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SPRING HOME DESIGN

PHOTO: MICHAEL BAUER'S SIX RESTAURANTS TO GET YOUR CHEESE FIX

Gary Hutton

Gary Hutton started as a sculptor. But that didn't necessarily pay the bills. So the artist gravitated toward interior decorating, making a name designing Today's, a little restaurant on Stockton Street that had become popular with hotshots in the retail world. As business grew, Hutton began creating pieces for discriminating clients.

In 1986, he launched a furniture line. His signature piece, the Ciao table (right, \$6,750, pictured with the Lafayette chair), has been imitated and replicated by other designers for a smaller price tag. Hutton says many of his pieces were inspired by clients and their needs. The Lafayette chair, which retails for about \$12,675, not including fabric, was originally done for a Lafayette couple who had changed their decor from traditional to more modern. Hutton says the piece is a contemporary take on the wing chair.



Philosophy: "These are pieces for life," says Hutton of the workmanship that goes into his furniture. "These are the kinds of things that can be covered over and over."

Details: Shown at Studio Workshops, 411 Vermont St., San Francisco. (415) 864-0212. garyhuttondesign.com. He sells to the trade.

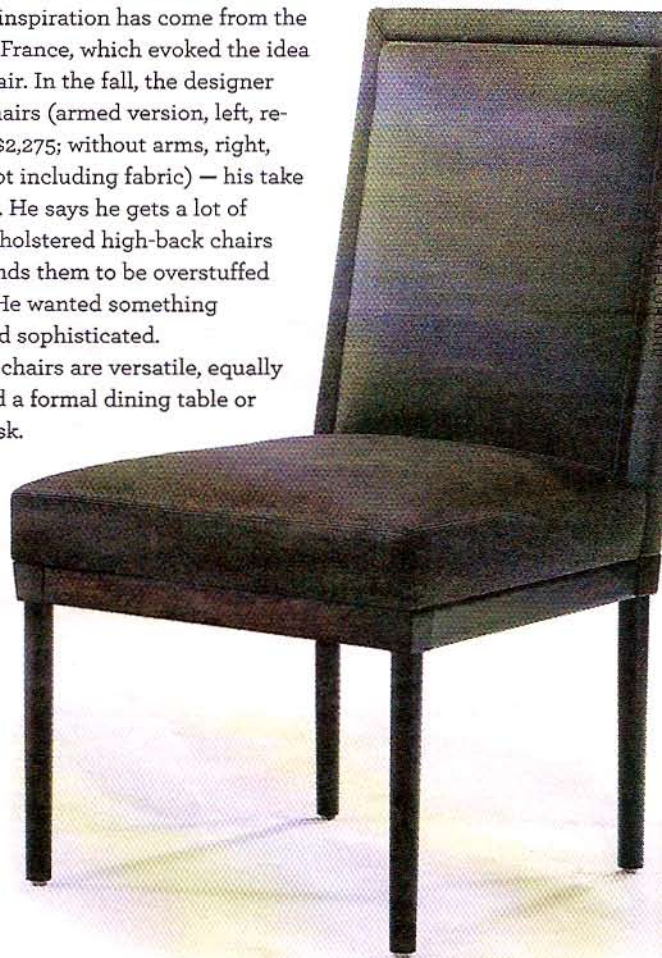


Jiun Ho

San Francisco designer Jiun Ho launched his furniture line in 2000, and it now includes 100 pieces. He says he's "all about style rather than fashion, all about relaxed living rather than studied formality." Travel, he says, is his first source of inspiration.

Lately, that inspiration has come from the Loire Valley in France, which evoked the idea for his Usse chair. In the fall, the designer unveiled the chairs (armed version, left, retails for about \$2,275; without arms, right, about \$2,191, not including fabric) — his take on a Louis XVI. He says he gets a lot of requests for upholstered high-back chairs but typically finds them to be overstuffed and too fussy. He wanted something streamlined and sophisticated.

He says the chairs are versatile, equally at home around a formal dining table or in front of a desk.



Aesthetic: "I like to design pieces that are timeless and classic, furniture that can fit in either a traditional or modern home."

Details: Shown at Sloan Miyasato, 2 Henry Adams St., Suite 207, San Francisco. (415) 431-1465. jiunho.com. He sells to the trade.