



FDITED BY ELIZABETH METCALFE



### Dealer delights

Those in the market for antique and vintage furniture should check out The Bruno Effect, a new online marketplace set to launch next month. Founded by Carmine Bruno, who was formerly the managing director of 1st Dibs International, the platform brings together 650 invited dealers from across the world. These include Philadelphia-based Moderne Gallery and London's Robert Young Antiques. The Paavo Tynell chandelier and Alvar Aalto chaise longue pictured here are both from the Swedish gallery Modernity. Dealers pay a subscription fee, while customers are encouraged to contact them directly and - unusually for a digital platform - negotiate and even buy pieces offline. 'Buyers want to communicate with dealers, to be able to tap into their knowledge and trust in the provenance of a piece,' says Carmine. thebrunoeffect.com

## BAMBOO AND BOBBIN

Dorset-based antique dealer-turned-furniture designer Robin Myerscough has recently joined forces with cabinetmaker David Ellis of Lascombe Hill Design on a new range of upholstered and occasional furniture. The pieces are inspired by faux bamboo and bobbin designs from the Georgian period, but have been finished in bold colours to give them a contemporary edge. 'There's nothing too large - just useful and really elegant items,' says Robin. All the pieces are made to order to the size, colour and finish of your choice. Prices start at £1,020 for the 'Bamboo Mirror'. robinmyerscough.co.uk





#### **GROWING DEMAND**

In response to the increasing popularity of house plants, Swiss furniture brand USM has devised a new add-on for its modular 'Haller' system: plant pot-holding panels. These slot into the existing pieces, or you can buy coffee tables, shelves and sideboards that incorporate them. The pots, in basalt and terracotta, are included. From £494 for a small side table. usm.com



Meeting the mark

Having struggled to find fabrics that meet its aesthetic and sustainability standards, British furniture brand Benchmark has collaborated with textile manufacturer Tibor on a collection of natural wools and cottons. Offered in a range of muted colours, this includes a flat wool, a boiled wool and a soft bouclé, which cost from £135 a metre for flat wool. The 'Gleda Sofa' (above), designed for Benchmark by Space Copenhagen, costs from £3,595 including fabric. benchmarkfurniture.com ▷



#### Introducing: Dalia James

'I began studying printed textiles at Loughborough University, but I was intrigued by what the weavers were doing and decided to change courses,' explains textile designer-maker Dalia James. Now based in London, she weaves strongly coloured wall pieces on a variety of looms, using rectilinear shapes and taking inspiration from William Morris, Anni Albers and the contemporary textile artist Ptolemy Mann. Dalia often weaves with spun silk and has experimented with the eco-friendly Seacell yarn, made from seaweed. Thanks to a grant from the Arts Council, she has recently moved to a studio in Walthamstow, where she is working on several private commissions: 'I'd love to create an interiors collection one day.' *daliajames.com* 



# PAYING COURT

This month's Julians Park and Six Private Collections auction at Christie's promises to be a good one, featuring 80 lots from the collection of the late Desmond Heyward, the most recent custodian of Haseley Court in Oxfordshire. The 18th-century house was once the home of the decorating doyenne Nancy Lancaster, who saved it from ruin in the Fifties after its requisition during the war. She sold the house in the early Seventies, when she then converted and moved into its stables; the Heywards bought the property 10 years later. This sale - which runs online from May 25 to June 15, and will take place live on June 8 - includes decorative pieces and paintings dating from the 17th to 19th century, which the Heywards collected over 40 years. Lots start at £1,000. christies.com

#### ONLINE TEXTILES COURSES



WORKING CLOTH

Make your own patchwork quilt over the course of four weekly two-hour Zoom sessions with textiles studio Working Cloth; £125 for the course. workingcloth.com



RICHARD McVETIS

Learn the art of hand embroidery in a pair of two-and-a-half-hour workshops – held twice a month – with Richard McVetis; £50 each. richardmcvetis.co.uk



BALFOUR & CO

Weave your own rug in this eight-week course with Christabel Balfour. Videos are pre-recorded and you have unlimited access, so you can go at your own pace; £180 for the course. balfourand.co