



Sun King

Richard Frinier celebrates more than 30 years of award-winning outdoor design

BY CLARA HANEBERG

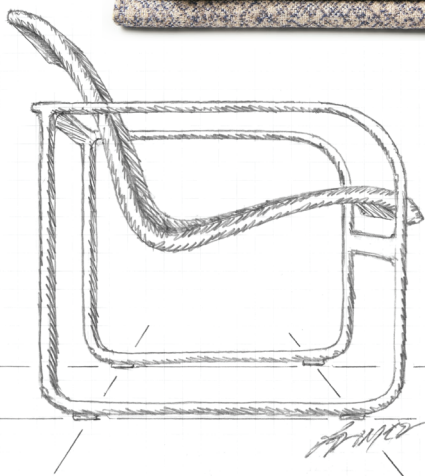


You can thank Richard Frinier for your posh patio. Since the furniture and textile designer entered the industry more than three decades ago, the outdoor market has dramatically evolved, now offering weatherproof pieces worthy of even the most impeccable interiors.

“I am very proud to continue to be a contributor, especially when it is such an enjoyable and popular category worldwide,” Frinier says. Credited for fueling the “resort at home” trend and “staycations,” the well-traveled innovator has made an undeniable impact on exterior design. He has helped usher in key advancements: the development of synthetic woven materials, the transformation of basic garden benches into stylized teak pieces, and the introduction of rotating daybeds and the inspired canopy—see the “Orbit” loveseat (left) and “Andalusia” lounge chair (above left). Additionally, his 25-year relationship with Sunbrella has resulted in the development of today’s high-quality performance fabrics for exterior *and* interior use.

Over the years, Frinier has designed for several noteworthy brands and manufacturers, including Glen Raven/Sunbrella, Brown Jordan, Century Furniture, and Dedon. His first outdoor furniture collection, Quantum for Brown Jordan, remains in production today—34 years after it was introduced. He has received more than 90 design and career excellence awards, most recently for his Caravan fabric collection for Sunbrella.

What’s next for outdoor design? If you ask Frinier, he’ll tell you, “The sky’s the limit!”



(Clockwise, from top left) Richard Frinier Collection for Century “Andalusia” canopy lounge chair and coordinating ottoman. Richard Frinier for Dedon “Orbit” rotating loveseat. Richard Frinier for Brown Jordan Original sketch of the “Quantum” lounge chair, introduced in 1982. Richard Frinier Collection for Sunbrella through Pindler “Caravan” performance fabrics, reminiscent of vintage Moroccan rugs.