Galerie

Live Artfully

INFLUENTIAL INTERIORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

SAVY COLLECTORS OPEN THEIR DOORS

DAVID ADJAYE DESIGNS FOR LORNA SIMPSON

PLUS, SPECIAL VENICE BIENNALE PREVIEW
MAN OF STEEL "Cyan-metal marquetry" is what Alexander Zhizikalin, a young designer in Baltimore, Maryland, calls his steel furnishings with surfaces that echo traditional straw inlays. "Genius, phenomenal craftsmanship" is how René Delat of Maison Gerard describes the work, which his gallery now represents. Zhizikalin starts by oxidizing the steel to give it a dark patina. "Then it's a reductive process to create the pattern," he explains. "Each line is hand abraded." It’s labor-intensive, requiring about 100 hours to make the sunburst side table below—an homage to a Jean-Michel Frank classic. "I'm equally drawn to Prouvé's gaud and cerebral minimalism," says Zhizikalin. "I think my work is an amalgam of the two." maisongerard.com —Stephen Wallis

SUPER STUDIO For those who consider handmade, one-of-a-kind textiles as the ultimate luxury, New York atelier Studio Four offers a bespoke service that invites design clients to collaborate with the firm’s weaver.

Soreya Shah (above), to dream up singular palettes and textures for upholstery and wall coverings. Says designer Jeffrey Bilhuber, "With Studio Four, there’s a creativity that goes beyond just sourcing products. When the fabric is unique, it brings energy to the project." studiosfourny.com
—Jacqueline Tereshonou

HEAVEN SCENTS Few things possess the ineffable allure of Murano glass, though an extraordinary perfume comes close. Celebrating that poetic combination, Didier Guillon, the head of Valmont cosmetics, launched a limited-edition line of the brand's Ill Profumo fragrances in Murano-glass bottles. The series includes three scents, each produced in quantities of just 100 dozen. Pictured is the Caramello D'Amore, a candy- and berry-accented fragrance in a curvaceous vessel embellished with a profusion of berries. "My mission," says Guillon, "is to help preserve the craftsmanship we still have in Europe." boutiquevalmont.com —J.T.

FRENCH BLISS After 30 years on Manhattan’s Upper East Side, Elle W., the beloved vintage furnishings and jewelry emporium, has moved to a stylish new space in the Design Center at 200 Lexington Avenue. Owner Lorraine Wahl’s passion is midcentury French design, and her smartly curated offerings include creations by the likes of Jacques Adnet, Jules Leleu, and Baguès. She specializes in dressing tables, bar carts, and cocktail accessories, plus a veritable treasure trove of estate and retro jewelry. The welcoming space is filled to the brim with eclectic finds. "I wanted to create an atmosphere," Wahl explains, "where people can wander and truly discover things." ellaw.com —J.T.
MATTHEW SOLOMON
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Maison Gerard, New York

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