

DESIGN
INTELLIGENCE

San Francisco

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MODERN LUXURY



WINE INTO ALUMINUM:
Influential architect-designer Andrew Saxeiroff's
Mid 1980s apartment office is a blank canvas for the
singular furniture, art, and artifacts he collects with
his wife, Phyllis. His plans to move from a San
Francisco-located residential table base and
lead to French notions office. SEE PAGE 70



NOB HILL LABORATORY

"I don't buy for 'investment'; I buy for the love of the object," says San Francisco architect **Andrew Skurman**, a lifelong collector. **Françoise Skurman**, his wife of 11 years, adds, "When we travel, it's usually to art shows or architecture exhibits and art galleries. We collect together. We each have veto power, but generally we agree." The showcase for their daring yet rigorous assemblage of contemporary pieces and fine antiques is a bright aerie on Nob Hill. Andrew created the all-white interior architecture for a client 20 years ago, installing exquisite lacquered-wood wall panels and Japanese glass-tile floors. Six years ago, through a stroke of luck, the couple were able to purchase the apartment for themselves, and they turned it into a hothouse for their ideas. "Modernism is the expression of design for our day, but it is important to recognize and appreciate all the epochs that have gone before," Andrew says. "Quality pieces will work together and create a lively dialogue. Refined classical will always work with the best of modern. Then throw in an art piece. Your room will vibrate."



THE AESTHETIC: The clean lines and symmetry of an architect whose work is inspired by Palladio, his own classical and modern education, and his wife, who studies and makes sculptures.

THE CLIENTS: Ultra-private residents in Nob Hill and in Atherton, Carmel Valley, Paris, New York, and Texas who want a custom apartment or country house.

THE CIRCLE: Andrew, who was recently named a chevalier by the French minister of culture and is a longtime adviser and creative director for the S.F. Fall Antiques Show, leaves his Sacramento Street studio for dinner with Françoise at Quince or at home, where art curators, Sonoma Valley vintners, authors, and artists come to break bread with them. He can also be spotted at student art shows, scouting for new talent.

BEDROOM

Andrew started collecting Le Corbusier and Mies van der Rohe furniture while working for I. M. Pei in the '70s.

The couple commissioned the chair from **Clarke & Reilly**, London. It's covered with antique linen fabric and has an English-walnut base.

British furniture designer **Tom Dixon's Fresh Fat coffee table** is made of Provista plastic, a material that has the clarity of glass when it solidifies.

The streamlined **Odin white leather settee** was designed by Munich's **Konstantin Grcic** and was manufactured by **ClassiCon**.

The **colored-pencil diptych** is by **Dennis Koch**, from Schiff Fine Art, New York. The couple found the **19th-century Venetian mirror** in Paris on the Rue de l'Université.

The replica of **Giambologna's Rape of the Sabines**, at the Piazza della Signoria in Florence, belonged to Françoise's grandfather.

The **antique glass-and-silver confiturier** came from Paris, and the **antique spherical clock** is from Lyon.





LIVING AREA

Fabio Novembre's *Org* coffee table, manufactured by Cappellini, was purchased at Limn. The Sèvres porcelain sculptures are from Paris.

The '40s plaster palm torchère by Serge Roche was found in Paris.

The 1976 Robert Slutzky oil painting was purchased from the artist's estate; the white gold frame is by Aedicule, San Francisco. The smaller print of *Las Meninas X*, by Manolo Valdés, came from Marlborough Graphics in New York.

The couple's silver side table is from the estate of Gianni Versace, and the crystal vase is from Baccarat.

The 18th-century Louis XV settee and armchair are from Françoise's family. Rossi Antiques did the gilding and upholstery.

DINING AREA

Alessandro Twombly's *Fall of Icarus* is from BFAS Blondeau Fine Arts Services, Geneva.

The couple commissioned the table base from Tom Dixon, and the Starphire glass top is from Paige Glass, San Francisco. Dixon's table is surrounded by white leather Mars chairs manufactured by ClassiCon.

The Provence glassware is from Diners en Ville, Paris, and the modern silver Empire candlesticks are from Odiot, Paris. Bernardaud porcelain plates and Puiforcat's Monthelie silver flatware adorn the tabletop.

An antique silver soupière and two glass-and-silver ewers are 19th-century French heirlooms from Françoise's family.

On a wall to the left is a Damien Hirst etching, *Bromphenol Blue-Xylene Cyanol Dye Solution*, from John Berggruen Gallery, in San Francisco.

Andrew designed the mirrored collector's cabinet, inspired by 19th-century Venetian furniture, and Rossi Antiques fabricated it for him. It houses Françoise's collection of French opaline perfume bottles and colored Czech Republic crystal bowls from Gump's.

Mikhail Korneevich Anikeev's *Watermelon Man* hangs above Naomie Kremer's ink drawing from Modernism Gallery, in San Francisco.



