

# MANSION

## Home Collections

### Continued from page M1 Family Tokens

Jeffrey Setzer's great-grandfather started the Setzer Box Co., a maker of wooden crates, in Sacramento, Calif., in 1927.

Nearly a century later, the family still values remnants from the factory floor. In particular, Mr. Setzer has been drawn to the plates used to print labels the company made for shipping crates for various products, including Campbell soup, Kraft cheese, dynamite and fruits. "We saved them from going to the junkyard," he says.

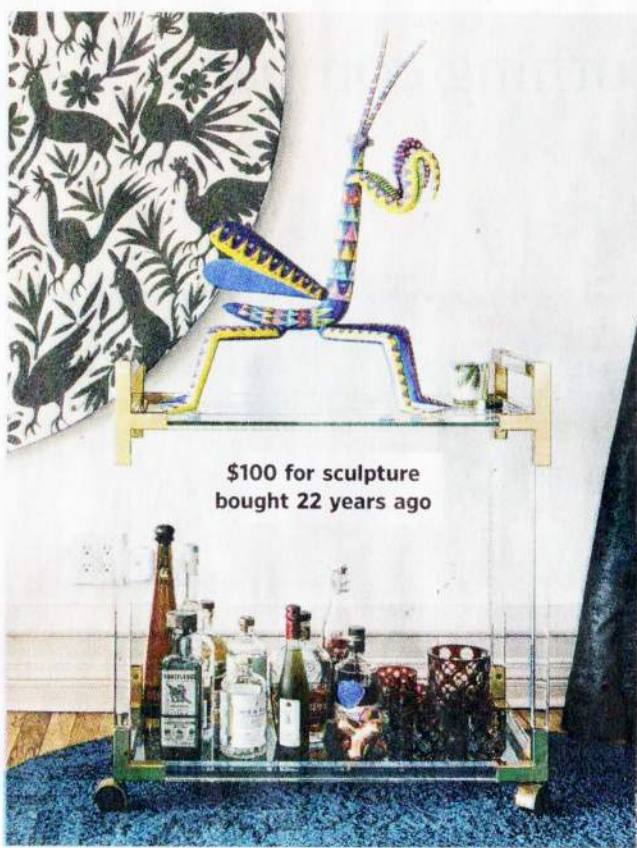
He saved so many—more than 350—that it took days for interior designer Abby Hetherington to sort through the collection he had stashed away in his Gallatin Gateway, Mont., home.

Ultimately, she found a place for them in the family library. About 200 of the vintage plates cover the ceiling in a way that suggests tin tiles and that complement the room's reclaimed wood floors.

"We took what could have been chaos, and it became an organized architectural element in the home," says Ms. Hetherington, who is based in Bozeman.

The library is part of Mr. Setzer's 3,400-square-foot home, which has 360-degree mountain views and a lookout tower that the designer turned into an office. Guests who walk in are encouraged to look up, says Mr. Setzer. "We were able to preserve our history," he adds.

**Sculpture**  
Ross Honey was inspired by



\$100 for sculpture bought 22 years ago

Ross Honey's wood-carved Alebrijes-style grasshopper from Oaxaca, Mexico, above, is set on an acrylic cart.



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Custom bookcases: \$38,000

A collection of bound National Geographics is on display in an Illinois home. Four generations of the family had collected the magazines since 1905. Designer Pam Maher used dark wood for the custom shelves to complement the leather on the bound periodicals.

his move to a 2,400-square-foot Manhattan loft from a window-filled home in Seattle to display the folk-art sculptures he collected for many years, mostly from his travels.

The music-company

date that," she says.

Once the shelving was installed—at a cost of about \$38,000—a staffer from Pam Maher Design, based in Highland Park, spent an entire day arranging the magazines in chronological

Ms. Ferguson considers the minimal Shaker-style, black cherry pieces timeless and suitable for any home interior. "It's a beautiful wood," she says. "I would always look longingly at the furniture."

'We took what could have been chaos, and it became an organized architectural element in the home,' says Ms. Hetherington.

chief executive enlisted the help of Mr. Amornvivat to create nooks to spotlight the sculptures, masks and others pieces. The two-bedroom home, once a button factory, had plenty of wall space, he says.

"We've slowly accrued a collection of mostly 3-D objects that speak to us," says Mr. Honey, who lives with his wife.

The couple wanted the finished product to look lived-in, not stuffy, he adds.

Creating a space for each piece took time, especially because not all of the works can hang on the wall, says Mr. Amornvivat, who worked with Thomas Morbitzer on the design.

Built-in ledges in the dining area display smaller art pieces, such as a whale vertebrae sculpture and traditional Peruvian masks. A hand-painted, wood-carved Alebrije grasshopper from Oaxaca, Mexico, is set on an acrylic cart in the living room.

"We want to make sure it's not cluttered, with white spaces around it and treated like art," says Mr. Morbitzer.

### Magazines and Books

Beecher and Robin Abeles felt it was a must to work their National Geographic collection into the interior design of their newly built home in Glencoe, Ill. Four generations of the family had collected the magazines since 1905—shortly after its 1888 launch—and most of the earlier issues were in leather-bound books.

Designer Pam Maher used dark wood accents in the home library to complement the leather. She also measured shelf space to leave room for other objects. "We did the math on the linear feet and designed the bookcases to accommo-

order and interspersing each shelf with items from the couple's travels.

Other family books and later magazine issues are decidedly not on display. "We wanted to have the uniformity of that collected look," the designer adds.

### Heirloom Furniture

When it came time to move into a contemporary three-bedroom farmhouse in Yarmouth, Maine, Paula Ferguson knew she wasn't leaving her furniture collection behind.

