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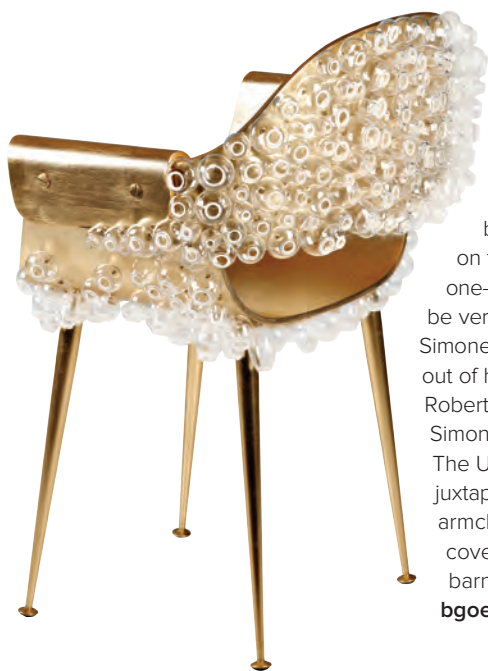
INSIDE LOOK

MCQUEENS FLOWERS

London's McQueens Flowers is heading stateside, opening its first U.S. storefront in New York this spring. The floral powerhouse is best known for creating over-the-top arrangements for the Vanity Fair Oscar Party and the Wimbledon Championship Ball, as well as for London luxury hotels Claridge's and the Connaught. Now, not only can New Yorkers access McQueens' terrariums, orchids and candles in-store and online, but they can also learn to fashion their own lavish bouquets at the accompanying McQueens International Flower School. The new brick-and-mortar will host everything from one-day workshops to vocational professional courses. mcqueens.co.uk

COLLABORATION

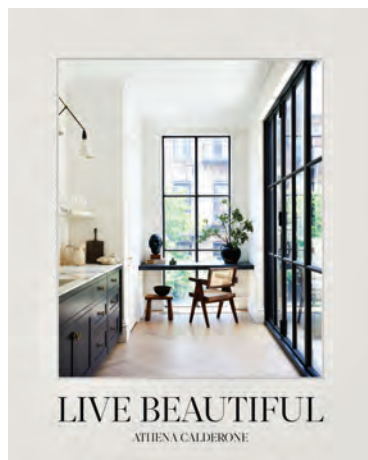
BERND GOECKLER X ROBERTO RIDA AND SIMONE CRESTANI



After 30 years in business, Bernd Goeckler Antiques is exploring new directions. Gallery director Katja Hirche commissioned upcycling craftsman Roberto Rida and glass artist Simone Crestani, both from Italy, to collaborate on the Duetto collection of eight one-of-a-kind pieces. "Roberto can be very stuck in his way, so I threw Simone into the mix to get Roberto out of his shell," Hirche says. "While Roberto is more of a clinical person, Simone is a poet and very organic." The Ursula chair (left) illustrates this juxtaposition: It's a vintage 1960s armchair gilded by Rida, then covered in glistening glass barnacles by Crestani. bgoecklerantiques.com

SHELF life

CHECK OUT THESE THREE TOMES IDEAL FOR DEVOTEES OF BIG APPLE DESIGN.

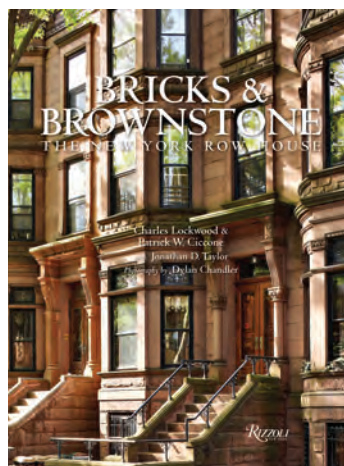


LIVE BEAUTIFUL Athena Calderone

In her second book, Brooklyn lifestyle blogger Athena Calderone uses homes like the SoHo loft of Jenna Lyons and her own Cobble Hill abode to provide design tips, such as redesigning bedrooms for children entering their teenage years or creating shared spaces that have a gender-neutral aesthetic. abramsbooks.com

DROR DREAMS Dror Benshetrit

Explore the first 15 years of designer Dror Benshetrit's New York-based studio, Dror, which opened its doors in 2002. With instant icons like the 2009 Peacock Chair for Cappellini, see why Studio Dror is a leading trailblazer in 21st-century design. monacellipress.com



BRICKS & BROWNSTONE: THE NEW YORK ROW HOUSE Charles Lockwood and Patrick W. Ciccone

This is the bible for those looking to restore a New York City row house. Originally published in 1972, with an update in 2003, the latest edition includes striking new photography by Dylan Chandler and delves deeper into detail about the city's most iconic historical architecture. rizzoliusa.com