## BLOUINARTAUCTION





## **JULIE HILLMAN**



Following her graduation from Parsons School of Design, Hillman worked as a fashion designer for a decade before launching her interior design firm, encouraged by friends and clients who were impressed by her keen eye for textiles, finishes, fixtures, accessories, and objects. A fan of French decorative arts and midcentury design, she seamlessly mixes the elegant with the offbeat. Her goal: to combine clean lines with interesting materials to create warmthin residential spaces. "I want my interiors to be subtle to the eye while being unexpected and beautiful," she says. "I tend to use fewer pieces than most would expect in any given space to keep the focus on form. Each individual piece must stand on its own as well as merge aesthetically with others to create a fluid room." Hillman scouts emerging design on her travels and supports young practitioners with notable commissions, creating opportunities for experimentation and enhancing designer value.



"It's important to me that each individual piece stand onits own as well as merge aesthetically with others to create a fluid space."





Above: Lucio Fontana's 1961 Concetto spaziale, over the mantel, complements an André Arbus daybed and a <u>Roger Thibier</u> coffee table. At right, <u>George</u> Condo's Mechanical Maid, 2008, hangs above a sofa by Julie Hillman. Opposite: The new owners of Brooke Astor's Manhattan apartment chose to keep herlibrary, adding to it a 1991 painting by Kazuo Shiraga, a desk by <u>André</u> Sornay, and a sofa and chairs by Jean Royère.

## A BALANCED PERSPECTIVE

"My clients—who are largely New York—based—view both art and design as important investments. They want to live with beautiful and inspiring pieces, but track the secondary market and want to see successful auction results after investing in significant pieces. The heightened exposure to the art market has allowed people to become more conscious of decorative arts and design. The relative values of the most important designers are still a fraction of the price of art. I believe there is a tremendous upside if you collect extraordinary pieces by established designers. The secondary market for works by exceptional contemporary designers will continue to grow as well. People innately love to collect and own beautiful things. I believe this basic desire coupled with the rising prices of art and design will cause the market to continue to grow and expand."