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CORRECTION: In the Summer 2014 issue of *Los Angeles Confidential*, a quote was incorrectly attributed to Steven Koblik, president of the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens ("Made in L.A.," p. 114). The quote was actually given by Director of Art Collections Kevin Salatino. We apologize for the error.



ON THE COVER:

John Legend
Photography by Frederic Auerbach
Styling by Johnathan Lawhorne

Jacket (\$2,500), shirt (\$660), and pin bar (\$540), Dior Homme. 315 N. Rodeo Dr., Beverly Hills, 310-247-8003; dior.com. Pants, Citizens of Humanity (\$198). Barneys New York, 9570 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, 310-276-4400; barneys.com. Belt, Gucci (\$320). 347 N. Rodeo Dr., Beverly Hills, 310-278-3451; gucci.com

ABODE & BEYOND Melrose!

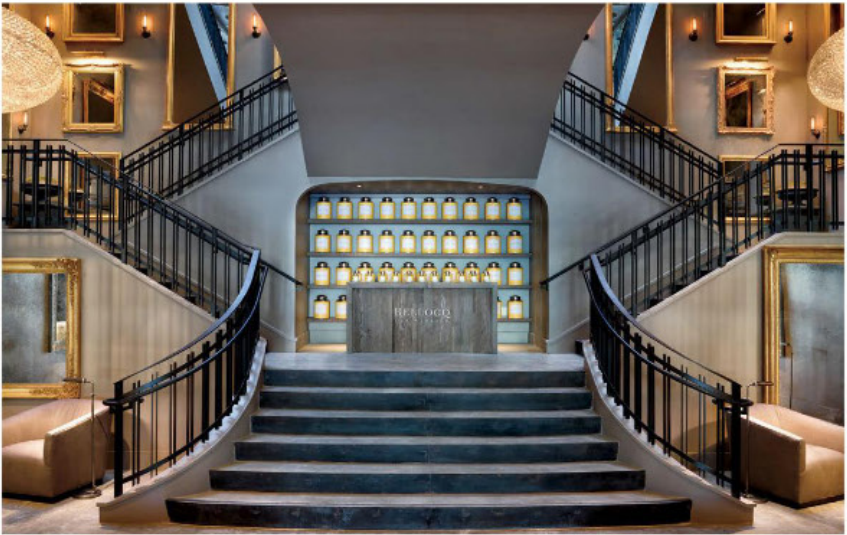
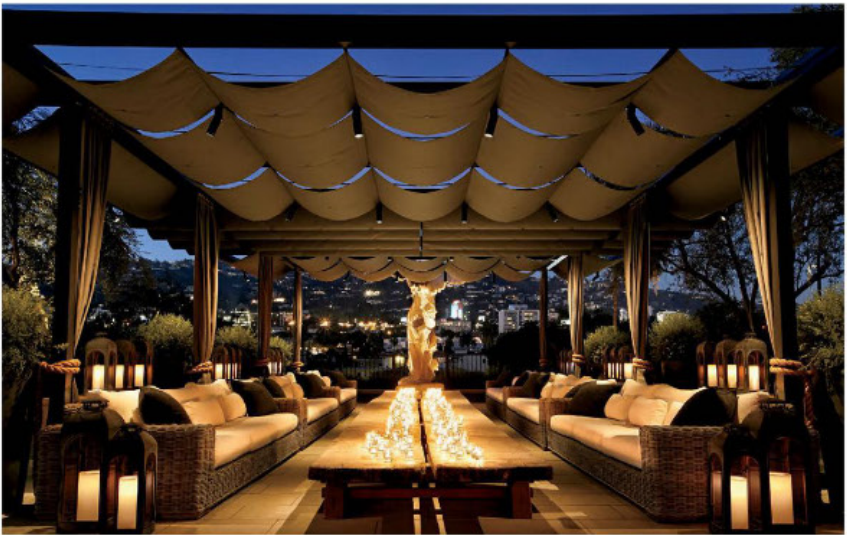


An antique reproduction of *Winged Victory of Samothrace* serves as RH West Hollywood's guardian angel. RIGHT, FROM TOP: 100-year-old olive trees set a bucolic tone at RH West Hollywood's 10,000-square-foot rooftop park; the shop includes a Bellocq Organic Tea atelier; Crystal Halo chandeliers are just one of the gallery's many product exclusives.

DESTINATION RESTORATION

RH—FORMERLY KNOWN AS RESTORATION HARDWARE—MOVES TO MELROSE WITH A 40,000-SQUARE-FOOT SUPERSTORE. BY MATT STEWART

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK HUG RESTORATION HARDWARE



Behind its imposing 150-foot Melrose Avenue façade—one that harbors a Parisian-style entry courtyard, terraces of lush plantings on the second floor, and a 10,000-square-foot rooftop park featuring a grove of century-old olive trees—the new RH West Hollywood gallery makes a statement as big and bold as the furnishings for which the brand is known. Ben Soleimani, a fourth-generation rug dealer/designer and a longtime Melrose habitué, who has an exclusive rug collection with the brand, introduced Gary Friedman, RH's CEO and chairman, to the idea of a Melrose location. "My journey with Ben began at Melrose," Friedman explains. "Though I had five of his rugs in my home, I had never met Ben himself. He moved to LA when he was 18 or 19 years old, built his rug store on Melrose, and has been buying real estate here for more than 20 years. Melrose, because of the way it's being developed, is a blend of luxury retail and interior design that is very pedestrian-friendly. I don't think we could have picked a better location."

Award-winning architect Jim Gillam, who has worked with the brand on several other large-scale and historic spaces around the country, designed RH West Hollywood to allow clients to imagine what is possible on a grand scale, while at the same time showcasing pieces in intimate settings that speak to domestic comfort. "We're trying to create a residential experience that blends retail and art. We include art installations to add a level of drama that inspires people to what might be possible."

To enhance the domestic drama, Friedman and the RH team have added a number of exclusive pieces, including four Cloud sofas by British designer Timothy Oulton and a large selection of one-of-a-kind Balinese coffee tables. RH West Hollywood also contains a Ben Soleimani rug showroom, a Bellocq Organic Tea atelier, and the LA home of RH's new interior design platform.

The pièce de résistance of the Melrose experience is the rooftop garden, which showcases the immediate surroundings as well as unparalleled views of the city and the Hollywood Hills. "We didn't merely install a roof deck," Friedman says. "We gave a gift to the city with a rooftop park the likes of which the world has never seen. The building had to be designed to take the weight of these amazing trees; we had to engineer a special drainage system. We also included decomposed granite walkways that make you feel like you're in the Napa Valley or the South of France."

Friedman and his design team also sourced one very special piece for the roof that all of the city will enjoy. "About a month before we were due to open, I was on a trip with the product and design teams to the Maison & Objet show in Paris," says Friedman. "In our travels, we found this amazing reproduction of *Winged Victory of Samothrace*, and it felt so right for the City of Angels. This piece was more than decoration; it had a real relevance. We decided that this statue could be an angel for our rooftop that could look down over LA." LAC