

PTD Journal | Spring 2022

At PTD, our work as designers often falls within the realm of the sensual and tactile. We're constantly thinking about the physical qualities of our design, from the overall sense of a space to the fabric and firmness of a cushion. This is our OBJECT ISSUE, in which we celebrate objects that inspire us, as well as the smallest details with the biggest impact.



THE MANY LAYERS OF PTD

It's often said that clothes make the man, but at PTD we like to say that art makes the space. Our layered selections and styling approach are the final touches to a space, but never an afterthought. Adding texture, paintings, books, plants and objects give our spaces a human element and create a meaningful narrative.



PATRICK ON HIS TOTEMIC OBJECTS

People tell me that stepping into my office is like entering a curiosity shop or a well-curated museum. Hand-carved wooden tools might appear decorative at first glance, but are treasured family heirlooms that remind me of my experience as a craftsperson and connect me to my roots. My father used to carve his own tools when he couldn't find the right implement for a project and I love the idea of someone carving a tool so that they can then create something wholly original and true to their vision. There is something about the hand and scale of these wood tools that make them feel like a true extension of the human body and a testament to the craftsperson's innovative spirit. This sort of meaningful object with a rich story informs my personal aesthetic and the aesthetic of PTD.

SPECIAL ATTENTION | NO DETAIL TOO SMALL



We give the details of each project as much attention as the overarching concept. For our [Pleasant Ridge Gainsboro Park Pavilion](#) project, we worked with Detroit-based metalsmiths [Smith Shop](#), who custom-made beautiful wall panels, fireplace screens and a lock and key set. Blending seamlessly into the mid-century aesthetic, these pieces are also art objects that have their own distinct story to tell.



FIBER FIELD TRIP | AN INCREDIBLE CRANBROOK EXHIBITION

Colombian artist and Cranbrook alum, [Olga de Amaral](#)'s influential fiber art is celebrated in a retrospective at [Cranbrook Art Museum](#). Amaral's masterful use of experimental weaving techniques and non-traditional materials result in dynamic pieces that are a hybrid of art, craft and design. Throughout her five decade career her work has transitioned from functional pieces to narrative-laden sculptural objects that are at once deeply personal yet highly evocative and communicative. Experience Amaral's work at Cranbrook's Upper Galleries through March 27.

OFFICE ICON | OUR LOVE AFFAIR WITH THE GIRARD CHECK



[Alexander Girard](#)'s work is as startlingly modern now as it was when it first appeared over 50 years ago. His iconic [check pattern](#) -- originally created in 1956 for a Georg Jensen table setting and subsequently used in his 1960 design for La Fonda del Sol-- is a primary example of his significant group concept, in which "each individual piece is enhanced by its relation to the group." Taking inspiration from Girard's deceptively simple check pattern, we had Patrick's favorite FLOR product, [House Pet](#), installed, so we can appreciate the special genius of Girard everyday - special thanks to our [Interface](#) rep extraordinaire, Cara Bogsian.

Follow PTD on Spotify and take a listen to our inaugural seasonal [playlist](#)!

Learn more about Patrick Thompson Design



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