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THE GRAND TOUR

A 614-Square-Foot Paris Apartment Doubles as a Space to Explore Design

Gallery owners turned a pied-à-terre into part ideas incubator and part creative laboratory

By Nicolas Milon, Photography by Adrien Dirand

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“We have been dividing our time between Paris and the country for several years, and we realized that we needed a pied-à-terre here, especially after the pandemic. We were looking for something not far from the flea market that felt decidedly Parisian. Then we found this 614-square-foot space near Avenue Junot, in the 18th arrondissement,” says Jérémy Pradier, copartner with Aurélien Jauneau of the Pradier-Jauneau gallery, which is about to open at a new location on Paris’s Rue de Verneuil.

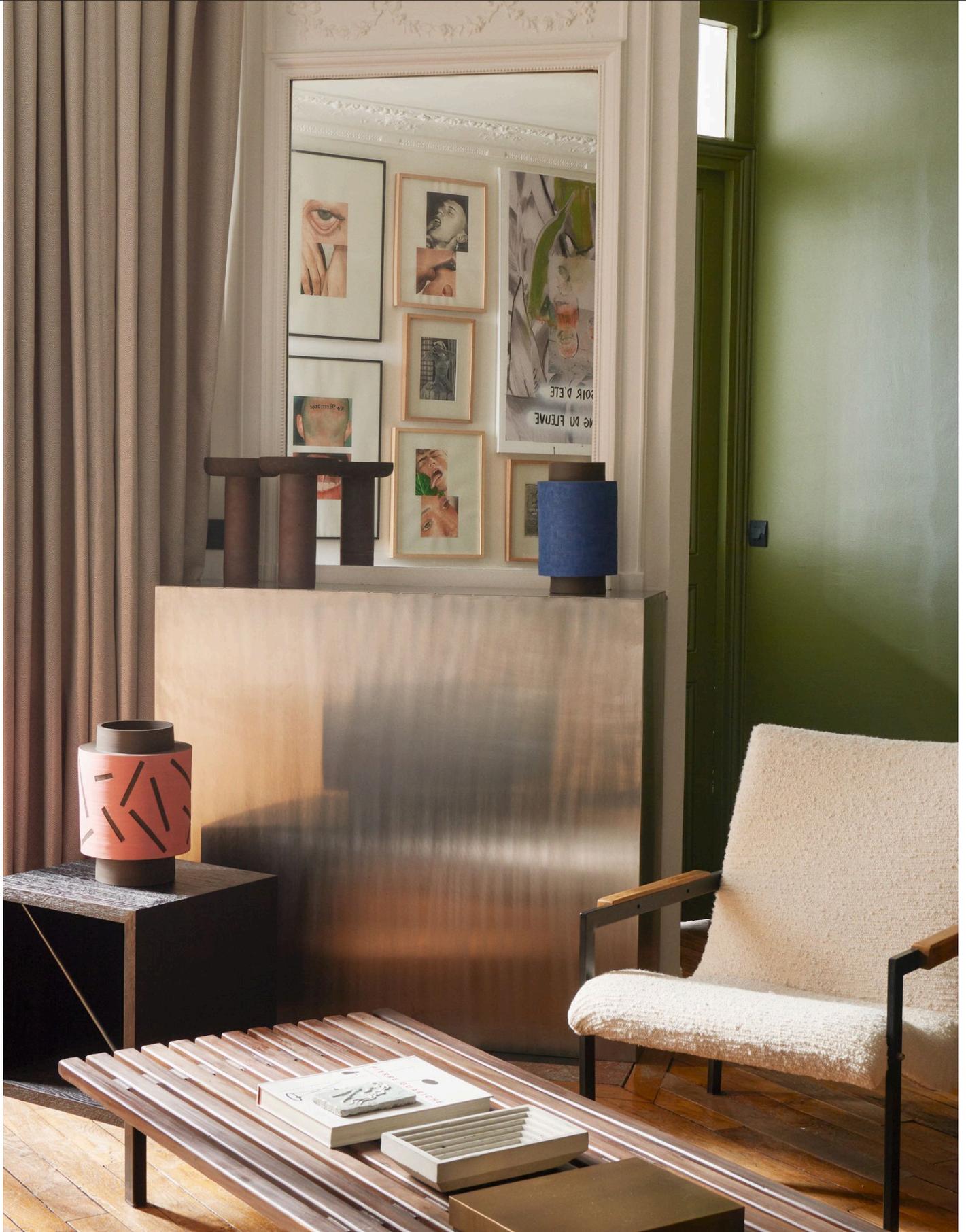
When Jérémy and Aurélien took possession of their Parisian apartment, it was in need of a refresh. While there was no major structural work to be done, it did require some touch ups. The duo decided to do it all themselves. “We’re really lucky in that our job requires us to visit customers in their homes. By answering questions like ‘Where do you think it should go?’ and ‘Would it look better here?’ we learned a lot about decorating.” The two gallery owners decided to recreate the moldings, reclad the metal mantelpiece to make a console, and created a common theme to the home in the form of a large wall, painted green, that runs along one side of the apartment beginning at the entryway. It serves to both organize the circulation of the space and add color.