Her husband, Bruce Ferguson, first gifted her a blanket box from Maine designer Thos. Moser in 1988. Since then, the Fergusons have acquired a sleigh bed, a dining table and 17 other pieces, all signed by the designer.

Still, designer Nicola Manganello had to reimagine the furniture collection for the couple's new, more modern home.

She added one of the couple's favorite pieces—a Thos. Moser bench previously in a home office—to a dining-room set, then repurposed a dining-room sideboard as storage space in the foyer.

"We use the pieces in different ways than she had imagined them, which helped with getting her out of her old-home mentality," says Ms. Manganello.

Ms. Ferguson, who is retired, says she is thrilled with the results, and is no longer interested in expanding her collection. "We have as much as we need," she says.



Huntboard, current value: \$8,965



Table, current value: \$7,500

Signed pieces by Maine furniture maker Thos. Moser fill a new home in Yarmouth, Maine.

FROM TOP: MATT OUTLE FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (2); ANNEE MAZZENDA; THOS. MOSER (2)



MANSION



ent's vintage-car collection, interior designer Michele Lorenz knew she needed a wow factor, and lots of room to pull it off. Drawing inspiration from the '80s teen flick "Ferris Bueller's Day Off," she designed a custom garage for up to 13 cars, which are primarily vintage Porsches.

The three-story garage, including basement, incorporates pop-art wallpaper, a red Le Corbusier sofa and geometric shapes. A lift moves the cars between floors so they can be part of the daily lives of the homeowners, who declined to be interviewed.

Visitors to the Austin home are often most impressed by the classic BMW that Ms. Lorenz has attached to the wall. Her client bought the nonworking car, gutted it and restored the shell.

"It kind of looks like it's driving on the wall," says Ms. Lorenz, a senior designer at Mark Ashby Design in Austin.

Julia Buckingham's Midcentury Modern home has original clerestory windows in the living room, left, with a painted fuchsia floor. Center, one of some 200 portraits in her collection. Right, the dining area is decorated with vintage accessories and a Gray Malin photo on the wall, at left.

Portraits

Julia Buckingham, an interior designer, for years enjoyed purchasing an occasional portrait, imagining for each one the back stories of the person, or how they could be related to her own family. But when her husband noticed about 10 years ago her "thing for women's portraits," it sparked her interest in diversifying the collection mix. "I started my collection by adding men to it," she says.

Ms. Buckingham was finally able to hang her entire collection of about 200 portraits on canvas and wood when she moved into her 2,900-square-foot Midcentury Modern home in Scottsdale, Ariz. She spent \$1.8 million, including the 2019 purchase price and renovations.

Rather than creating floor-to-ceiling gallery walls, she chose spaces where the portraits would run along an entire wall at a person's natural sight-

line. She separated some of the larger canvases to create colorful nooks throughout the home without over-

whelming visitors. Her favorite is a lot of 11 portraits by abstract artist Thomas Pulgini.

"They have a lot of

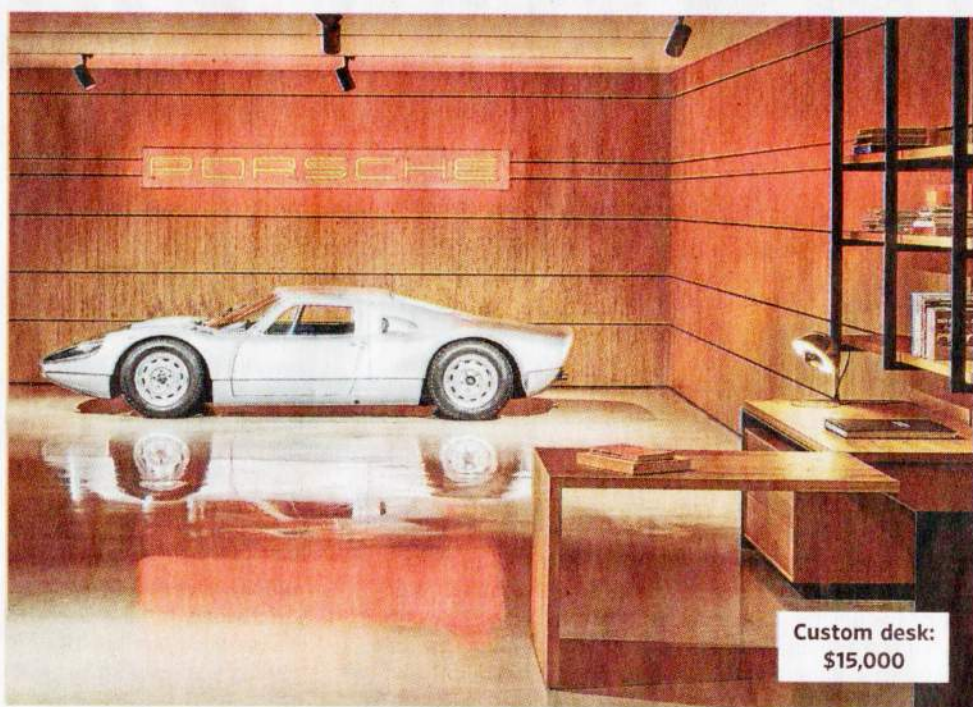
whimsy and aren't too serious," she says.

Automobiles

For car collectors, display-

ing their prized possessions takes plenty of space—and some difficult logistics.

To incorporate her cli-



Custom desk: \$15,000

Michele Lorenz designed a three-story garage inspired by the film 'Ferris Bueller's Day Off,' to highlight the Porsche collection of an Austin-based client.



FROM TOP: CASSIDY ARAI/STYLING FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL (3); CLAY GRIER (3)

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