Summer Seating: LAUN & BZIPPY at Hollyhock House
June 20–September 28, 2024

This summer, Hollyhock House welcomes visitors to take a seat and enjoy the south terrace as Aline Barnsdall and her daughter Betty did a century ago. The special installation features furnishings by LAUN and BZIPPY—innovative California-based design practices founded by women.

While Frank Lloyd Wright designed furniture for the living and dining rooms, Barnsdall favored her own furnishings in other spaces, including the terraces and patios—rooms for outdoor living. Photographs from the 1920s show Aline, Betty, and friends using wrought iron and wicker furniture on the garden lawns. Betty and her playmates amused themselves on canopied swings. Building on this legacy, LAUN and BZIPPY furnishings activate the south terrace, allowing visitors to engage with Wright’s garden house as Barnsdall had and as she wished the public would too in gifting her property to the City in 1927. Sinuous lines and striking geometries of the contemporary benches, chairs, and planter boxes create new points of reference with the architecture and indoor/outdoor living sinuous with Southern California.
ABOUT LAUN

LAUN was founded in 2018, when friends Rachel Bullock and Molly Purnell brought together their backgrounds in woodworking, metal working and architecture to build a practice of enduring spaces and products. LAUN’s object-line harnesses the unique talents of Los Angeles-based manufacturers to craft timeless, heirloom quality furniture suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. LAUN Studio is the architecture and interiors branch of LAUN, where curiosity and craft are the foundation of our design.

RACHEL BULLOCK is a Los Angeles-based architect and a founding partner of LAUN. She received her Master of Architecture from the University of Texas Austin and her B.S. in Architecture from the University of Michigan. She has collaborated as a designer and project manager with award-winning offices including A+I and Marmol Radziner, among others, and has experience in retail and hospitality environments up to 75,000 sf.

MOLLY PURNELL is a Los Angeles-based designer and founding partner of LAUN. She received her Master of Architecture from the University of Texas Austin, a B.A. in Fine Art from Reed College, and studied woodworking and furniture design at the Oregon College of Art and Craft. Molly has collaborated as a designer and project manager with nArchitects, Ilan Dei Studio, Lisa Ano Studio and Chet Callahan Architecture among others.

ABOUT BZIPPY

Founded in 2008 by artist Bari Ziperstein, BZIPPY is known for experimentation and innovation with ceramics. Working tirelessly to develop engineering methods that challenge conventional notions of slab construction, BZIPPY devises creative solutions to both formal designs and technical concerns. The design trade, friends, and fans are drawn to our inventive shapes, unique glazes, and ambitious approach to scale. BZIPPY is a forward-thinking company that evolves according to a dynamic strategic plan and a transparent approach to operations that centers the growth and wellbeing of our team. Our clients include some of the most prominent interior designers working today, and our work can be found in design-forward private homes and in public venues around the world as well as on the pages of taste-making trade publications.

After studying art and women’s studies as an undergraduate and then earning her Master of Fine Arts from the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, California in 2004, Bari Ziperstein worked primarily in studio-based sculpture and experimental public art. At CalArts, Bari studied with revered conceptual artist Michael Asher, whose method of engaging directly with the physical environments and socioeconomic structures through which artworks circulate was a profound influence. As Bari’s work grew more ambitious, she sought an alternative to the myth that the only viable career path for an artist is through teaching. BZIPPY was conceived as a way to circumvent prescribed notions of success for working artists and is built on Bari’s innate creativity mixed with ideas inspired by conceptual art and intersectional feminist principles.

Over the past decade, the company has produced both intimately sized and architecturally scaled ceramic vases, vessels, lamps, and furniture, often made in limited editions. The studio now focuses on several categories of creative output, including BZIPPY, linesheet production ceramics, BZ Collectible Design, and Bari’s unique artworks.
PHOTOS OF THE BARNSDALLS IN RESIDENCE AT HOLLYHOCK HOUSE
All photos courtesy of David Devine and Michael Devine