

CLASSIC MEETS CONTEMPORARY

“PEOPLE WANT HEART. THEY WANT A CHASER OF EMOTION WITH THEIR AESTHETICS.”

That is how author Sloane Crosley described some people's obsession with material objects from the past, whether it's wicker furniture or art nouveau wallpaper, the feelings evoked by design can create comfortable living environments.

Retro stylings are also popular for their lack of pretention and dagginess, according to University of Wellington Design Culture and Context Lecturer Dr Sarah Elsie Baker.

In her book *Retro Style: Class, Gender and Design in the Home*, Dr Baker used ceramic flying duck wall ornaments – usually sold in sets of three – as an example (see page 18).

“Flying ducks were associated with bad taste by journalists, designers and cultural critics in the 1930s,” she said.

While today, the ducks are “valued precisely because of their previous associations with bad taste and the working class”.

To mark this wonderful shift from “tack to treasure”, this month we bring you some of the top retro offerings on the market.

MATT BLATT \$1199

This hanging acrylic sphere is an iconic '60s piece.

Originally created by Finnish interior designer Eero Aarnio in 1968, this high-quality replica features chromed steel, removable polypropylene cushions and a chain that can be suspended at any height.

www.mattblatt.com.au

REPLICA EERO
AARNIO HANGING
BUBBLE CHAIR

OLIVIER MOURGUE P.O.A.

While working for Airborne International, Olivier Mourgue designed his well-known classic Djinn chairs (1965) made famous by the Stanley Kubrick film *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

This series of lounge featured in Space Station V, a futuristic rotating orbital Hilton Hotel.

www.demischdanant.com/designers/olivier-mourgue/djinn_1/

**DJINN LOUNGE
1964-65**



Image courtesy of Demisch Danant. Photo by Thierry Depagne.

REPLICA HANS WEGNER SHELL CHAIR



MATT BLATT \$695

Danish furniture designer Hans Wegner gained international popularity for his mid-century modernist chair designs.

Renowned for creating simple, high-quality pieces, Mr Wegner felt furniture should be practical as well as beautiful.

In a tribute to Mr Wegner's style, Sydney designer Matt Blatt created the Shell Chair – a replica of the original design.

www.mattblatt.com.au

EAMES LOUNGE CHAIR + OTTOMAN REPLICA



HOME Q \$949

This mid-century chair is arguably one of the most popular and classic designs of its time.

Featuring supple premium Italian leather, seven-layer plywood American Walnut, American Ashwood or Rosewood veneer and a 360° swivel action, this chair exudes comfort and style.

www.homeq.com.au

RM180 SIDEBOARD



SENKKI FURNITURE \$2575

This aesthetically pleasing mid-century-style sideboard is finished in white laminate and teak.

Handmade in Australia, this classic piece can be customised to a range of timber and colour tastes.

www.senkki.com.au

+ PROPERTY RETAIL



VINTAGE FLYING DUCKS



AVAILABLE AT VARIOUS OUTLETS

First released in the 1930s, original flying duck wall ornaments are now selling for more than \$650. Replicas start at \$1 on eBay.



T90 COFFEE TABLE



SENKKI FURNITURE \$975

This retro coffee table features a glass top and double-sided drawers.

Made to order, Senkki offers customised timber and colour options, and bespoke one-off builds.

www.senkkifurniture.com.au

ORIGINAL JAMES TAN SILHOUETTE DESK

MATT BLATT \$1795

The James Tan Silhouette Desk is a perfect fusion of modern style and minimalism.

Exclusive to Sydney designers Matt Blatt, the piece is a demonstration of how the archetypal design of a desk, with a few slight and simple alterations, can yield visually stunning results.

www.mattblatt.com.au

