

BRIGHT SOLUTIONS "Cerno means 'to resolve' in Latin," says Cerno co-founder and director of business development Bret Englander, who teamed up with childhood friends Nick Sheridan and Dan Wacholder to channel their passion for design, nature and problemsolving into a lighting business. "We love the process of dreaming up an idea, figuring out how to build it and then sharing our creation with others." Cerno's scenic new showroom at its factory in Aliso Viejo—near Laguna Beach, where the trio grew up—now enables consumers to see the decorative, architectural and custom lighting built on-site. "Orange County is not [necessarily] a hub for modern design, but so many people appreciate good design here," says Englander, who plans to host events at the creative hub complete with bar, guitars, pingpong table and mountain views. The founders' California DNA is at the core of their clean, contemporary aesthetic—which reflects the latest in incandescent and LED lighting technology. Ceramic shades accentuate the red earth color of terra cotta, and an architectural line features lighting named after SoCal beaches. "California is so rich in natural beauty," says Englander. "Our tendency to celebrate natural materials is directly related to our appreciation for them." cernogroup.com—JR





IN THE MIX

After six years on Pico Boulevard in L.A.'s Mid City neighborhood, Martin & Brockett has a new home—right down the street. "The other one was so small," says interior designer and founder Jason Martin. "Everything was shoulder to shoulder and we wanted it to feel more like a gallery space." Located in a former artist studio, the new 2,000-square-foot showroom contains a carefully curated mix of his locally made M&B furniture line (modernized classic pieces with unexpected details), antiques and vintage items, plus art and interesting accessories Martin has discovered over the years, like concrete lamps by artist James Haywood. "I like to call our stuff avant-classical," says Martin, who before opening his own design firm worked on Anthropologie's creative team. M&B pieces like the Roman-inspired Arcade console—available in bold colors like Ember, a bright orange—or the Lupa ottoman, adorned with handcarved oak feet, offer a balanced sense of whimsy. Martin and team plan to rework the showroom's design several times a year, ensuring a fresh sense of discovery prevails with each visit. martinandbrockett.com—LEJ

GROUNDED DESIGN

The name Timothy Oulton may conjure visions of handsome Chesterfield sofas and glamorous mirrored trunks, but his new line Noble Souls—that just debuted a Malibu showroom—has a totally different look and feel. "Malibu is the perfect place as Noble Souls is centered around wellness and reconnecting with the senses," says Oulton. "The collection aims to create a reconnection in the home through the use of completely natural materials and ancient craftsmanship techniques." Standouts—like sofas covered in 100% vegetable-dyed fabrics, the sheepskin Bergere chair, dining tables made from reclaimed timber with vegetable-dyed leather dining chairs, and handblown glass lighting—all look great, but, more importantly, feel wonderful. Says Oulton: "I think the appeal of things that are natural, simple, trustworthy, extremely comfortable and beautiful are the things people want to fill their homes with at the moment." noblesouls.com—LEJ

