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DESIGN

How to Make Space-Chic Décor the Star of Your Home

Celestial-inspired interior design that is galaxies away from 'Star Wars' is emerging as a k spring theme

By **JANELLE ZARA**

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THE FINAL FRONTIER is proving inspirational of late. In fashion, it's taken the form of constellation-embroidered, literally star-studded pre-fall dresses from Valentino, and Yoda-bedecked outfits from Rodarte. But the space obsession has expanded into interiors as well, bringing intergalactic imagery into the comforts of home.

Don't assume it's only for aspiring Neil Armstrongs. "It isn't about being an astronaut," said Jackie Jordan, director of color marketing at Sherwin Williams, who last year presciently projected space motifs as a major trend for 2015. "Interior designers are inspired by the products that represent this odyssey into space. Colors are celestial, so lots of blacks, dark blue, purple, amber, starry white—more-cosmic tones reminiscent of the Aurora Borealis."

You can find such hues—saturated and dotted with stars—on German designer Jan Kath's latest silk-and-wool rug collection, Spacecrafted, which was hand-knotted in Kathmandu and translates photorealistic images taken by the Hubble Telescope into something on which cats and children can caper.

But, like the Force, such a statement piece needs to be handled with restraint. "The rugs need space," advised Mr. Kath (pun not intentional), stressing the importance of striking a balance with the rest of your décor. "The furniture should be reduced, modern. Metals like gold and silver look great, and you can work with all the colors you find in the rugs."

Which broaches an important question: How do you keep from crossing the line



From top: Wouter Hoste Essential Surface Lamp, $4,800, Galerie Patrick Fourtin, +33-1-4260-1263; Made in Ratio Supernova Table by Brodie Neill, $1,800, Made in Ratio, +44-20-7247-3414; Bottega Armchair by Renzo Fauciglietti and Graziella Bianchi, $1,250 each, dwr.com; Space 3 Rug from Spacecrafted Collection, $266 per square foot, Jan Kath Design, 646-745-2555 *PHOTO: DANNY KIM FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, PROP STYLING BY JARED LAWTON PRODUCTION DESIGN*

between well-appointed celestial décor and sci-fi convention territory?

"Subtlety is important when designing a [room] surrounding a theme," said Angie Myung, the creative director for housewares boutique Poketo. The Los Angeles shop carries accessories such as Japanese designer Oji Masanori's solid-brass Sun, Moon and Star trivets, as well as ceramic planters embellished with the phases of the moon, by Brooklyn studio Small Spells. "We love bringing the outdoors indoors," continued Ms. Myung. "A great way to do that is through celestial-themed objects." Similarly subdued tabletop wares such as Bernardaud's star-shaped and lunar terrain-printed porcelain, a collaboration with Marina Abramovic, work in nearly any setting.

Taking our cue from flirty birds and ardent bees, we've rounded up fifty things—from artichoke recipes to lawn games—to capture your fancy this season.

Even space-inspired wallpaper can be applied with a measured touch. This spring, Brooklyn studio Calico, which has incorporated sky-related themes for previous wallpaper collections, collaborated with Amsterdam designers BCXSY to create gold and silver abstract patterns based on NASA photography. "Stepping into a room wrapped in these patterns is like entering your own private jewel box," said Calico co-founder Nick Cope. It's also very on trend, said Ms. Jordan: "Iridescent and metallic finishes are key."

For those who still want to go boldly, the Supernova Table designed by London studio Made in Ratio is named after the spiky aluminum trestle below the glass tabletop. "It is very delicate and sculptural but very modern and minimalist," said Brooklyn architect and interior designer Jennifer Leone, who used it in a recent project. "It's a cool statement piece but subtle enough to work with a bold design, so long as it has enough room to breathe." That's a universal truth, no matter what planet you're on.

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