

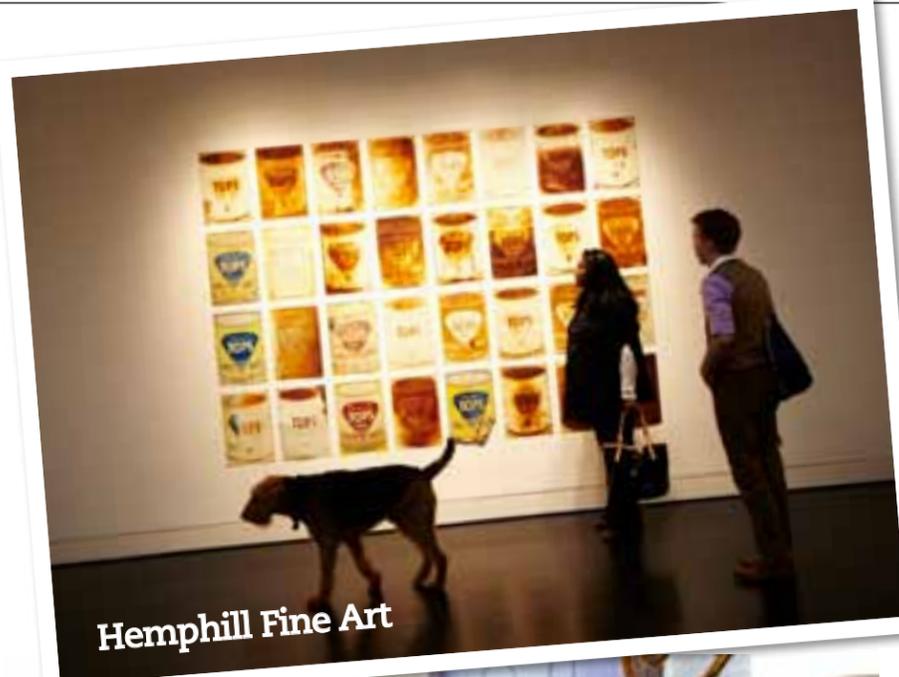
Welcome to Washington, DC

POWER PLAYERS. DUPONT CIRCLE. CAPITAL CITY.
GEORGETOWN. DIPLOMATS. POTOMAC RIVER.
TRADITIONAL DESIGN.



around town: Washington, DC

Written by Stefan Hurray
Photography by Colleen Duffley



Hemphill Fine Art



Under the Radar

ARCHITECT AND BLOGGER
STEFAN HURRAY ENLISTS
INTERIOR DESIGNER RAJI
RADHAKRISHNAN TO EXPLORE
D.C.'S DESIGN DESTINATIONS



Stefan Hurray and
Raji Radhakrishnan



Washington, D.C., might be known for its politics, but this capital city has a flourishing design community that might surprise visitors—especially those expecting a buttoned-up bureaucratic city. Drawn by the charm of Washington's history and the vibrancy of its culture, interior designer Raji Radhakrishnan and I both now call this city home.

"I fell in love with D.C. while touring Tudor Place," says Raji. The historic house (tudorplace.org), a favorite of Washington insiders, has roots in political history and beautiful gardens looking over the rooftops of Georgetown down to the Potomac River.

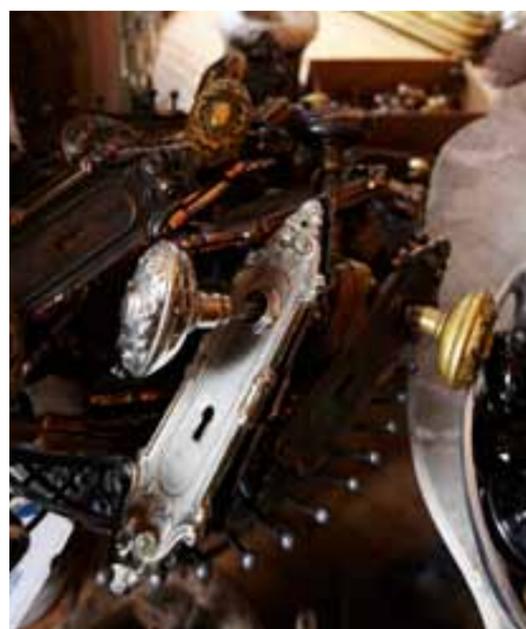
Raji and I share a love for mixing the best of classical design with contemporary details—the same tastes that define the Washingtonian style.

Cady's Alley

Meeting in Cady's Alley at Kafe Leopold, a neighborhood favorite, for Austrian coffee seems like the perfect way to start the tour. Whipped cream makes everything better, even coffee. Designers mingle with tourists along the cobblestone alley, browsing design mainstays, as well as one-off boutiques. (3314 M Street NW, www.cadysalley.com)

Hemphill Fine Art

Gallery mascot Willie, a friendly Airedale terrier, welcomes us to the gallery with kisses and tail wags. "I get most of my design inspiration from art," says Raji, as she takes in an exhibition spanning the life of artist William Christenberry. (1515 14th Street NW, www.hemphillfinearts.com)



The Brass Knob

around town: D.C.



