on the edge of a temperate rain forest within a stone’s throw of the ocean,” says North Vancouver woodworker Brent Comber. His Drum tables, crafted from West Coast red cedar with their prominent splits (or “checks”), have become Canadian design icons. Brent preaches the power of simplicity in design — and life. While backpacking in Asia (pre-Internet, -cellphone, and -ATM), he was robbed and left with nothing but his clothes. “I learned about my authentic self. All kids should throw their phones away for a year and do this after graduating high school.”



## GABRIEL KAKON & SCOTT RICHLER LIGHTING DESIGNERS

**MONTREAL BROTHERS-IN-LAW** Gabriel (*right*) and Scott design intricate, futuristic lighting with a heavy dollop of old-fashioned glamour. Their pieces are so gorgeous they’re often compared to jewelry, so it’s no surprise the pair list traditional jewel cuts and geometric forms as inspirations. But their work is also influenced by two revered architects: “The forms and silhouettes are informed by the principles of Gio Ponti and Buckminster Fuller,” Scott explains.

Gabriel Scott’s Harlow pendant (*top right*) resembles an inverted, Tiffany-set solitaire. The blown-glass shade also comes in an amethyst hue.