

VERANDA

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2021

ABOUT
LAST
NIGHT...

ROUSING
TALES FROM
DESIGNER
SOIREES

*Joy Is
Served!*

DAZZLING HOLIDAY STYLE

*from TABLETOP SPLENDOR
to FLOWERS GALORE*

In Good Taste

DECORATING

A Couturier's Welcome

Hubert de Givenchy's singular gift of self-expression, contends Charlotte Moss, shined as brightly in the rooms where he entertained as it did in his sartorial masterpieces.

PHOTOGRAPH BY *Luc Castel*

PRODUCED BY *Sara Clark*

WRITTEN BY *Charlotte Moss*



Manoir du Jonchet, the late fashion designer's French country estate, was built in stages beginning in the 1530s. The dining room occupies part of the oldest section of the house.

Style: What is it? Let me count the ways it has been defined over time. If you have it, it finds its way into all that you do to express yourself. How you dress, your grooming, how you decorate, the arrangement of items on a shelf, how you set the table for dinner. Every last detail is a living expression of your inner self, your style, and not to be duplicated by others.

A precious few could come close to the elegance and style of aristocratic designer Hubert de Givenchy, who lived by the philosophy, "Look for what's best. That's your goal, your driving principle." At Le Jonchet, the manor he shared with his partner Philippe Venet near Tours, France, every room is evidence of this. Depicted here, the dining room is anchored by a waxed limestone floor, capped with a stucco-and-beam ceiling, and defined by hand-painted antique wallpaper depicting a Chinese landscape.

The gentle lines of the Régence chairs and console marry seamlessly with a custom-made dining table with a warm, wooden surface supported by stone bases fashioned after moon gates. When I first saw a photo of this room, the thing that struck me was the blending of all its elements and its gracious sense of invitation and ease. The straw placemats did not go unnoticed, sitting side by side with glasses etched with stags by Barovier & Toso in Venice. Stags were a theme at Le Jonchet. The collection included a life-size bronze by François Pompon, deer sculpture at the entry by Alban Reybaz, a weather vane, tabletop sculptures, and embroidered linens. Known as symbols of grace and kindness, it's no wonder they all found a home at Le Jonchet.



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A CLASSICAL FOUNDATION

Melodic cast-stone bases feel like they’re on loan from the garden, grounding dining rooms in alfresco intrigue. **Lyre table**, to the trade; michaeltaylor designs.com



MASTERFUL WOODWORK

This Continental-style console from the Fire stone mansion in Newport, Rhode Island, has a commanding presence. **Neoclassical console**, \$3,200; theantiqueandartisangallery.com



SPOT-ON REGENCY REPRODUCTIONS

Like a 1720 original at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, this French-inspired seat features intricate caning, serpentine curves, and a floral crest. **Louis XV dining chair**, to the trade; artisticframe.com



DASHES OF MODERN METAL

Sleek nickel jardinieres add a gleaming counter point to a room driven by the elegance of the past. **Parisian umbrella stand**, \$580; authenticprovenance.com



DRESSED-DOWN DRINKS SERVICE

A casual alternative to the wine carafe, William Yeoward’s vine-laden pitcher lends botanical ease to weekend luncheons. **Jasmine pitcher**, \$165; williamyeowardcrystal.com



STORYBOOK ADVENTURES

Dancing across this pair of blue-and-white Chinese vases is a playful scene of young boys peeking out from behind a large jar. **Antique Chinese jars**, \$15,200; hardith.com



A REGAL HOUSEHOLD MOTIF

The china’s noble stag brings the spirit of Le Jonchet to the table. **Paglia adi Vienna placemat**, \$395 for four; juliab.com **Stag dinner plate**, \$408 for four; charlottemoss.com



TOBACCO LEAF TABLEWARE

The iconic tureens by Mottahedeh blend seamlessly with other patterns and suit any interior. **Tobacco Leaf tureen**, \$1,350; mottahedeh.com