Miss Pixie's

**Miss Pixie's**

"I can't believe I haven't been here!" exclaims Raji as she admires a set of Louis XIV-style side chairs. "These would sell for five times this elsewhere!" Designers and locals alike love to score unique pieces, which Miss Pixie's replenishes at auction. (1626 14th Street NW, www.misspixies.com)

The Brass Knob

In the heart of the Adams Morgan neighborhood, The Brass Knob Architectural Antiques is filled to the brim with antique doorknobs and fireplace mantels salvaged from houses throughout the city—each perfect for adding character to a new house or replacing missing details from an old one. Raji admires a pair of Edwardian sconces for her garage while I pick up a lockset for my 1920s apartment. (2311 18th Street NW, www.thebrassknob.com)



The National Archives



Teatism

Cross Mackenzie Gallery

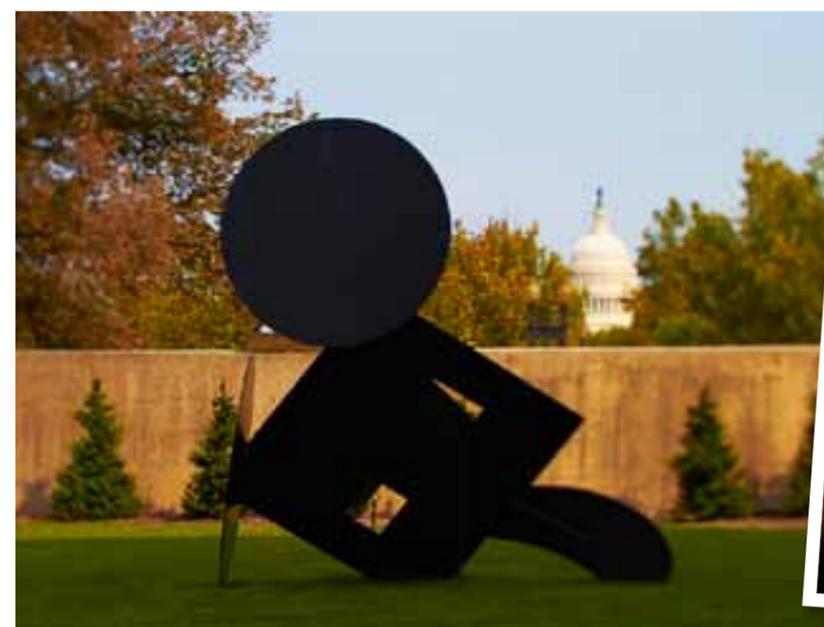
Rebecca Cross and Max MacKenzie curate work from local and national artists on the ground floor of a Beaux Arts townhouse steps away from bustling cafes and shops in trendy Dupont Circle. Ceramic pieces are the couple's specialty. (2026 R Street NW, www.crossmackenzie.com)



