

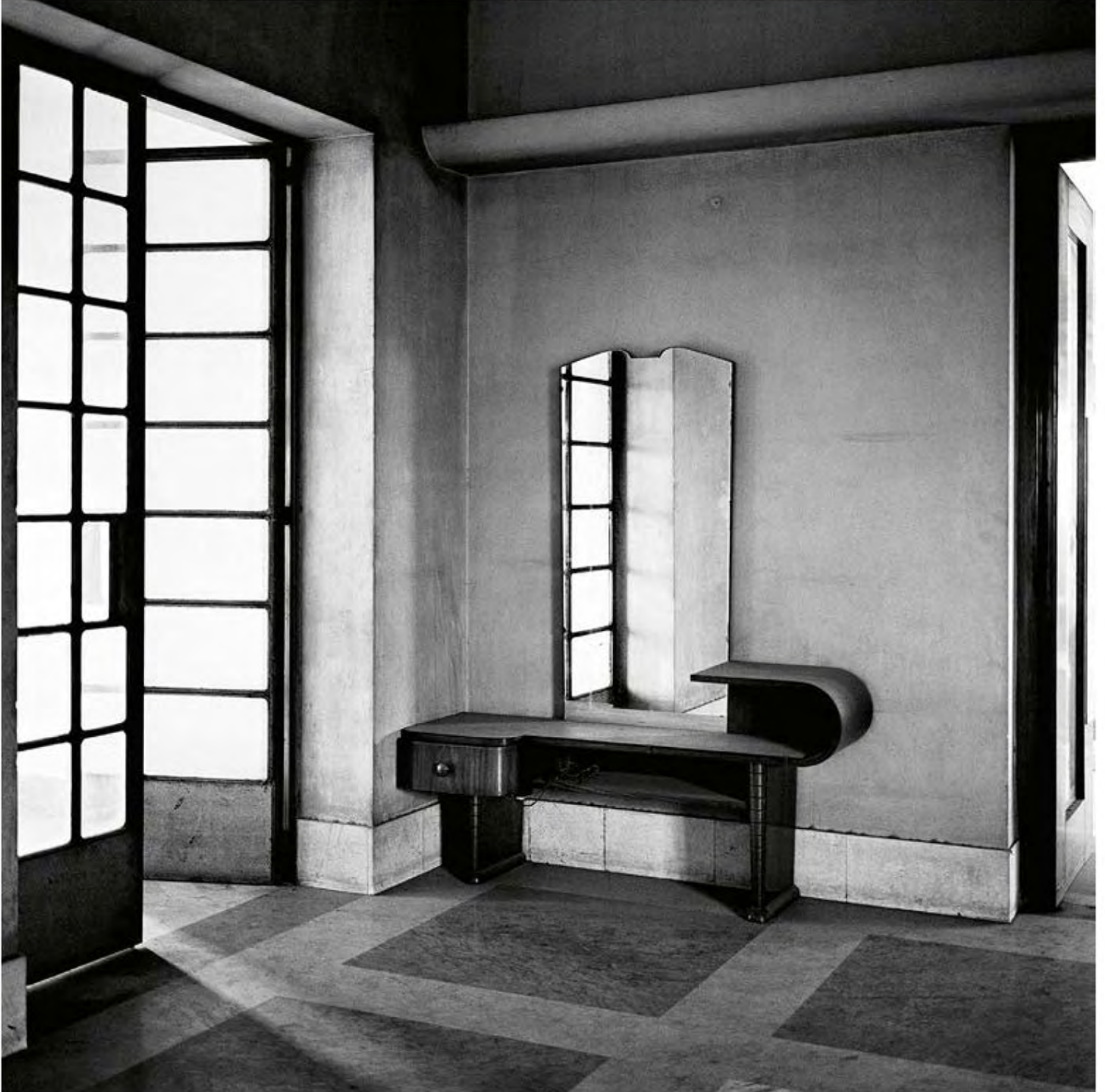
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ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST THE MOST BEAUTIFUL HOMES IN THE WORLD



THE ART ISSUE

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MAN OF THE MOMENT

Named Maison & Objet's designer of the year, Tristan Auer brings the French idea of art de vivre to life through everything from vintage cars to luxury hotels

Half number 8 of Maison & Objet's (M&O) September edition this year had a curious assemblage of objects; one section stood out, with a bar, a bed and a car—elements that practically define comfort, which was the theme of the fair. On another level, however, it represented the influences, interests and aesthetics of the man who designed the section, Tristan Auer, who was announced as M&O's Designer of the Year. Auer, who heads his own practice, Izeu, has trained under two legends of the design world—Christian Liaigre and Philippe Starck. But it was when he worked on refurbishing the Hotel de Crillon in Paris, constructed under the rule of King Louis XV in 1758, that the luxury world sat up and took notice. Auer has transformed a number of spaces, from villas to hotels to showrooms (for brands such as Cartier and Puiforcat) putting on the world map an aesthetic that celebrates the quintessential French *art de vivre* with his classical couture-like designs.

Auer's scenography for M&O reflects much of this aesthetic—graceful arches and a colour scheme, with hues of white and pastel green, envelop “a selection of symbolic elements”: a casual bar in the middle; a vintage Ferrari, which reflects the designer's affinity to automobiles; and a series of small “lounge” spaces that displayed objects in “cinematographic compositions”. He says, “If you want to find original ideas, you need to listen more attentively to that little voice inside you, even if the ideas then need to be adapted to economic realities.” And he clearly has. The Ferrari 308 GT4, pimped out in Pierre Frey, in fact, debuts Auer's new business—Tristan Auer/Cartailoring—where he will be tailoring interiors for luxury cars. Clearly, for the 48-year-old designer, things seem to be in full gear. ♦



Top left: Tristan Auer, Maison & Objet's Designer of the Year. **Top centre:** 'Delphine Pouenat' table, designed by Auer in 2016. **Top right:** 'Muse Lantern' floor lamp for Contardi. **Above:** Auer designed the furniture for Hotel de Crillon's Cigar Lounge. The 'Molten' pendant lamp is by JM Wintrebert. **Left:** Auer also designed the interiors for a vintage car, the Citroën DS, used by hotel guests.

PHOTOS: OLIVIER AMSELLEM (TRISTAN AUER); AMAURY LAPARRA (CITROËN DS); SYLVAIN CLAIRE (DELPHINE POUENAT).

TEXT: TORA AGARWALA

EDITOR'S HOTLIST

Three of our favourite products seen at the fair



Singapore architects WOHA debuted their furniture brand WOHAbeing at Maison. Of the 42 pieces, my favourite was the 'Equator' lamp from the Ulu collection. I love the shape, which at night exists as merely a silhouette.



French material archive Matrio were exhibiting some of their vast collection of patented materials—available to buy on an exclusive use—including 'Supracor', an intriguing honeycomb thermoplastic.



Maison is not only about the new. It's also where difficult-to-find but cult-status brands exhibit. I saw Vincent Van Duysen stocking up on Josef Hoffmann glassware at Lobmeyr.

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