In front of a [Kom daybed by Isabelle Stanislas](#) (Pradier-Jeuneau Éditions) upholstered in Pierre Frey fabric and a Kom stool (also Pradier-Jeuneau Éditions), a [Miferma coffee table by Charlotte Perriand](#) (Galerie Pradier-Jeuneau). Atop the table, a sculpture of Kamalu Hai, a snake that is important in the cosmology of Brazil's Waujá people, painted with natural pigments (Galerie Brazil Modernist). In front of it, a [Trèfle stool by Marcel Gascoïn](#). On the wall, a group of works by Léo Dorfner, 2018-2023 (Galerie Claire Gastaud). Adrien Dirand

Naturally, the apartment quickly became a place to store and try out the gallerists' finds, a habit the couple developed when they first started their business and which they now continue with their boutique. "Before working with a new artist, we hang their work on a wall and we live with it. When we don't have room for a piece of furniture at the shop on Paul Bert, like Isabelle Stanislas's new daybed, we bring it home. So, for us, it's a kind of blank page that gives rise to the eclectic approach that has become our identity over the years." The couple develops a real intimacy with their works: Their furniture and objects are always things that they love and that embody their different likes. There are also old magazines and Aurélien's archives as a historian of design. Works by artists who drop by to show what they are working on fill the apartment as well. This home also has a certain sense of maturity. "It comes at a new time in our lives. We know where we want to go, we know what we're going to do next, so it's a place that allows us to explore. It's more thought-out or maybe more thought-through in terms of colors."

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A Haussmann-era mantelpiece has been clad in metal and transformed into a console. Atop it, ceramics from [Nestor Perkal's](#) Volcano collection. In front, a Kom stool by Isabelle Stanislas (from the Pradier-Jeauneau Éditions collection), a [Las Vegas armchair](#) by [Pierre Guariche](#) and a Miferma table by Charlotte Perriand (from the Galerie Pradier-Jeauneau collection). On top of the table, a Kom jewelry box, in patinated brass and blackened wood, by Isabelle Stanislas (from the Pradier-Jeauneau Éditions collection). Adrien Dirand

An old corner mantelpiece has been entirely clad in metal, an expression of these gallerists's aesthetic visions. They are passionate about Charlotte Perriand and Pierre Guariche but also Haussmannian at heart. It's a contemporary twist on a historic object, a move they are both fond of. It is a theme found throughout the entire apartment, where the expanses of white walls are broken up by a surprising hue of green that is another common theme. "We were looking for color, even though, paradoxically, we're often not really into color. Most of the designers we work with come to it from drawing: Isabelle Stanislas, Axel Chay, and Anthony Guerrée have extremely precise lines, and in the apartment it's the same. We like the journey in drawing, the angles and confrontations."

