Color Clicks

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ROBERT KUO'S CURATED EXHIBITION-303 Spring Street-open until November 21, 2016: Robert Kuo, JF Chen, Blackman Cruz, Dana John

When raw wood, rock crystal, brass, and alabaster share the same space in the depth of the human imagination a phenomenal collaboration occurs. The designers share a sense of bringing out the essence of the materials. It is as if each piece was meant to be. A rock crystal lamp emerges; you have the feeling that the materials have found their purpose. Human creativity looks within the materials to express their essential form and color. The colors are earthen.

The workmanship is exquisite and meticulous. The hand of each artisan is subtle and delicate. The tools of each artisan are withdrawn from the consciousness of the human eye, leaving materials and design in a constant conversation. Vignettes are created from multiple galleries.

Carved alabaster sits on brushed brass, creating a poetry of softness for the eye. A raw walnut bombe chest has the sinuous curves of waves. a Chinese rock crystal lamp appears to have snowflakes swirling within it. A brass coffee bench and Ghen Diao He root lotus leaf sculpture create a symphony of soft browns. A white and brown crackle ceramic totem looks like it emerged from the earth. A wall sculpture creates a marriage of ideas and textures with it's root-like form. The Xiu lamp is created with nephrite jade.

"Studio production pieces, art, and some found items lend balance to the overall presentation," says Robert Kuo. The four prominent Los Angeles galleries come together in Robert Kuo's New York gallery to bring us a taste of their impeccable design vocabulary.

As Karen Kuo says, "there is so much creativity in both LA's functional design and studio pieces. These galleries are not part of the social scene, but come together out of mutual respect for each other." It is, she says, a marriage of aesthetics. Blackman Cruz brings the edginess. Robert Kuo creates pieces and collects antiques (paintings and wine jars are shown); he looks at the aesthetics of pieces for compatibility."

