

Design Secrets: A New Way to Do Modern from Maison Gerard

BY [CATHERINE SABINO](#) | [NEWS](#) | JANUARY 24, 2017



Maison Gerard's exhibition at the Winter Antiques Show demonstrates a glamorous new modernism.

In a sea of neutral-toned modernism, where beige on beige or greige on greige rules, how do you make a room stand out but still keep to its contemporary bona fides? Benoist F. Drut, Managing Partner and creative visionary for [Maison Gerard](#), the East 10th Street antiques store known for its fine French Art Deco furniture, offers a solution at the Winter Antiques show, now in progress. Drut turned his curatorial eye to the most statement-making room in a home—the living room—exploring new ways to interpret the space with pieces that range from the present to several hundred years old, while giving it a distinct and edgy vibe.



To bring distinct modern references to the space and to help underscore his design philosophy that no one today wants to live in a period-defined room, Drut utilized the work of a new wave of contemporary artists. Maison Gerard commissioned the famous graffiti artist Faust to create a special canvas for the mise-en-scene at the fair, the first artist within his genre to do so. Faust's modernized, twenty-two foot wide wall covering in silver on gray was paired with the Jean-François Jaussaud's photography of luxury interiors, which created a fresh design dialogue between the past and present. Other artists represented in the space include Stéphane Parmentier, who debuts a collection of sculptural tables; Paolo Canevari, who designed a cascading display of ceramic black vases and Sandra Nunnerley, who makes her debut with Maison Gerard with a collection of whimsical occasional tables.



As for the antiques, well, they're pretty bold and dynamic, too: is a spectacular *Fireworks* cabinet, circa 1946 France, made of mahogany with mother-of-pearl and ebony inlay, as well Thereas, a rare 1940s-era floor lamp made of polished and gilt mahogany, both by Maison Leleu; an extremely rare exotic wood octagonal mirror by Édouard Lièvre, circa 1880 France; a solid silver wine cooler by Jean E. Puiforcat; a pair of chests by Max Ingrand, circa 1966 France, and a pair of settees and Bergère chairs by Jean Pascaud.

This new glam take on modernism is on display at Booth 4 of the [Winter Antiques Show](#), now through January 29th.



The Faust mural in progress.



Jules Leleu's Fireworks Cabinet. Photo by Matt Coats.