

*The Homes of
Contemporary
Collectors*

surrounded
BY ART



Thames & Hudson



The truism that one needn't be a tycoon to build a distinctive collection is brilliantly evident here. With a limited budget, this young Londoner filled his tiny apartment with curiosities that combine the haphazard with the bizarre.

In the living room, on a black-lacquer table, an oil painting by David Champion, a collection of miniature Dogon ladders, a clock lamp (1930) and on a French chair from the 1920s, four African earrings.

Hubert ZANDBERG

Hubert Zandberg alighted in London as a law student five years ago. Soon after, he met the decorator David Champion and in no time at all became his associate. In due course, Zandberg moved into a 500-square-foot Portobello apartment where he did away with doors and painted the whole place black. Against such a backdrop, he was soon showing off his secondhand and flea-market finds from neighborhood haunts. Far from emphasizing the diminutive proportions of the room, its dimensions seem to increase by the very fact that it is filled to overflowing. Here, the eye is courted by a hundred details from countless perspectives created by seemingly limitless objects—no doubt strangers until now—all thrown together as if in some surrealist charade. On the low ceiling, Hubert created a frieze made up of 40 herbarium plates, all framed himself. The apartment is a cabinet of curiosities—a collection of Dogon ladders, stuffed hunting trophies, butterflies from around the world, even the toilet rolls arrayed on metal shelves resemble an art object. One day, however, he'll have to sell or, better still, make his way to roomier quarters; for when a collector can no longer distinguish his bed from the rest of the room, it's clearly time to make a move.

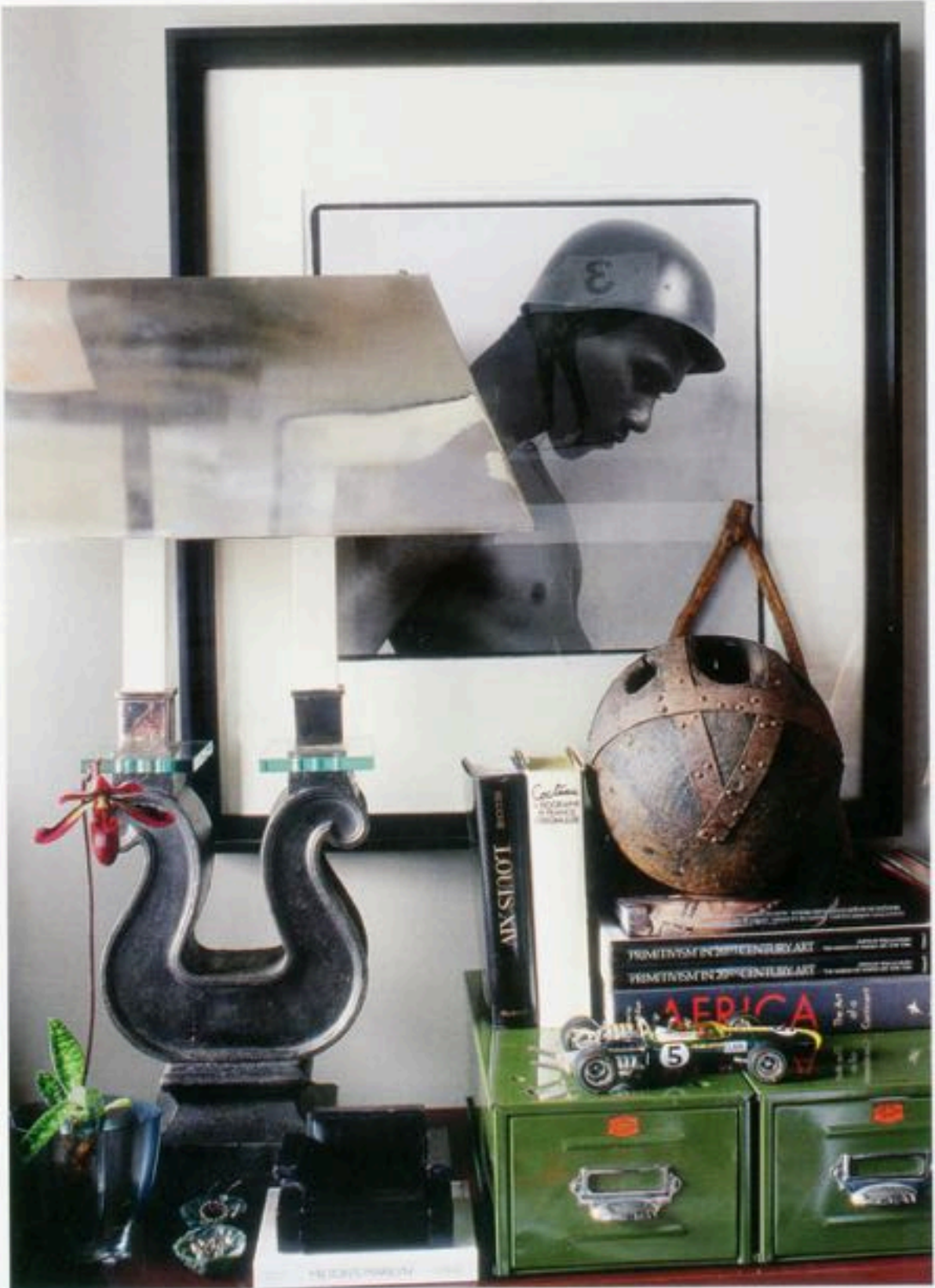
In the living room, above a neoclassical-style love seat covered in two shades of linen, two boxes of butterflies, a mirror by Line Vautrin and Asian fish traps around a photo by David Gamble showing the hallway of Andy Warhol's house, an inspiration for Zandberg. A pair of woven string armchairs, designed by the master of the house himself. In the foreground, on the table, a set of objects in horn and bone, and a series of skulls. On the right of the window, on a Chinese lacquer chest, a bundle of miniature ladders of Dogon origin.





Right:
In the bedroom,
a photograph by
Georges Dureau,
on a black
lacquer table,
an antique
bowling ball
and a
contemporary
lyre-shaped
lamp.

Opposite:
An eclectic mix
around the four-
poster bed in
this less than 100-
square-foot
bedroom:
architect's lamp
from the 1950s,
stuffed head of an
English bulldog,
a stuffed pink
flamingo, a series
of Victorian glass
eyes, tortoise
shells and iron
herbalist's boxes
commonly used in
the late 19th
century to keep
botanical
specimens. The
console and stool
were designed by
David Champion
and Hubert
Zandberg.



Combinations never seen before; fresh perspectives, explosive effects.

