

PAPER CITY

DALLAS | SEPTEMBER 2019

BrUtally HoNeSt.



\$6.95US



0 74470 29712 3

Louise Gaskill's
Julia chandelier



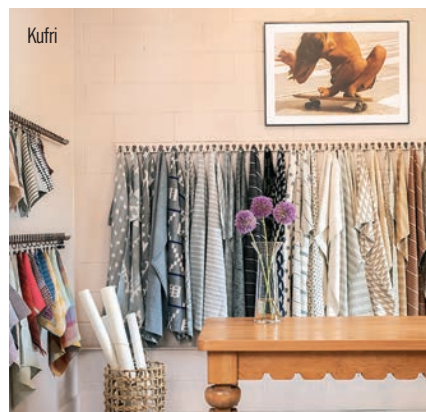
RAISING A GLASS

What started 20 years ago as a hobby for **Louise Gaskill** has grown into a thriving business, with clients across the country. The Raleigh, North Carolina designer scours the world for beautiful antiques with mid-century glass, mostly Murano, then fashions them into one-of-a-kind lamps, chandeliers, and sconces, much as a jeweler designs a setting to enhance a gemstone. “I don’t know that anyone else does what I do,” she says. While designing custom lighting for a client’s home in Chapel Hill, she recently forayed into drapery hardware. “At first I was going to design finials and then migrated to doing the rods, doing the brackets, doing the rings, doing everything,” she says. Now she has an entire collection of

drapery hardware, all of which is made in Raleigh, from hand-applied gilt finishes to hand-tooled brackets and endcaps. “It truly is a made-in-the-U.S.A. product line. Except for the glass, of course,” she says. In addition to Venetian and German glass, she loves finding antique jewel-toned treasures from Blenko Glass Company of West Virginia. Her elegant contemporary designs have caught the eye of nationally recognized designers at High Point, including Dallas’ **Laura Lee Clark**, who has added a selection of Gaskill’s lighting and drapery hardware to her Dallas Design District showroom. “I’m thrilled to be in a showroom in Texas,” Gaskill says. “It’s a whole new arena for me.” *Louise Gaskill at Laura Lee Clark, 1515 Slocum St., lauraleeclark.com.* Lisa Collins Shaddock

WHAT LOOMS AHEAD

Six years ago, **Mili Suleman** traveled back to India, the country where she was born, in search of a creative challenge — something that would stretch her beyond what she had accomplished as a graphic designer. She found it. “There was something about the weaving,” she says. “It spoke to me.” Fascinated by the artistry, craft-based history, and tactile nature of creating cloth out of thread, Suleman immersed herself in the world of textiles. She brought her knowledge back to Dallas and launched **Kufri**, a line of sustainably woven textiles that are now sought by designers and clients coast to coast. While the line has been based in Dallas since its founding, Suleman opened her first Dallas Design District showroom this summer, and it’s already become a favorite haunt of local designers including Jean Liu,



Chad Dorsey, and Michelle Nussbaumer. The space houses swaths of hand-woven fabrics; new collections of wallpapers, ceramics, and hand-carved wooden tables; and a studio, where Suleman and in-house weaver **Casey Johnson** create prototypes before they’re produced by hand in India. *To the trade at Kufri, 1152 Mississippi Ave., kufrilifefabrics.com.* Lisa Collins Shaddock

FRANCOPHILE BY DESIGN



Colorful leather and brass side tables designed by Avrea Wagner



Ashley Avrea Cathey and Mary Beth Wagner

A 1940s French side table — a flea-market discovery — inspired Dallas-based **Avrea Wagner’s** debut collection of furniture. Designers **Ashley Avrea Cathey** and **Mary Beth Wagner** have put an updated spin on vintage ideas, with stylish tables made in bright leathers, un-lacquered brass, and polished nickel. The collection includes side, coffee, and martini tables, along with two fire screens in brass and glass — all made entirely by hand in Texas. *Avrea Wagner collection, \$1,600 to \$6,840, at avreawagner.com.* Rebecca Sherman