

THE WORLD OF INTERIORS

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Can-do Attitude

The causes of Romanticism are no doubt many and varied. But could it have reared its head to such star-colliding splendour without the impetus of industrialisation? While the world shrank – to be preserved and shipped about in tin cans – the Romantics prised it open again into cosmic perspectives. Artists continue to. Using the mass-mined aluminium of soda cans as her material, the Dutch Bregje Sliepenbeek is allying the craftsman's personal touch with its shiny, impenetrable surface. Hammered, soldered and cast into new forms, the metal is transformed into something – in this case, literally

– weightless: a shimmering mobile of sun-reflecting cloud-forms, suspended like earrings for interiors. It's this power to draw decorative jewellery from the harsh, unrelenting industrial design all around her – be it fences, wires or chains – that elevates Sliepenbeek's practice to a celestial and transcendental realm. Shown, left: 'Petal' mobile, £1,255 approx. Visit bregjesliepenbeek.com

Tubular Belles

Traditionally, 60th anniversaries are celebrated with diamonds. Gemstones, however, hardly seem necessary when the honourees are already as cool, crystalline and uncompromising as Le Corbusier, Pierre Jeanneret and Charlotte Perriand. For this year, the Italian furniture manufacturer Cassina is marking the sixth decade of its 'Maestri' collection of designs by those three masters of Modernism by recolouring the upholstery on their steely frameworks in birthday tones of sapphire, emerald and – as in the case of this '3 Fauteuil Grand Confort' (shown top right; £7,154) – ruby. It's a subtle nod to the importance of colour in their work – work whose emphasis was always on utility over and above unbending principles of



design. Indeed, their seating is so compelling it will soon be everyone's best friend, not just a girl's. Visit cassina.com

The Wow Faction

'Not philosophers, but stamp collectors and fret sawyers compose the backbone of society,' Aldous Huxley declared. Decorator Daniel Slowik knows this well: his work is guided more by niche assemblers than abstruse thinkers. Take this fantasy project for Sir Richard Wallace, who inherited the fanciful Fragonards and Boucher beauties of the marquesses of Hertford and, supplementing them with his own Renaissance antiques, bequeathed the lot to the nation as the Wallace

Collection. Fittingly, Slowik's scheme will be presented at another cluster of collections – the Wow!house at Design Centre Chelsea Harbour, an assemblage of fantasy rooms by leading decorators partnering with the most exciting interiors brands. Slowik's room, for instance (shown below), is a collaboration with the Treasure House Fair, incorporating pieces from its antiquarian Aladdin's cave, as well as trellis-printed fabrics and Brussels-weave rugs from his own brand, Nuthall Temple. It's a robust tribute to the mores of the past, which – like the exhibition's vertebrae-like row of rooms – exemplifies the strength of collecting today. Wow!house runs 3 June–3 July. Visit dcch.co.uk ®



Network

Clare Holley chooses the best arts and antiques worldwide



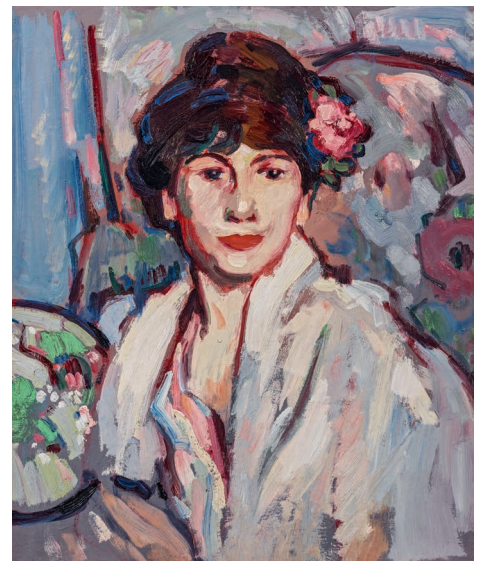
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1 Conceived as pairs, Jamb's new line consists of furniture and mirrors meant to flank a fireplace or doorway, bringing a gentle symmetry to any room. Meticulously reproduced from 18th-century originals, each piece is then subtly finished with a sleepy patina. Take the 'Ottoline' mirror – with its refined bevelled frame, it nods to the spare elegance of early Georgian design. Visit jamb.co.uk

2 You can still catch a one-off Robert Goossens retrospective at Maison Rapin in Paris. On until 15 May, the exhibition celebrates a jeweller/decorative artist that worked with couturiers like Yves Saint Laurent – a close friend of Loulou de la Falaise, for whom this bronze cat-head box was designed. Spotighting true artisans, be they 20th-century or contemporary, is Maison Rapin's forte. Visit maison-rapin.com