With this mantelpiece, the couple also play on bourgeois codes. It's another approach that they love, the better to challenge vintage pieces with colder, more radical interventions. Elsewhere the pieces they collect and manage to preserve, "despite many customer requests for them," include a work by [Benoît Géhanne](#) in the entrance, hanging next to a sculpture by [Soah Kim](#), as well as pieces such as the prototype for the Kom daybed by Isabelle Stanislas.



Placed around a table by [Georges Robert](#), chairs by [Jean-Louis Bonnant](#) (all from Galerie Pradier-Jeauneau). On the walls, *Retenue #16*, oil on aluminum by Benoît Gehanne, 2019, and a series of five porcelain sculptures by Soah Kim, 2023 (all Galerie Pradier-Jeauneau). On the table, a Volcano fruit bowl by Nestor Perkal (Pradier-Jeauneau Éditions). Adrien Dirand

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Conceived as a space of exploration for their gallery, the apartment is a laboratory where the gallerists refine their aesthetics with a wealth of books and research. “The decor reflects this, a joyful bazaar with confrontations between the old and the contemporary; prototypes, things not completely finished, it’s all always in motion.” There’s another green, this time in the bedroom. The combination of the two, a strong green with hints of khaki—a shade “which is a bit of an obsession of ours”—and a softer sage green in the bedroom is one of the defining features of the apartment. The colors provide a wonderful backdrop for furniture like a bed by [René Gabriel](#) next to a secretary by [Pascal Mourgue](#). It also brings a bit of nature into this apartment on the slopes of Montmartre. The duo discovered a Paris they knew little about, and made it their haven with nature omnipresent, reflecting this neighborhood that is at once very Parisian and entirely unique. “Back in Paris after lockdowns, we needed to breathe, so we chose these colors that provide a link with nature.”



This apartment tour was first published by AD France. It was translated by John Newton.





