MAGEN GALLERY

April and Hugues Magen, New York

Former professional dancers April and Hugues Magen fell in love on the set of a 1995 movie in which they were cast as partners in a dream sequence. Not long after, they shifted their professional attention to furniture, starting their business by gathering Eames and Noguchi pieces in the U.S. for dealers in Hugues' native Paris. Soon they moved into large-scale, twentieth-century French furnishings and accessories, and in 1997, their New York showroom Magen Gallery was born.

At their 1,000-square-foot Fifth Avenue apartment, earthy-chic furnishings—highlighted by original Jean Prouvé pieces—complement rooms painted grey and deep-brown, with bleached oak parquet floors. The Magens' private collection is also testament to a shared enthusiasm for primitive and indigenous art—often, though not exclusively, African. "The tragically pristine is not that interesting for either of us," says April.

Although the couple's taste is nearly universally admired, the one-bedroom apartment's dramatic juxtapositions of textures and scale can be challenging to visitors. "Which is why," she says, "they have their homes, and we have ours!"

mics from La Borne, France, are displayed on a
case designed by Charlotte Perriand and Jean Prouvé for
on de la Tunisie at Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris.

A bowl and black ceramic lamp by André Borderie are displayed on the Charlotte Perriand dining table. The chairs are Jean Prouvé. A sculpture by Borderie and Pierre Szekely sits on the Prouvé red table in the corner. Lighting includes ceramic sconces by Alice Colonieu and a Serge Mouille two-arm floor lamp.

A Forrest Myers wire stool sits beside a Jean Prouvé sideboard, which displays African masks, Philippe Hiquily's sculpture *L'Horloge*, and vases by Madoura and Jean and Jacqueline Lerat.

Jean Prouvé's Compass desk and Charlotte Perriand's blackboard are in the kitchen.

Pierre Guariche's Kite lamp illuminates Jean Prouvé's Cité daybed.

Objects on the Charlotte Perriand coffee table include a planter by André Borderie and a vase by Elizabeth Joulia. The bookcase is by Perriand and Jean Prouvé.

A Serge Mouille ceiling fixture and André Masson lamp illuminate the bedroom. The stools are by Charlotte Perriand. The artwork is a self-portrait by Eli Elysee.

An African chair sits in front of a painting by Larry Bell. A chair by Laura Main is in the hallway.