

## MIMINAT DESIGNS

London

British-Nigerian designer Mimi Shodeinde grew up in London with her mother who ran several businesses and her architect father. Inspired by their entrepreneurial and creative spirits, Shodeinde knew she would end up in a creative field. She launched London-based Miminat Designs studio in 2016 while still attending Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, where she studied interior architecture. Today, her multidisciplinary firm handles everything from residential and commercial projects to product design. Pieces like the Omi D-3 chair shine a spotlight on her craftsmanship, thanks to a handcarved mahogany base that emulates a crashing wave. "In the spaces I design, I want people to feel a sense of calm and to enjoy a seamless balance of warmth, light, and texture. With my products, I'm trying to capture an emotion, a sense of movement," she says. "[I want] them to be seen less as functional pieces but as sculptures to be treasured, like you might art."

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## BRENT WARR

Atlanta

Growing up with a father who was a logger and forester, Brent Warr witnessed firsthand how to derive beauty from unexpected places. "Most of my design sensibility comes from my father," he says. "Most people don't think there is any design that goes into what he does but his company would buy a tract of land and then create ponds, plant trees, and create an entirely new ecosystem." Cutting his teeth at New York design firms Meyer Davis and Yabu Pushelberg, Warr launched his namesake Atlanta-based studio in January 2021. Rather than working with wood, however, Warr's chosen medium is plaster. For New York's Objective Gallery, Warr created products made from an experimental mix of plaster and paper pulp, including the Woodfin collection, with plans to explore different combinations of materials in the future. "All of my designs are very practical," he says, "but there's a level of whimsy to them at the same time."

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