



233 RUE ST HONORE, 75001 PARIS
T +33(0)1 4271 2046
www.favoriparis.com
M nadia@favoriparis.com

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GALERIE DOWNTOWN/PARIS

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Carly Olson

ADPRO

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Fair

At TEFAF New York, Historic and Contemporary Design Stands Out

Beneath the bright lights of the Park Avenue Armory, Murano glass vases, Wendell Castle works, and more shine

By Carly Olson

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As the crush of the New York art fairs taking place this week rages on, design connoisseurs will find solace below the tulips dangling from the rafters of the Park Avenue Armory. At this year's [TEFAF Spring](#) edition—now in its third year—a dizzying array of contemporary art, design, and jewels span two floors of the cavernous space. In one surprising instance, the art truly came alive: Thursday's VIP preview at [The European Fine Art Fair](#) featured a masked dancer in a full [Jean Dubuffet](#) bodysuit, primed and ready for Instagram thanks to [Pace Gallery](#). Between a towering [Kehinde Wiley](#) painting and glitzy Cartier cacti, aesthetes will thrill to ceramic and Murano vases, [Wendell Castle](#) mania, and some really great chairs. But don't get lost in the throngs of art world legends and streetwear-laden cool kids (yes, they're buying the art too). Swing by these galleries through May 7 for some design highlights.



Laffanour Galerie Downtown's booth at TEFAF.

Photo: Courtesy Favori

Laffanour Galerie Downtown

Laffanour Galerie Downtown is showing an impressive array of European postwar design icons. The obvious prize is a swooping Jean Royère polar bear sofa upholstered in a caramel shade. Also worth attention are two Serge Mouille sconces, which look like upturned shells with stout handles. These rare Cachan fixtures were designed for the French university in 1957, and fewer than 100 remain.

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