

Designs to Desire

L.A.'s buzzy Westweek attracts top interior designers and their famous clients

F THERE EVER WAS AN EVENT THAT ELEVATED L.A. decorators to celebrity status, Westweek is it. The five-day design-a-thon, which converges on West Hollywood's Pacific Design Center from March 22-26, is part show-and-tell, part schmooze-and-booze. Thousands of people, including designers, manufacturers, editors and the simply curious (many events are open to the public) turn architect Cesar Pelli's "Blue Whale" building - soon to be joined by an under-construction red tower - into a bustling center of book signings, panels, store openings and even an invite-only gala awards dinner. (Architect Marc Appleton, husband of actress Joanna Kerns and one of the city's foremost experts on Spanish Colonial architecture, is receiving this year's Lifetime Achievement Award.) But the focus is on the high-design product launches. "It's a great week to take clients to the PDC," says Martyn Lawrence-Bullard, who has designed for the likes of Elton John and Aaron Sorkin. "People get excited about what's new and inventive." Here's a sampling of the most covetable items from star designers who are elevating furniture to art-piece status. ALEXANDRIA ABRAMIAN-MOTT



■ Gary Gibson

THE DESIGN Gibson's 1930s- and 40s-inspired collection focuses on pieces in bronze, stainless steel and glass including the walnut-and-stainless Chandler coffee table (left, \$8,458). "My goal was to highlight the sleek, classic beauty of these materials," says Gibson, owner of the store Gibson ID (7350 Beverly Blvd., ganggibson.com).