

PACE: THE FINAL FRONTIER" describes the courageous mission of Star Trek's Enterprise, but it could just as easily characterize the innovative work of Dougall Paulson, the partnership of Sean Dougall and Andrew Paulson. Their first collection, entitled Dark Matter, designed to "evoke the same feeling as gazing up into the night sky," says Paulson, offered a selection of furniture, lighting, and woven metals that, although created from heavy materials, had a compelling sensuality that rocketed the duo from obscurity into design stars.

In the two and half years since, Dougall and Paulson, who work and live in a converted light-bulb factory in the Watts section of Los Angeles, have been tapped to design everything from interiors and rugs to ceramics and large-scale sculptures. Witness the next few months: there's Giulia, a fully Dougall Paulson-designed Italian restaurant debuting in downtown Los Angeles, a gallery show in Paris, a collaboration with conceptual fragrance house Regime des Fleurs, and their latest collection. Ocean of Emptiness, which plunders the mysteries of the sea. "The idea is to really explore one idea and see how it can bear out across different objects," says Dougall. In addition to their creative work, which straddles art and design, they're also committed to promoting their neighborhood and working with the Philanthropic Society of Los Angeles to bring attention and funds to the area. For this boundary-breaking pair, the sky's the limit. -Abigail Stone







NEBULA, EDITION OF 52, HAND-CARVED ASH, CUSTOM-COLORED LACQUER, LEATHER UPHOLSTERY