



The Chic Craftsman

Designer Steven Johanknecht of Commune culls vintage and handmade items to create an altogether singular aesthetic.

For Steven Johanknecht, a founding partner of the design collective Commune, "a detail is just as important as the big idea." The designer, who held top creative positions with Barneys New York and Donna Karan before moving to L.A. in the early 2000s, calls a small Tudor-style house in Silver Lake home. "It has the quirky charm of a hobbit cottage," he says playfully. Layered with textiles and furnishings from his Manhattan years, the home also displays a few California finds: Eames, Alma Allan and Craftsman pieces. "I'm always cautious of 'right now," he explains of the wellmade vintage items that catch his eye. "Be it Bauhaus, Louis XIV or Tony Duquette, learn about things outside your comfort zone and bring them into your world." It's that all-embracing approach that Commune, which famously designed the Ace Hotels in L.A. and Palm Springs, will bring to upcoming projects like The Restaurant at The Standard, Hollywood Hotel and a line of furniture with George Smith. "If there's a trend ahead," says Johanknecht, "I hope it's the ability to create environments that nurture our senses." 650 N. Robertson Blvd., L.A., 310.855.9080, communedesign.com –Maile Pingel



2

THE SILVER LINING
"Jean Puiforcat's Zermatt
flatware in matte stainless steel
is 1930s perfection—mix it
with Heath Ceramics dishes."

112 ANGELENO MARCH 2015











"Our L'Oeil du Vert is a botanical room fragrance of blossoming California flora and burnt Japanese wood with a touch of Viennese leather that bridges indoors and outdoors."

JOHANKNECHT'S MUST-HAVES

- 1. Malta crew sweater, \$1,345, at The Elder Statesman, 607 Huntley Drive, West Hollywood, 424.288.4221, elder-statesman.com
- 2. Zermatt flatware in matte stainless steel, from \$75, by Jean Puiforcat at Table Art, 8024 Melrose Ave., L.A., 323.653.8278, tableartonline.com
- 3. Brutalist candlesticks, from \$1,050, at Blackman Cruz, 836 Highland Ave., L.A., 323.466.8600, blackmancruz.com
- 4. Commune scenter series, \$2,400, by L'Oeil du Vert at Commune,
- communedesign.com
 5. ASMI #22, 2014, \$5,000, by Adam
 Silverman at Edward Cella Art +
 Architecture Gallery, 6018 Wilshire Blvd.,
 L.A., 323.525.0053, edwardcella.com
- 6. Martini pitcher, \$1,600, by Carl Aubock at Object, 6910 Melrose Ave., L.A., 323.936.0021, object-la.com
- 7. Two Lines rug, \$12,000, by Andree Putman at Christopher Farr, 748 N. La Cienega Blyd., L.A., 310.967.0064, christopherfarr.com



ON THE BALL "Adam Silverman's stoneware vessels bring soul into any room."









SOFT LANDING

"Two Lines, the limited-edition handknotted rug by Andree Putman at Christopher Farr, is chic and luxurious underfoot."