

COPENHAGEN EXPRESS

What's Modern now was Modern then

Photography by David Harrison



Scandinavian design of the 1950-1970s is in vogue again. This is a lesson in how well-designed furniture transcends fashion to become classic. This time around it looks fresher than ever in our sea- and sky-lit interiors.



Vignette against curved wall in entry features two Arne Jacobsen Swan chairs, Jacobsen table and accessories. Art by Babette Herschberger adds more bright color to the neutral interior.

DENMARK MEETS LA JOLLA

A remodeled hilltop La Jolla home with architecture and interiors by Danish architect Jesper Pedersen celebrates the clean, 1960s reissued designs that are in vogue for modern interiors. These La Jolla clients, natives of Mexico, have a real love for clean, Scandinavian design and bright color. They first hired Pedersen as a consultant on the furniture and artwork, then hired him as interior decorator for the home to be renovated and then urged him to take on the entire architectural design remodel.

His curved entry walls and intertwined Cs on the glass front door, (for the owners' initials), set the stage for an open floor plan and 3,600 square feet of family living and entertaining spaces on the original footprint.



The Italian glass dining table expands from seating for six to 12. Chair covers are Ultrasuede and removable. Area rug is woven of recycled paper, a green design idea. Place settings all from Mikasa. Simple floral design throughout by Chantal.

"For Scandinavian furniture designers, the 1950s were years of international triumph. The Scandinavians leaned heavily on wood ... but Jacobsen, Panton and Poul Kjaerholm also spoke the international language of metal and plastics ... never losing sight of pared-down functionalism and unpretentious good looks."

— Cara Greenberg, *Mid-Century Modern*, Harmony Books, 1995



Opposite and this page: A unique solution for the living room's entertainment wall features a medley of boxy storage and display. Original plan for a white wall with dark-brown wenge boxes proved too expensive. For a more affordable solution, Pedersen painted the wall a warm dark brown and designed contrasting custom white display boxes and cabinets, which surround a flat-screen TV. Accents of bright color appear in art, accessories and an occasional chair.

Danish Names to Know

Poul Kjaerholm, new Museum of Modern Art furniture

Arne Jacobsen, famous for the *Egg*, *Swan* and *Ant* chairs

Hans Wegner, famous for the *Round* and *Peacock* chairs

Verner Panton, famous for chandeliers, the *Panton Classic*, the *Amoeba* and *S* chairs

Manufacturers Fritz Hansen, Royal Copenhagen, Rosendahl, Normann Copenhagen, Eva Denmark







Opposite: Custom kitchen has unusual sandblasted glass panels, pale-blue walls, and stainless-steel and birch cabinets and drawers.

Right: Food and dishes, such as the hot, bright accents on these cups from Finland, add heat.

Jesper Pedersen

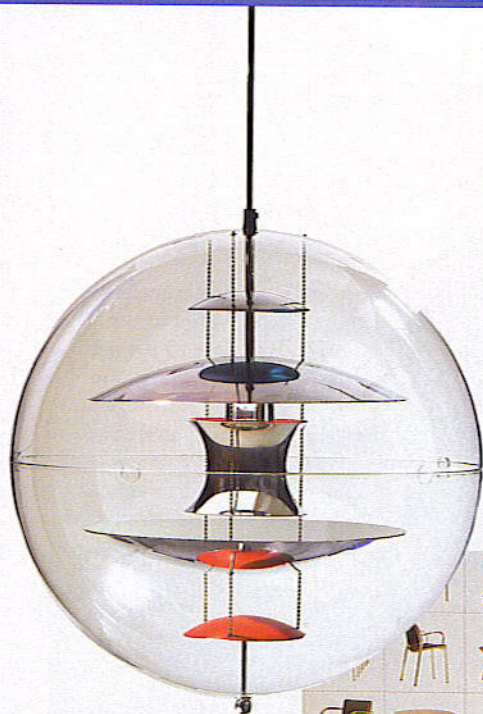
Bottom: The open living and dining area has views to the ocean on one side, to the patio and garden on the dining side. A simple cabinet for storage and display divides the two areas. Neutral sofa, woven chairs and area rug on pale sandstone floor reflect serenity of the oceanscape.

"Danish design is an honest expression of materials. I personally like it because it is designed with absolute clarity. It is timeless. Arne Jacobsen is my favorite."

— Architect Kevin de Freitas



BACK TO THE FUTURE



Above:
Verner Panton VP
Globe chandelier,
designed in 1969.



HONEY STETSON

Verner Panton
chair at Design
Within Reach,
downtown

As vintage 1950s and '60s Scandinavian furniture continues to escalate in price and become ever more scarce, re-releases of many classic designs are showing up in town. Look for designer's name stamped on the new product. Your budget may dictate purchasing one of the less-expensive knockoffs or unofficial copies that have no official stamp. Verner Panton's classic curved chair, the *Relaxer* chair and the *Fun* chandelier are in this category.

