

GLOSS

JANUARY 2009

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CHECK OUT
THE CITY'S
BEST BODIES

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skin again**

HIKING

**New Mexico's
hoodoos**

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Trade Secrets

By Mary Vuong

Give a familiar object an unexpected tweak, and you've got a twist to shout about. Here's a fresh take on animal prints, raffia that does Mother Nature one better and a cabinet that'll earn accolades through any administration.



Baccarat's Mille Nuits collection



The Tony home

The iconic American designer **Tony Duquette** was known for giving functional furnishings — tables, chairs, lights — an artistic, flamboyant flair. Baker has teamed up with his foundation to reproduce a "best of class" collection, \$794 to \$15,994, that includes unconventional pieces such as the Ghost Snail lamp, c. 1970, and the Organic Baroque Chair, a curvaceous, wrought-iron design that Duquette dreamed up while serving in World War II. Baker, 1111 Uptown Park, No. 5; 713-627-3235. Also Meredith O'Donnell Fine Furniture, Accessories & Rugs, 2992 Kirby; 713-526-7332



Modern dining

For a fundraiser at the Houston Design Center last month, **Baccarat** regional manager Bruce Padilla designed an elegant tabletop using the company's **Mille Nuits** collection, above, \$125-\$3,000. Touches of black and silver gave the crystal pieces depth, while red accessories added a splash of color. Baccarat, 5085 Westheimer; 713-572-4001

At **Hermès**, the classic color scheme of black and white takes on an edgy appeal for spring 2009. Inspired by the sun, "Soleil" features a wavy, sculpted pattern of satin-finish black enamel on biscuit-colored porcelain. The dessert plate is \$615 and the tart platter is \$1,385. Hermès, 1800 Post Oak, No. 156; 713-623-2177



Cuddling up to — uh, snakeskin

Count on **Twill Textiles** to interpret a python's diamond-patterned skin in a subtle way. While most animal patterns scream, "Look at me!" this Chicago-based company goes for understated glamour with Silkskin, a silk/linen blend that's conservative enough to entice those who would never go for, say, leopard print. Twill also takes the ecofriendly route with the Climatemax Lifecycle Home Collection; fabrics such as Interlaken start the manufacturing process with pesticide-free wool, organically grown ramie and nontoxic dyes, and end with the recycling of fabric scraps and by-products. Cheers to being earthy and sophisticated. George Cameron Nash showroom, 5120 Woodway, #140; 713-892-5710



Playing circle games

Traditional and modern marry beautifully in this **Anneau Cabinet**. The clean, straight lines give it a contemporary edge. The rosewood veneers and brass pulls, cleverly styled as circles that "split" to operate the upper drawers and lower cabinets, lend a touch of elegance. Doug Levine designed it for Manheim-Ruseau in Dallas. David Sutherland showroom, 5120 Woodway, No. 170; 713-961-7886

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