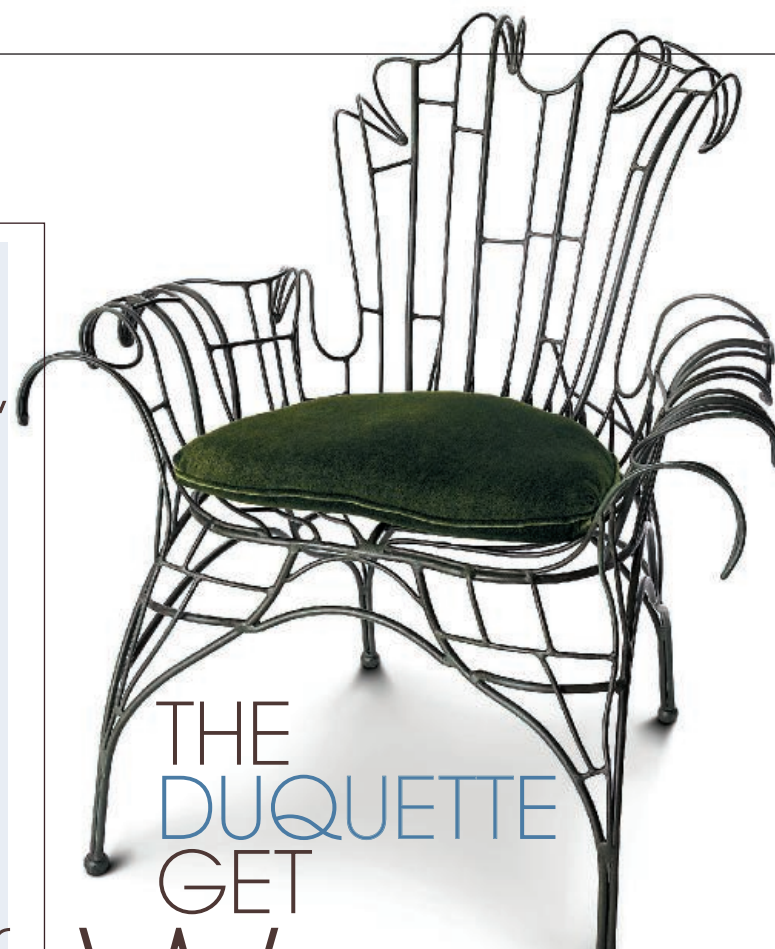


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Duquette's **FABULOUS** furniture, new showrooms galore and a bounty of British style? Somebody pass the crumpets and give us a pinch: This new year is off to a **DREAMY**, decorative start.



THE DUQUETTE GET

What that man could do with abalone shells and gold spray paint. Consider the ante officially upped: Legendary furniture maker Baker has just launched an incredibly well-crafted collection of the fanciful chairs, ethereal consoles and sunburst lamps of equally legendary design god Tony Duquette, he of the whirlwind career touched off in 1941 when he was discovered by Elsie de Wolfe, the preeminent decorator of her time. Just ten years later, Duquette — a famous early patron was director Vincente Minnelli, for whose lavish movies he designed sets and costumes — was feted with a one-man show at the Louvre, which considered Duquette's exuberant furniture, paintings and jewelry perfectly representative of the decorative arts of the mid-20th century. Heady stuff. Oh, and his client roster? Try J. Paul Getty, Elizabeth Arden, David O. Selznick and Doris Duke. Now it's your turn, with Baker's to-the-letter editions of Duquette's saucy slipper chairs, abalone-topped cocktail tables and snowflake-patterned room screens, all created in collaboration with the dandy Hutton Wilkinson, Duquette's longtime design and business partner. The boisterous collection is, says Wilkinson, "like jewelry for the room." Couldn't yours use a little sparkle? *To the trade at Baker Knapp & Tubbs.* Rob Brinkley

FORWARD AND REVERSE



They've been busy digging in the back rooms at Baccarat. We love the new *Apparat* series, contemporary crystal with *un grand* nod back to two of its classics, the Marie Louise vase and the Harcourt glass, rendered in hand-painted 24k-gold medallions and outlines on thoroughly modern glasses, tumblers and decanters. Just the thing for the avant-garde Marie Antoinette in your life. For something as illuminating, perchance the freestanding Rémanence mirrored light, which reveals the ghost of an iconic Baccarat candelabra when electrified. Trust us: Your Versailles needs this. *At the Baccarat boutique; baccarat.com.* Rob Brinkley



FOR THE MOD MAISON

We take entertaining very seriously. The details — adequate seating, strategically placed pillows, just the right amount of clutter — are crucial house-party decor. Good thing we stumbled upon StellaDallas, the adorable shop named for a 1930s radio soap, now open on the Lovers Lane boutique row, in the former Stephanie Anne space. Owner Amber Davidson and her crew make it their business to take new and vintage pieces, procured from local flea markets, and revamp them with a twist — think graphic prints, à la Hicks, Wearstler and Adler. Top off your couch with throw pillows in bold patterns or nab a Missoni throw for Grandmama's fauteuil in the corner. And because we know that managing a social calendar can be trying, you'll want to meander to the back of the store to pluck up Russell + Hazel binders, planners and business-card cases in cheery shades and browse the letterpress stationery collections. As a good little host or hostess, we know you're already on your way over. *4346 Lovers Lane, 214.691.0000.* Shannon Crain



PEACE, LOVE & SUSHI

Serenity: We all need it. Take a deep breath and head to Shinsei, where it's all about the Zen — and the new, new, new. Thanks to the acquisition of the building next door, owners Lynae Fearing and Tracy Rathbun (yes, the fabulous foodie wives of famed chefs Dean and Kent, respectively) were able to add a chic bar, a lounge and a peaceful, private dining area to their wildly popular restaurant, all conceived by Shinsei's original Dallas design duo, Greg O'Neal of Philosophy Design and artful architect Jessica Stewart, whose C.V. includes time at modernist firm Bodron + Fruit. This elegant expansion includes 1,450 square feet of Zen goodies — an alfresco courtyard out back is slated this spring — all within a palette of gorgeous greens, rich browns and luxe metal hardware. One of our favorite touches? The yummy chocolate mohair curtains that drape stylishly from floor to ceiling — the perfect complement to Shinsei's delectable pan-Asian fare. *7713 Inwood Road, 214.352.0005; shinseirestaurant.com.* Rayven Williams

LE WARM FUZZIES

*Au revoir, sisal. Bonjour, Galerie Diurne.* We love what the painterly rugs of artist Marcel Zelmanovitch — among his more fashionable projects, the *appartement* of the late Yves Saint Laurent — will do for your own quarters: soften and soothe. (Maybe your soul, too.) *To the trade at David Sutherland Showroom.* Rob Brinkley



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