3 To the Grand Palais in Paris, where the Révelations biennial, a major event in the field of art and design, returns for its seventh edition, from 21 to 25 May. The Fondation Banque Populaire will be presenting works by five award-winning craftspeople, including vibrant, richly textured pieces by the ceramicist Kaori Kurihara. Visit revelations-grandpalais.com and kaorikurihara.com

4 Treasure House Fair returns to Royal Hospital Chelsea from 26 June to 1 July, blending all that is British with hand-picked masterpieces from around the world. The event brings together 70 internationally renowned exhibitors under one roof, selling carefully selected fine art, furniture, antiques, jewellery and classic cars, all vetted by independent experts. Visit treasurehousefair.com

Art & Antiques Fairs

Ariadne Fletcher's pick of the best offerings around the world



8–11 May

1–54 Contemporary African Art Fair

Halo, 28 Liberty St, New York, NY 10005

Presenting contemporary art from Africa and its global diasporas, 1–54 returns to Manhattan's Financial District with an impressive roster of exhibitors and events – including *Textile Language*, an installation exploring the historical, cultural and social narratives woven into African fabrics, dreamed up by global collective Art Comes First. Visitors can also peruse an Afro-Caribbean resource library from non-profit Forgotten Lands, stocked with works spanning poetry and political discourse. Visit 1-54.com



9–13 May

Tefaf New York

Park Avenue Armory, 643 Park Ave, New York, NY 10065

Skewing slightly more modern than its Maastricht counterpart, Tefaf New York is set to assemble 91 exhibitors from around the world to present contemporary design, art and jewellery, as well as antiquities, at the Upper East Side's striking armory. The fair will also feature displays in the landmark's historic period rooms – an exclusive opportunity granted only to Tefaf. And, for aspiring attendees unable to look around in person, Tefaf online will also be running concurrently with the event. Visit tefaf.com

23 June–4 July

Classic Art London

Various locations

A new fair in town: this June sees the triumphant launch of a collegial event bringing together leading dealers in both old and modern masterpieces. Alongside the selling exhibitions, galleries



across Mayfair and St James's will see a robust programme of expert talks covering meaty subjects ranging from fantasy versus reality in portraiture to the impact of climate change on art and collections. Visit classicalartlondon.uk

25–26 June

Gala de Danza

Central Hall Westminster, Storey's Gate, London SW1

Performance art: first established in Los Cabos, Mexico, in 2013, Gala de Danza is poised to take the global stage as it makes its London debut this summer. Taking place in Westminster's historic Great Hall, the multidisciplinary extravaganza skilfully synthesises dance, music and art – and promises a rich array of genres and styles to boot, including classical ballet, opera, Latin ballroom and contemporary dance. Running for two nights only, the event is certain to sweep you off your feet. Visit galadedanza.com

26 June–1 July

The Treasure House Fair

Royal Hospital Chelsea, South Grounds, London SW3

The Treasure House Fair returns for a third time to its grand 17th-century home in west London. Expect a rich offering of art and antiques from 70 internationally renowned exhibitors – plus *The Brilliant Bugattis*, a non-selling exhibition collecting sculpture, decorative arts and cars by four generations of master makers. Visit treasurehousefair.com



12–14 September

Tokyo Gendai

Pacifico Yokohama, Minato Mirai, Yokohama, Kanagawa 220-0012, Japan

Tokyo Gendai extends the art-fair season into the autumn with its third edition, set to take place in September just south of the Japanese capital. This time, the contemporary fair presents the Hana Artist Award, a prize to support emerging talent, as well as *Tsubomi (Flower Bud)*, a special exhibition spotlighting works by Japanese women artists. Visit tokyogendai.com ®

Clockwise from top left: Samuel Nnorom, 'Possibilities Within', 2024, African printed fabric and mixed media, 90 × 104 × 17cm, 1–54 Contemporary African Art Fair; Constance Gordon-Cumming, 'Coral Grotto, Vavau (Vava'u), Tonga', 1877, watercolour over pencil, 60 × 40cm, Karen Taylor Fine Art at Classic Art London; Namika Nakai, 'ayakatte -C-', 2024, clay, copper, zaffer and glaze, 40 × 43 × 28cm, Tokyo Gendai; Josef Frank, 'Flora' chest of drawers, mahogany and hand-printed paper, Modernity at Tefaf New York

1–54 IMAGE COURTESY OF KATES-FERRI PROJECTS & ARTIST. TOKYO GENDAI PHOTOGRAPH: KEIZO KIOKU. IMAGE © NAMIKA NAKAI / COURTESY OF TARO NASU. TEFAP IMAGE COURTESY OF MODERNITY