RETURN ENGAGEMENT

The use of antiques in interiors is one of the oldest—and most elegant—expressions of the green concept “reuse and recycle.” They also happen to appreciate in value and don’t add to landfills. Right now, no creators are hotter than Italian designers of the 1930s through the 1980s. Don’t limit yourself to Ruhlmann, Ponti, and Sottsass (wonderful as they are). These days, lesser-known names are enjoying a popular comeback act.

Mid-1970s glass rod and polished brass chandelier by Gaetano Sciolari for Lightolier. BG Galleries, $3,000, bggalleries.com.
