

Flammarion

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SELECTED WORKS / SPACES

GALERIE HALF





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## **FOREWORD**

Galerie Half is much more than simply a dealer of furniture. It consists of artists and creators of environments that have inspired us for the better part of two decades. Whether seeking the superfine or the primitive, the anonymous or the collectible, there is no shortage of works with which one can fall in love immediately upon walking through the front door. But in our minds, it's the composition of those works that truly sets Galerie Half apart. On paper, the collection may seem disparate or incongruous; in reality, the throughline is felt instantly, be it through purity of form, patina, or some undefinable tactile quality.

When we create homes for our clients, we rely heavily on the visceral reactions we have to furniture, art, and objects. Galerie Half has a similar approach. In that sense we are kindred spirits. It's the reason why the space they have carved out in the world of design feels authentic and soulful. And it's the reason why we always keep coming back for more.

TOMMY & KATHE CLEMENTS Clements Design

## INTRODUCTION

During a recent conversation with Cameron Smith, creative director of Galerie Half, we spoke of the things that come naturally to us; and he acknowledged that he could do what he does at Galerie Half with his eyes closed. He wasn't boasting: curating antiques and modern design objects is innate for him. His mother, an interior designer, instilled in him a keen aesthetic eye. From childhood, she asked for his input when they went sourcing together at auctions, antique shops, and design stores. In articulating his opinions, he was able to develop a sensibility from a young age—one where objects, artworks, and furnishings spanning geographical and temporal distance can coexist harmoniously in a single space.

Cameron is without airs or pretension. His curation is rooted in honesty: he sources pieces that he loves, solely on the merit that they could happily find their place in his own home. There are no agendas. So it makes sense that when you enter Galerie Half, you can sense a human touch—one that is far removed from the stark environments in which collectible design is often presented. Cameron's warm, affable presence is part of the space, present in the patina of the pieces, the warm glow of the lighting, and the layered scents of burning candles and incense. When visiting Galerie Half, it feels closer to visiting a friend's tasteful home than a showroom.

The warmth that Galerie Half generates is also tied to its location. Los Angeles's laid-back amiability is woven into the fabric of the space. Pieces by Jeanneret and Nakashima sit alongside African stools, centuries-old French urns, and dusky Danish oils, tinted in a Californian sunlight that streams in from Melrose Avenue through expansive windows. Equal emphasis is placed on celebrated mid-century designers and anonymous makers, and in the tension between the two, a new sentiment arises—one of fluidity and ease.

Within these pages, you will discover some of the pieces that have moved through the gallery during its twelve years of existence, each having left a trace of its presence on the space. You will find iconic pieces by Børge Mogensen, Poul Henningsen, and Jean Royère as well as rare antiques from France, Belgium, and Denmark, and tribal pieces from the Navajo, Senufo, and Dagaaba people. But, most importantly, you will discern Galerie Half's trademark ease with which it presents these pieces, and its visual language that has inspired and influenced countless peers in their field. Historian Will Durant once wrote, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." At Galerie Half, Cameron has mastered that habit.