GoodWood

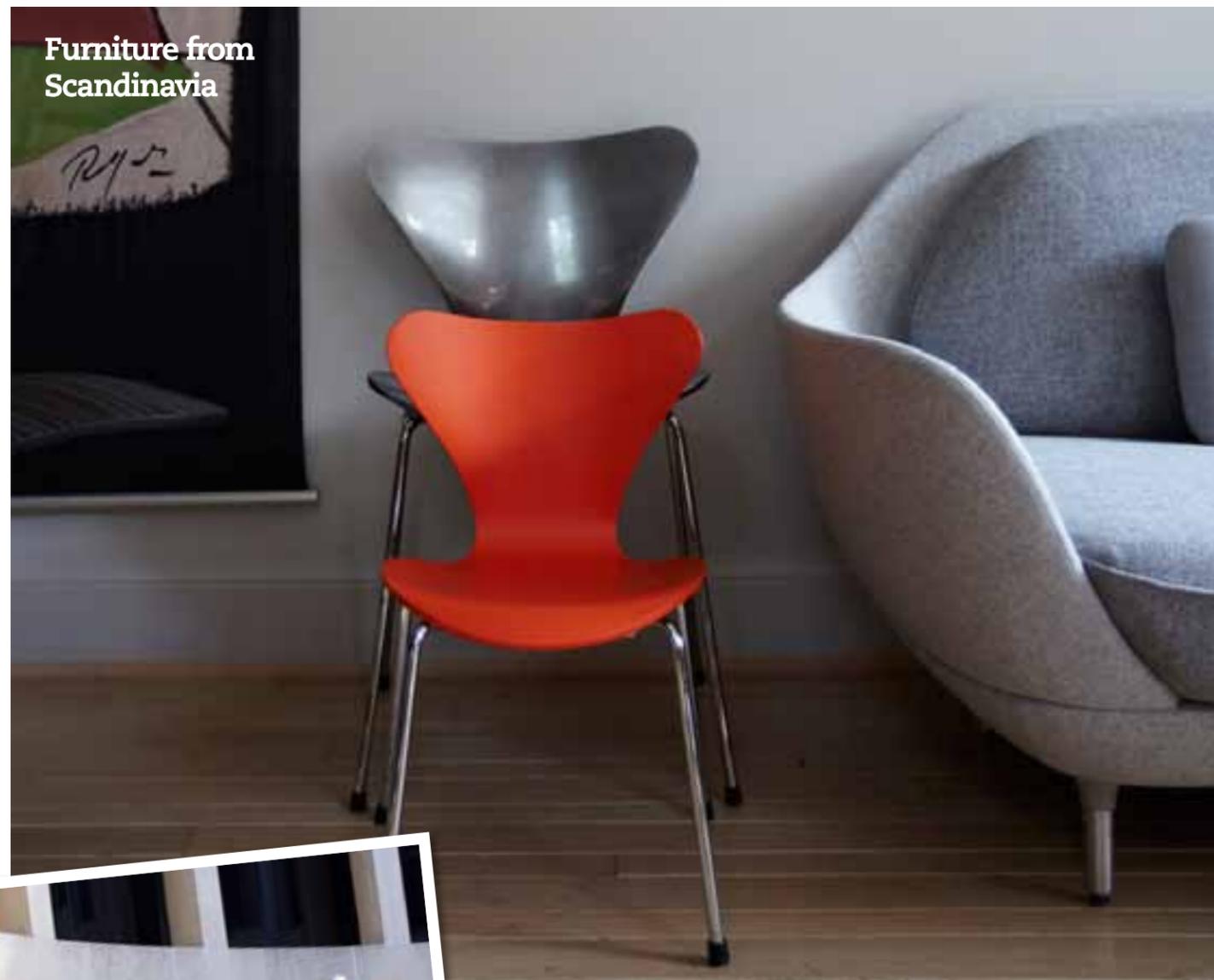


Miss Pixie's



GoodWood

around town: D.C.

Furniture from
Scandinavia**Teasm**

A quick lunch at this neighborhood hangout fuels us to continue on our journey. Raji chooses a healthy salad while I delight in a salmon bento box. Iced Tisane teas, changed daily, are the perfect dessert without the accompanying guilt! (2009 R Street NW, www.teasm.com)

GoodWood

New items flood into this shop with a definite hipster edge on bustling U Street. The shop mixes quirky antiques with clothing. (1428 U Street NW, www.goodwooddc.com)

Hirshhorn Museum

Modern art housed in a round building nestled within a classical square city is the perfect description for this destination of sophisticated art lovers. The gallery is the hidden treasure of the Smithsonian Institution and a stop that most tourists, sadly, miss. (700 Independence Avenue SW, www.hirshhorn.si.edu)

J. Lambeth & Co.

"They really gave me my start in this closed-up world of design," reminisces Raji, as she lounges on a Barry Dixon-designed sofa, sipping sparkling water. Owners Ann and Jim Lambeth delight in sharing their wares of fabric, lighting, and furniture to designers and novices alike at the Washington Design Center.



J. Lambeth & Co.



around town: D.C.



"We just love beautiful things," says Ann. (300 D Street SW, www.jlambeth.com)

Darrell Dean Antiques & Decorative Arts

"Darrell is the only one in D.C. who gets my style," murmurs Raji while admiring objects slated for her online gallery, *Maison et toi* (maisonettoi.com). Fine decorative arts and furniture from the 20th century mingle with beautiful oddities from around the world. "You always find something new and spectacular," says Raji. (1524 Wisconsin Avenue NW, www.darrelldeanantiques.com)

Furniture from Scandinavia

Raji introduces me to Furniture from Scandinavia—a showroom housed in an old corner market in the heart of historic Georgetown. Owner Annette Rachlin has curated a collection of the best in modern furniture



for special order. Her love of modern design and its place in historic D.C. is infectious. "We've come a long way in educating this city on modern living," says Annette. (1531 33rd Street NW, www.furniturefromscandinavia.com)

Kafe Leopold

The perfect pick-me-up after this daylong shopping trip proves to be cocktails and dessert at the trendy restaurant in Cady's Alley, where we started the excursion. Try the Kafe's "Esterhazy" hazelnut and buttercream cake. It will change your life. (3315 M Street NW, www.kafeleopolds.com)

"Don't you just love this city?" sighs Raji as we stop to admire the sunset from a footbridge over the C&O Canal on our way to dinner at *Poste Brasserie*. "Let's do this again soon!" (555 8th Street NW, www.postebrasserie.com)



Darrell Dean Antiques & Decorative Arts

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