



# AMERICAN ORIGINALS

CREATIVE INTERIORS

# WILLIAM ABRANOWICZ

FOREWORD BY JOHN DERIAN



## Cliff Fong

Interior designer Cliff Fong is a quiet man, but within the homes he creates, his voice resonates deeply. In his own apartment in the Koreatown section of Los Angeles, however, it is his dogs who provide the soundtrack. Two Great Danes, Buck and Magpie, and a pug, Monkey, vie for attention, sprinting through the rooms, barking, sliding, surfing on carpets, all in raucous expression of joy and companionship.

I met Cliff while photographing the homes of his friends and collaborators, Ellen DeGeneres and Portia de Rossi. I'd seen a balance of rustic and modern before, but in Cliff's hands, it felt revelatory. Applying classical European furniture to

the vernacular of wabi-sabi, Cliff ties it all together with the hand of a quintessential California modernist.

His palette tends toward calming tones that range from middle gray to deep blue to clean, warm white. He layers minimally, keeping a low center of gravity, allowing the pedigrees of carefully curated pieces to stand on their own. Objects possessing no known provenance or high price mingle with the modernist forms of Prouvé, Perriand, Royère, Adnet, Knoll, and Wegner. In this dialogue, his command of the language of space is self-evident, but the dogs get the last word. Jumping or lying upon every piece of furniture, they demonstrate the simple utility and comfort of Cliff's design.