Green Note

Woodnotes of Finland area rugs are made of 86-percent spun Kraft paper yarn, 14-percent cotton. They also:

Do not gather dirt or dust.

Can be stored, recycled or burned for energy.

Are made without chlorine gas or dangerous dyes.

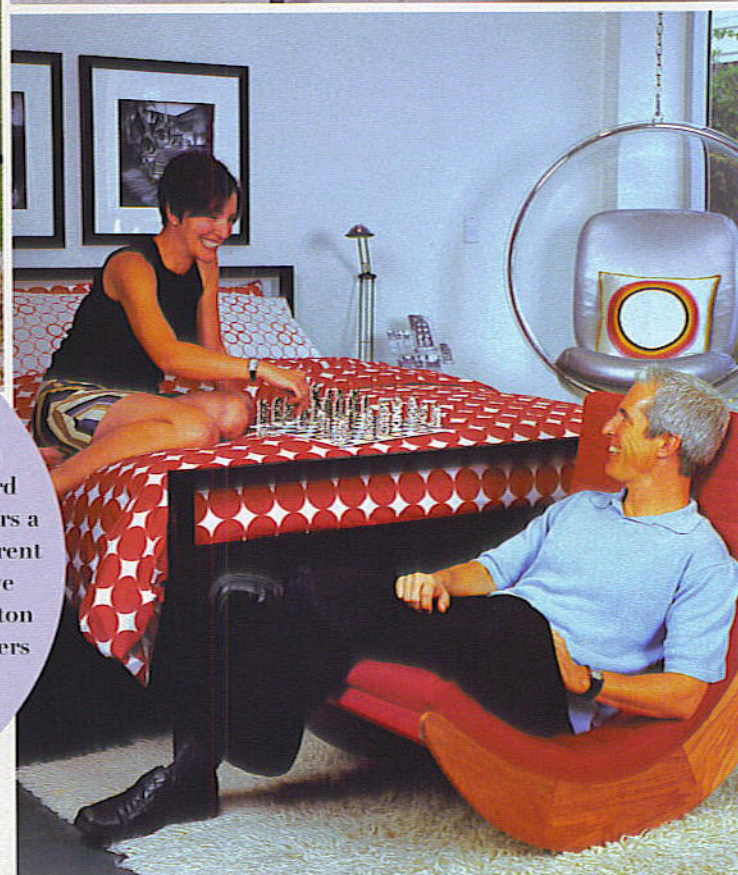
Clockwise from right: Poul Kjaerholm's white furniture was used in the new Museum of Modern Art. Available at DNA, Little Italy

Rick Armour, in a new Panton *Relaxer*, and Jennifer-Fox Armour at MOS My Own Space, La Jolla

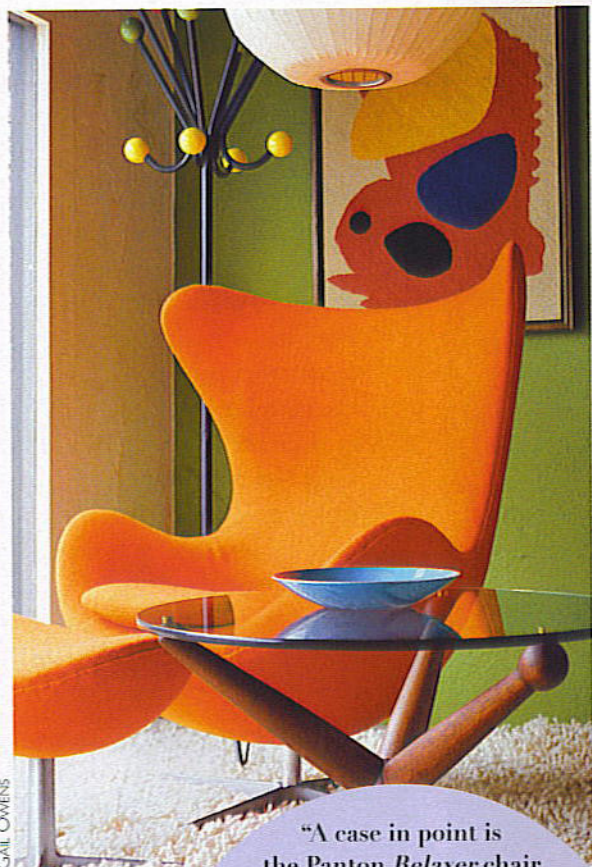
Vintage Arne Jacobsen Egg chair at Mid-Century, Hillcrest



GAIL OWENS



HONEY STETON



GAIL OWENS

"A case in point is the Panton *Relaxer* chair that we sell, stamped with the name 'Verner Pantan.' It comes in leather, wool or an Alexander Girard striped fabric. Pottery Barn Teen offers a similar chair, without the wood, different upholstery, which is a less-expensive knockoff. They don't claim it's a Pantan but we do try to educate our customers as to the difference."

— Jennifer Fox-Armour, co-owner
MOS My Own Space.