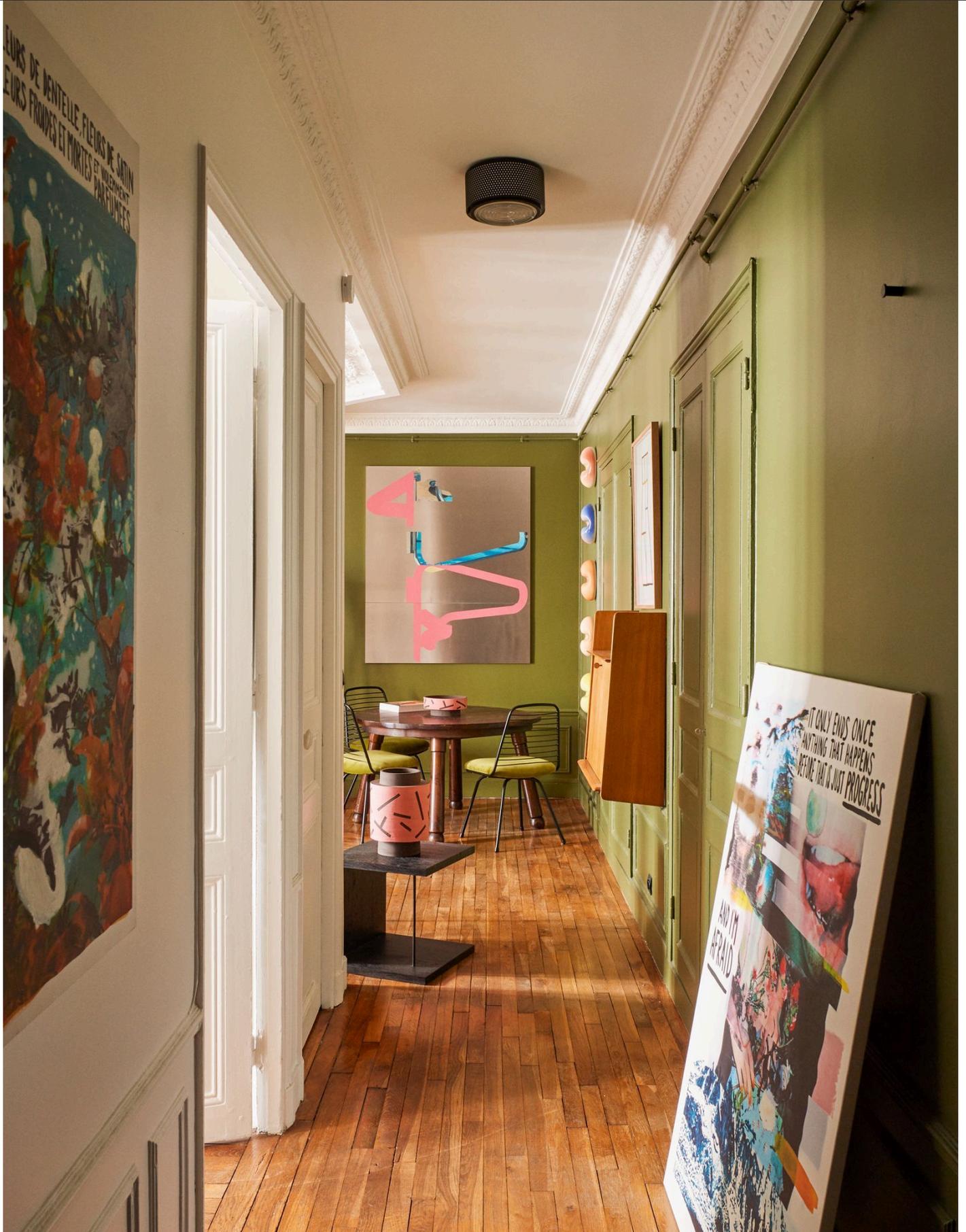
Hanging on the large green wall that runs along one side of the apartment, a work on paper *Refuges*, by Guillaume Delvigne, 2023 (Pradier-Jeuneau Éditions) and an oak wall secretary by [Marcel Gascoïn](#) (Galerie Pradier-Jeuneau). In front, a unique concrete floor lamp by [Paul Perpère](#) (Pradier-Jeuneau Éditions) and a [Mrs. Frick chair](#) by [Philippe Starck](#) (Galerie Pradier-Jeuneau). Adrien Dirand





