



Christina Kim

Christina Kim brings an innovative philosophy to designing clothes, accessories, and housewares: instead of focusing on the finished product, she emphasizes the process. Although she is a successful entrepreneur, she is respectful of the environment, traditional crafts, and the artisans she employs. Kim grew up in Korea where she hemstitched linens with her grandmother, learning to appreciate the value of handwork. She now collaborates with craftspeople throughout the world, including Mexico, Kenya, China, and Southeast Asia. In 2000, she provided knitting work to 100 displaced women in Bosnia, and in 2004, following an earthquake in India, to 1,000 women who hand tied fabric. “Being with these women is an incredibly creative experience for me,” she says. “My basic desire is to keep the skills and traditions alive.” Kim’s company, Dosa, began as a small shop in 1986 and now has showrooms in New York, Los Angeles, and London.





Henri Beguelin

Born in Switzerland, Henri Beguelin has been studying the potential of leather since the age of 21. In 1971, he moved to the island of Elba and opened the first shop in Porto Azzurro selling belts, bags, and sandals. Soon after, the “Henri Beguelin” collection debuted in Milan, and the company expanded to the States via a partnership with Barney’s. After years of success, he sold the company and began a new endeavor under the name “Henri Cuir” (*cuir* means leather in Italian) and now sells in many shops in Japan, the United States, and Europe. While the company has changed much over the years, the vision has remained the same: exploring the secrets of leather with the highest quality materials, traditional “sellaio” sewing, and the hand of the artist.





Shelly Klein

A native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, Shelly Klein has owned and operated her design business—K Studio—there for 10 years. Her philosophy is that good design and sustainability are not at odds with one another, and this belief is reflected in the offering of unique (and green) home accessories—all of which are handmade in Grand Rapids. Shelly also consults with a wide range of clients within the furniture industry and has frequently collaborated with Herman Miller. For ICFF 2006, she is teaming with two Herman Miller designers—Lydia Esparza and Wayne Susag—to beautifully reimagine the upholstery of an Eames lounge chair and ottoman.

