

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

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NEW+NOW

GET TO KNOW FOUR PACIFIC NORTHWEST INFLUENCERS AS THEY SHED LIGHT ON WHAT'S OF THE MOMENT IN DESIGN, ART AND ARCHITECTURE.

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1 THE ARTISAN CHELSEA MINOLA

Can't get enough of...

Olson Kundig Architects' Tye River Cabin. I had a chance to stay there with some friends last summer, and I can't stop thinking about the experience. The cabin was so perfectly nestled into its site and was able to open itself up to the surrounding river and woods.

Having a moment:

The things that really excite me in design are the big ideas—the ones that rethink entire industries through design and technology. The work of companies like Airbnb and Uber are good examples of this.

Best place to get lost:

My family and I live on Bainbridge Island, so a lot of our off-time is spent hiking on the local trails, getting out on the water in our little sailboat, and having friends over to eat and drink in our home. We often take new guests to the island out to Bloedel Reserve. It's a must-have experience if you have time to get out of the city.

Don't miss:

We like to take our out-of-town visitors to the James Turrell Skyspace at the Henry Art Gallery, the Frye Art Museum—for the building itself, the exhibitions and the Charlie Schuck-curated store—and Suyama Space.

Go-to summer event:

Don't let excuses stop you from heading to the Bellevue Arts Museum for the exhibit "The New Frontier: Young Designer-Makers in the Pacific Northwest" through August 16. It's a chance to see the work of 28 regional independent designers in a show that attempts to define what is so special about this time and place.

Best-selling items in inventory:

Our beeswax Totem candles started off as an experiment that we put out on Instagram, but when we saw the response, we decided to produce a series of designs,

and they took off. I love that they're all-natural, useful products that have zero waste and are completely made in our island studio.

Chelsea Minola is one half of the creative team behind Grain Design, a full-service design studio she runs with her husband out of their studio on Bainbridge Island. In her own home, she'd love to have radiant heat floors so that she could always be barefoot.



2 THE JEWELRY DESIGNER RACHEL RAVITCH

One to watch:

I am totally enamored by British fashion designer Phoebe Philo. Her work for Céline is always effortlessly chic and plays on the drama of the duality of masculinity and femininity—you cannot have one without the other.

What's intriguing you now?

The relationship between designers and artists. There's a real collaborative spirit in the air, and I am seeing the two working together to create a more independent vision. Art is at the root of all good design.

Best materials of the moment:

I've been drawn to natural materials like alpaca, goatskin, porcelain and plywood. There's a real sense of playfulness and an element of the handcrafted technique in accessories right now, and it's so exciting.

For the design-obsessed:

If you're visiting, be sure to make time for a trip to the Seattle Asian Art Museum—and all of Volunteer Park—and don't leave without trying a truly handmade ice cream at Kurt Farm Shop. I also love Totokaelo.

Shop 'til you drop:

Pioneer Square is booming! Not only are there great new places to spend time in, but there's also a whole underbelly of long-standing businesses with lots of interesting things to offer.



Images: Clockwise from top: Grain Design's Stick candleholders show off the company's popular beeswax Totem candles. The Bound mirror reflects Chelsea Minola's minimalist style. Rachel Ravitch's lambskin-stitched Porcelain Bead necklace and a sneak peek inside the designer's light and bright Seattle studio.

Beat the heat:

If it's beautiful out, I like to head straight to the Olympic Sculpture Park with a bottle of chilled white wine and then wander around the grounds and watch the sun set.

Dream splurge:

I'd love to own a marble coffee table by Codor Design, but I'm happy with my most recent purchase: ceramics by April Brimer.

Seattle-based designer Rachel Ravitch is the founder behind an eponymous line of jewelry and accessories. If she could switch jobs with anyone, it'd be Karl Lagerfeld.

CHELSEA MINOLA HEADSHOT AND PHOTOS: BEN BLOOD; RACHEL RAVITCH HEADSHOT: MEGUMI SHALINA ABAL; NECKLACE AND ROOM PHOTOS: COURTESY RACHEL RAVITCH.