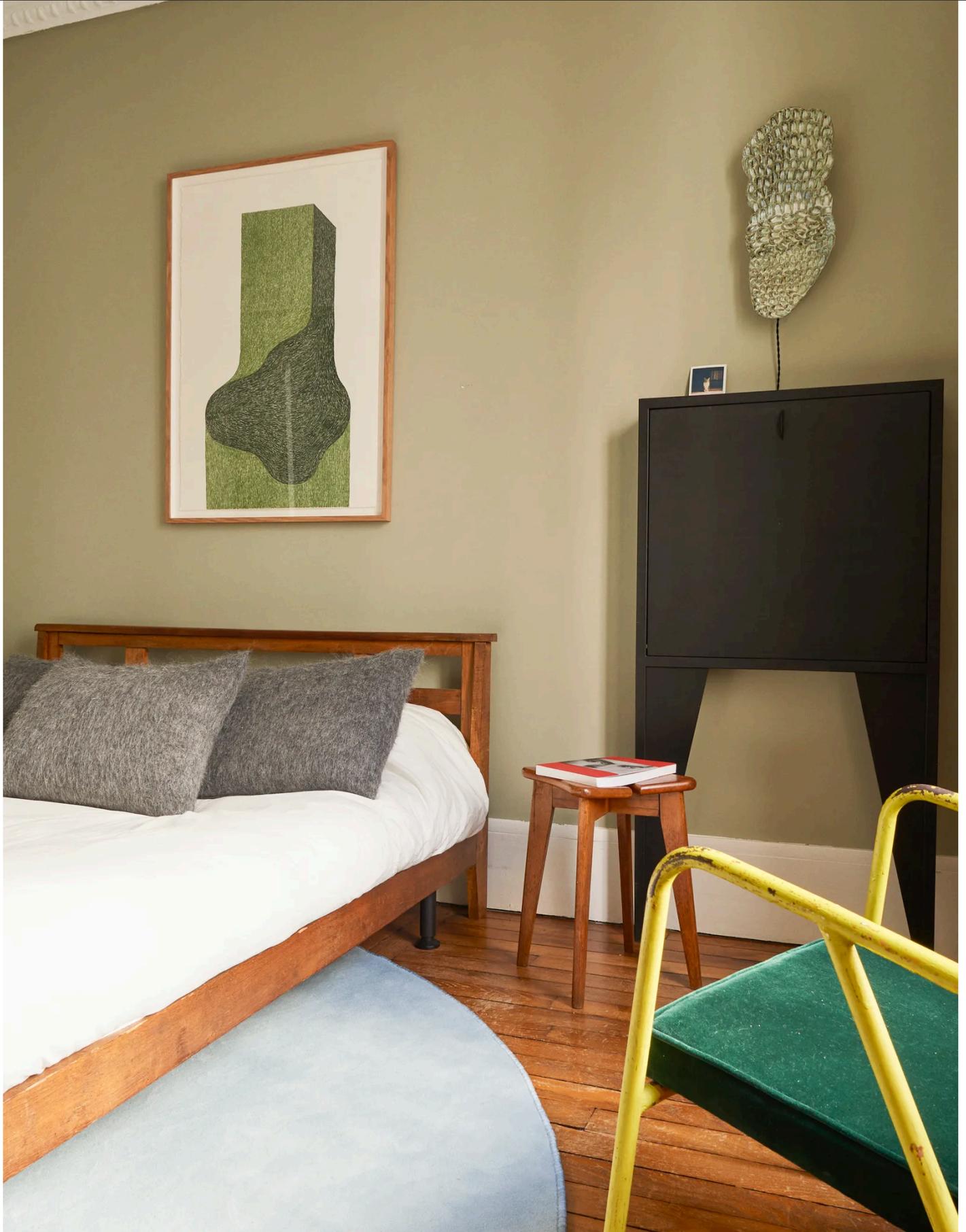
Gallery owners and publishers Jérémy Pradier and Aurélien Jauneau renovated the apartment on their own, recreating a spectacular play of cornices where they had been damaged. The contrast of green and white is a reminder of the natural beauty of Montmartre. On the left, a Kom stool by Isabelle Stanislas (Pradier-Jauneau Éditions) and, in the background, a Les Rivières floor lamp in chestnut and porcelain by Nestor Perkal (Galerie Pradier-Jauneau). Adrien Dirand

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Beginning at the entrance to the apartment, the gallery owners have painted a wall green with hints of khaki along one side of the apartment, like a thread to guide visitors to the home. Two works by Léo Dorfner, 2018-2023 (Galerie Claire Gastaud), face each other, one hanging and the other resting on the wall. Adrien Dirand



The bedroom is in a different, lighter shade of green. Next to an oak bed by [René Gabriel](#), a Trèfle stool by Marcel Gascoin and a [Face à Face secretary](#) by [Pascal Mourgue](#) (both from Galerie Pradier-Jeauneau). On the wall, *Refuges*, a work on paper by Guillaume Delvigne, (Pradier Jeauneau Éditions) and a ceramic wall lamp by Geraldine Cornette de Saint Cyr. In the foreground, a metal armchair by [Raphael Raffel](#) designed for the Cité Universitaire d'Antony. Adrien Dirand



To the left of the bed, on a Kom stool by Isabelle Stanislas, a vase by Nestor Perkal (both Pradier-Jeuneau Éditions). The different colors—black, light wood and dark wood, the royal-blue vase and the sky-blue carpet—found in the furniture and other objects pair well with the sage green walls and the off-white ceiling. Bed linens (Merci). Adrien Dirand

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