

FLORIDA DESIGN

RAISING THE BAR

Modern Musings on Fisher Island



KITCHEN CACHET
Ready, Set, Cook!

An antique winged lion sculpture from Venice welcomes visitors to the new garden of Authentic Provence in West Palm Beach.

VINTAGE APPEAL

ANTIQUES PURVEYOR AUTHENTIC PROVENCE EXPANDS ITS WEST PALM BEACH FOOTPRINT IN A MAJOR WAY

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Shortly after opening its doors in West Palm Beach in 1998, Authentic Provence established itself as one of South Florida's most distinguished destinations for antiques. All of that has to do with the efforts of owners Susan and Wolfgang Hofherr, two good-life connoisseurs, and their discerning eye for vintage treasures. Together, the two Europeans (she's from France, he's from Austria) speak six languages, which has allowed them to nurture relationships with vendors all over the world—a fact that's evident in their enviable inventory. When they're not busy sourcing the European countryside for their wares, the husband and wife travel extensively to renovate grand gardens and historic chalets all over the world. In other words: Mr. and Mrs. Hofherr know their business quite well.

This spring, they're putting all that knowledge to good use with an expansion that has added two new galleries (totaling 45,000 square feet) to Authentic Provence at 6100 Georgia Avenue. The larger footprint means a new

ABOVE INSET: An oversized garden medallion of Zeus with a decorated border from Italy LEFT: A classical Roman sculpture situated among planters and garden furniture at Authentic Provence's new space



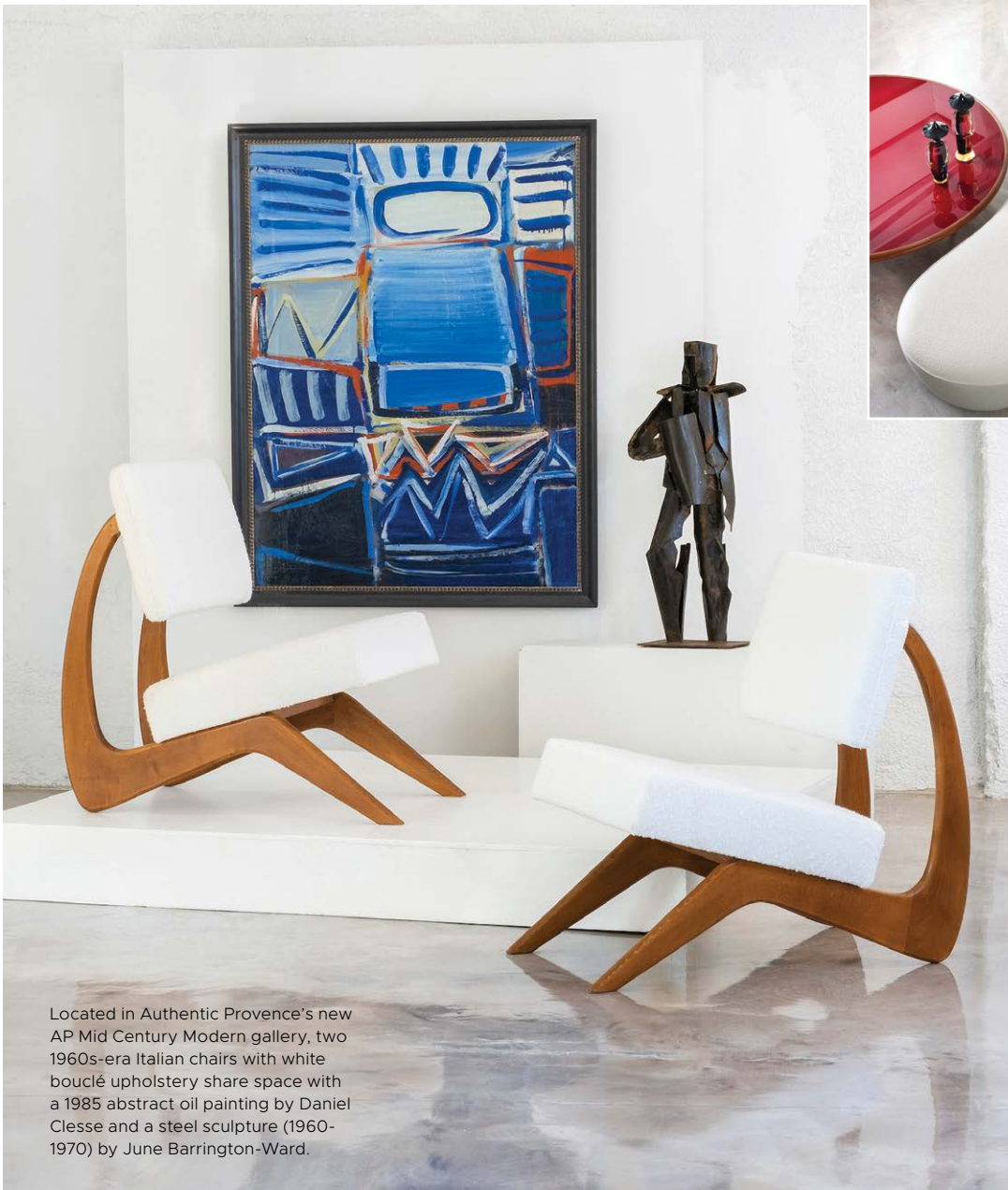
ABOVE: A pair of 1950s lounge chairs with spindled backrests by French designers Guillemette et Chambron

indoor salon and garden for the large-scale fountains, statuary, planters, flooring, and other imported goods Authentic Provence is well-known for, as well as an adjacent space called AP Mid Century Modern, where the focus is on original twentieth century European furniture, lighting, and paintings and other artworks from Italy, France, Scandinavia, and the United States. That means a visit here can yield finds like a circa-1900 hand-carved marble table from a long-gone Parisian bistro or an original Vladimir Kagan settee from the 1950s.

“Our vision has finally been realized,” says Susan. “[These new galleries will] allow us to share an authentic European lifestyle through the goods we have so carefully collected over the years.” authenticprovence.com



ABOVE: A midcentury-modern era curved settee designed by Vladimir Kagan



Located in Authentic Provence's new AP Mid Century Modern gallery, two 1960s-era Italian chairs with white bouclé upholstery share space with a 1985 abstract oil painting by Daniel Clesse and a steel sculpture (1960-1970) by June Barrington-Ward.