

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**R & Company  
Presents  
(dec)curation  
By  
Steven Volpe**

**Closing October 18, 2014**



**New York, NY (October 8, 2014)** – R & Company is pleased to present *(dec)curation*, an exhibition curated by Steven Volpe, Founder and Principal of the San Francisco-based design firm, Steven Volpe Design. For this exhibition, Volpe explores the concept of *(dec)curation* through arrangements of objects and furnishings from R & Company's comprehensive collection of iconic historical and contemporary works. The exhibition is on view through October 18, 2014.

In his practice, Steven Volpe approaches design, art, and architectural space with the same careful consideration. He refers to them as the “trifecta,” and believes that the basis of good interior design is derived from balanced attention to these three elements. In his furniture arrangements, careful study of the occupant's movements and interactions is balanced with his eye for unusual combinations of furniture. Art and furniture selections are made with careful attention to the history and lineage, in addition to the beauty and uniqueness of the piece. Interior, architectural, and custom furniture detailing are approached with the same sustained attention to the craftsman's hand and tradition.

The concept of *(dec)curation* references Volpe's richly inventive approach to transforming sources. With a wealth of knowledge about the history of decoration to draw from, he reinterprets classical techniques, adding a modern twist to well-known and loved furniture pieces. The exhibition re-contextualizes works such as classic Brazilian seating by Joaquim Tenreiro from R & Company's collection by recovering pieces in a modern bespoke fabric by Brooklyn based textile artist Tara Chapas.

Another aspect to *(dec)curation* is Volpe's approach to the built environment. For R & Company, Volpe radically alters the gallery by adding subtle architectural interventions and hanging a series of art pieces by artist Jeff Zimmerman from the ceilings and walls throughout the gallery. Through so doing he introduces an element of surprise and subverts assumptions as to what a home can be, blurring the boundaries between, and giving equal weight to art, furniture and the built environment.



“Possessing extensive knowledge and connoisseurship in furniture design and contemporary art has allowed Volpe to bring depth to his interiors,” says Evan Snyderman, “It is something rarely seen and the immediate response is the sense of decades of collecting.”

### **About R & Company**

R & Company (formerly R 20th Century) is a gallery committed to historic and contemporary design exhibition and education. Founded by Zesty Meyers and Evan Snyderman in 1997, it presents groundbreaking exhibitions and publications of both historic significance and emerging talent. R & Company represents a diverse program of international design from North America, South America, Europe, and Asia, produced between 1945 and today. R & Company has an extensive archive, library, and collection that chronicle the rapid ascent of the design market. In addition to the exhibition program, gallery, and publications, Meyers and Snyderman contribute widely to publications and lecture frequently about design.

Please note: R & Company (formerly R 20th Century) has a new web address:

[www.r-and-company.com](http://www.r-and-company.com)

### **About Steven Volpe**

Through his early work in San Francisco and Paris, Volpe developed a finely tuned eye, having worked for several accomplished designers including Anthony Hail and Eleanor Ford. After moving to Paris in his early twenties, he took advantage of opportunities to study design firsthand, immersing himself in European techniques, history and theory. After several years in Paris Steven returned to San Francisco to open his own firm as well as an art and design gallery, Hedge. From his historical Jackson Square office, Steven and his staff now orchestrate design projects around the world.

<http://www.stevenvolpe.com/>

***IMAGES: Installation view, (dec)curation by Steven Volpe. Photograph by Joe Kramm/R& Company.***

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