## ROSA PARK

Founder of Francis Gallery & Cereal magazine

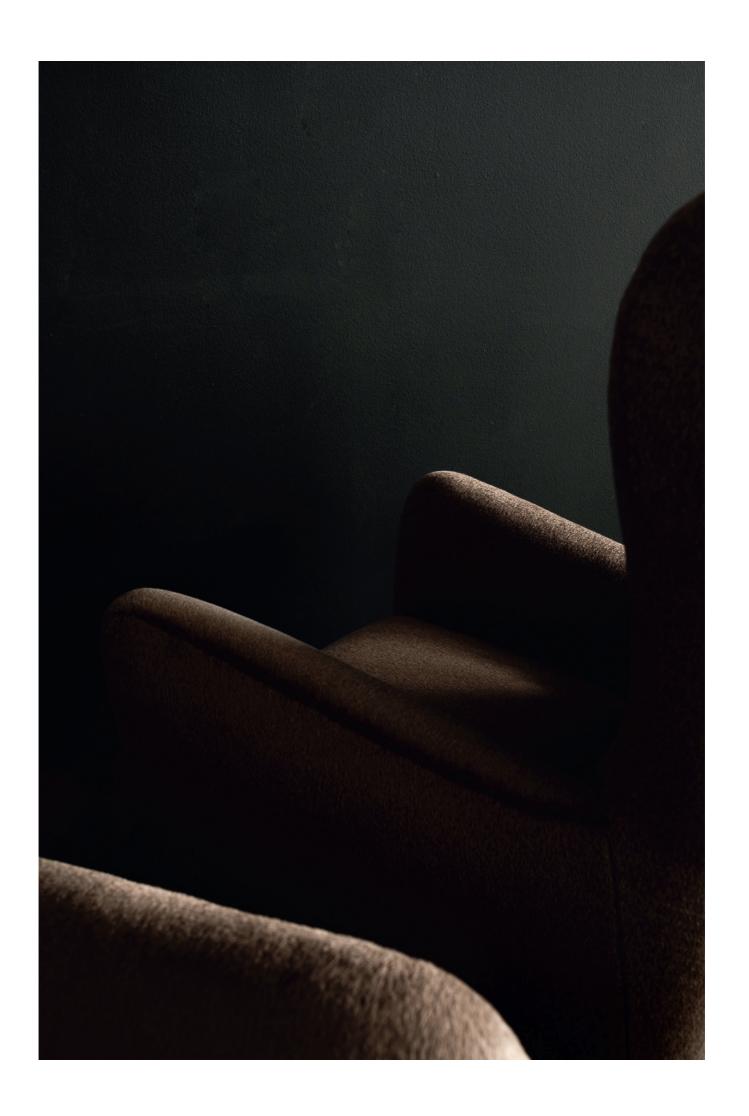
PHOTOGRAPHY

SHADE DEGGES



6911 MELROSE AVENUE

SELECTED WORKS





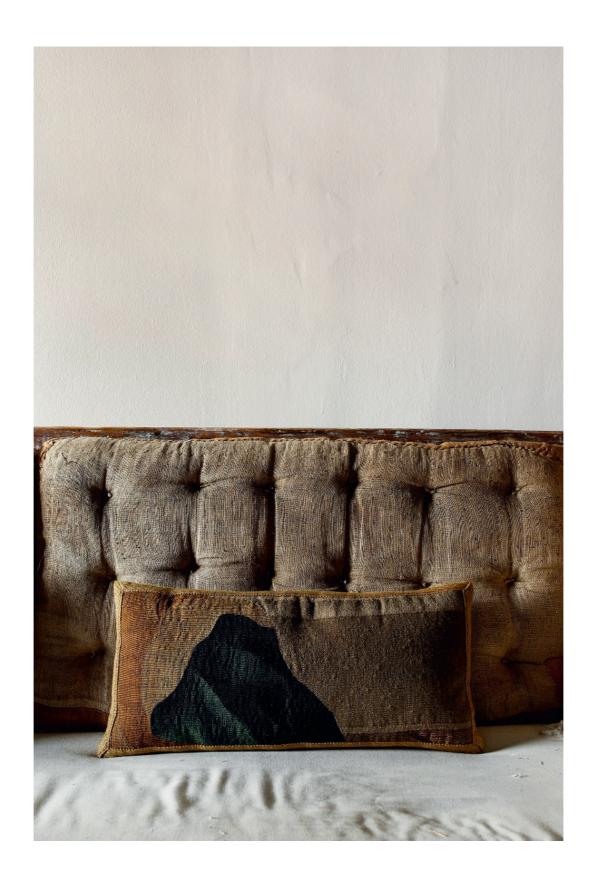






























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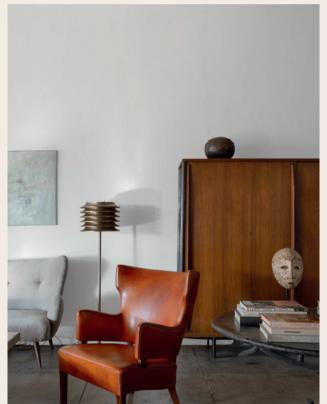
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## GALERIE

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SELECTED WORKS / SPACES

**Cameron Smith** 

Introduction by Rosa Park
Foreword by Kathe Clements and Tommy Clements
Photography by Shade Degges

Galerie Half is "one of the world's best antique and vintage furniture stores."

—Financial Times's How To Spend It

A favorite purveyor to the Los Angeles design cognoscenti, Galerie Half offers a stylish blend of twentieth-century works, European antiques, and eclectic rarities imbued with a sense of timeless imperfection. Pieces from disparate design traditions converge seamlessly in a single space, from a bleached Gustavian daybed flanked by a Roman statue to a Venetian mirror reflecting African masks. Galerie Half consistently demonstrates consummate talent at constructing diverse compositions—using signed original works from great names such as Le Corbusier, Marcel Breuer, and Rick Owens, as well as anonymous pieces—to create harmony between luxurious and humble materials. Their genius lies in the artful curation of individual elements with soul.

The transcendent gallery is a haven for Los Angeles interior designers and star Hollywood clientele, including Ellen Degeneres, Mary-Kate Olsen, Ashley Olsen, Jason Statham and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, and Amanda Anka and Jason Bateman, who have all contributed to this book.

Cameron Smith is a collector and cofounder of Galerie Half.
Rosa Park is the cofounder and editor in chief of *Cereal* magazine, and founding director of Francis Gallery.
Kathe and Tommy Clements run Clements Design.
Shade Degges, a lifestyle photographer, regularly contributes to *Architectural Digest*.

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