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7TH Anniversary
Special Issue

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LOS ANGELES

Style Spy

Alexandra Champalimaud uncovers rare design treasures in L.A.'s finest decor troves



The interiors expert, perched on a Hans Wegner Halyard chair, at Galerie Half.

“Is this not beautiful?” asks Alexandra Champalimaud. The interior designer stands in lighting boutique **Rewire** (4370 Melrose Ave., L.A., 323-664-5254; rewirela.com), and her attention has turned to an amber-hued Livio Seguso lamp. “It would be very elegant in the Hotel Bel-Air.” She would know; in addition to revamping the iconic property, she has been charged with other high-status hospitality projects such as S.F.’s Fairmont Hotel, The Carlyle and The Pierre in N.Y. While recently in L.A., the Lisbon-born, New York-based decorator took *C* on a tour as she got to know the city’s design sources: At **Blackman Cruz** (836 N. Highland Ave., L.A., 323-466-8600; blackmanacruz.com), where Champalimaud goes “for very strong pieces,” she zeroes in on an aqua linen sofa with embroidery by London company Clarke & Reilly. “I’d use it in a living room or a bar, next to a white leather chair, for contrast. It’s both physically and philosophically beautiful,” she says, referring to its eco-friendly nature (its creators re-imagine antiques).

“Reasonable, interesting things that are good investments” is how she describes **Lendrum Fine Art** (717 N. Highland Ave., Ste. 5, L.A., 323-933-5550; lendrumfineart.com), where she admires works by Tyler Vlahovich, Sean Odell and Midori Kono Thiel. A pair of 1953 leather occasional chairs by Mid-Century Modern Danish designer Poul Kjaerholm catches Champalimaud’s eye at **Galerie Half** (6911 Melrose Ave., L.A., 323-424-3866; galeriehalf.com), as does a 1957 Hans Wegner Halyard rope chair—great for Charym, a wellness center she founded in Litchfield, CT. Finally, Champalimaud stops by **Harbinger** (752 N. La Cienega Blvd., West Hollywood, 310-858-6884; harbingerla.com), a stockist of her new Comptoirs line for Holland & Sherry. She and showroom co-owner Parrish Chilcoat examine previous seasons of embroidered fabrics for the company by French designer Nicolas Chambeyron. “You know he used to do couture,” she says. “He was at Dior. This is beautiful enough to be the bodice of a dress,” says Champalimaud, ever imaginative. champalimauddesign.com. •



CLOCKWISE Harbinger. Blackman Cruz. Lendrum Fine Art. Kjaerholm PK-9 at Galerie Half.



FROM LEFT Comptoirs for Holland & Sherry textiles. Stingray Red rug. Rewire.

STORES: JESSICA SAMPLE (S); FABRIC BOLTS: JACKIE GOODLIN; RUG: ALEXANDRA CHAMPALIMAUD FOR THE RUG COMPANY