

**INSPIRATION**

# Status Update

For centuries, people have aspired to the trappings of the good life. "Paris: Life & Luxury," a new exhibition at the Getty Center in Los Angeles (April 26 to August 7), demonstrates that in the French capital of the 18th century the symbols of status were ornate and gilded. In the Manhattan of today, they tend to be sleek and silvery. But the impulse behind the acquisitions never changes—the desire to impress with the best.



Boucher's Lady Fastening Her Garter, 1742.

## 18<sup>th</sup>-Century Paris

## 21<sup>st</sup>-Century New York



Koons's Michael Jackson and Bubbles, 1988.

**BRAVURA ARTIST**

François Boucher  
Jean-Honoré Fragonard

Jeff Koons  
Damien Hirst

**UNDERSTATED ARTIST**

Jean-Siméon Chardin  
Antoine Watteau

Brice Marden  
Jasper Johns

**BLUE-CHIP ARCHITECT**

Jacques-François Blondel  
Claude-Nicolas Ledoux

Robert A.M. Stern  
Jean Nouvel

**STYLISH COOLING METHOD**

painting paper fan  
Dyson fan

**EXOTIC DESTINATIONS**

Rome and Venice  
Bali and Venice

**CHAMPAGNE OF CHOICE**

Moët & Chandon  
Krug

**IDEAL DINNER PARTY GUEST**

Voltaire  
James Franco

**HOME ENTERTAINMENT**

harpsichord  
string quartets

iPod  
Bang & Olufsen stereo

**DECORATIVE FLOURISHES**

gilded mirror  
Hervé Van der Straeten mirror

**TIMEPIECES**

ornate wall clock  
Cartier Tank watch

**INTERIOR DECORATOR**

Juste-Aurèle Meissonnier  
Pierre Contant d'Ivry

Michael S. Smith  
Steven Gambrel

**DIVERTISSEMENTS**

porcelain game set  
Scrabble on the iPad

**MODE OF CAFFEINE DELIVERY**

Sèvres tea set  
La Pavoni espresso maker

**CLEANING AID**

scullery maid  
Roomba

**BEDROOM ESSENTIALS**

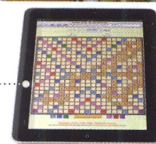
damask bed hangings  
Savoir and Hästens mattresses



Stern's 15 Central Park West.



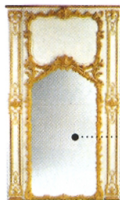
A Michael S. Smith living room.



Savoir mattress.



Harpsichord, 1754.



Mirror frame, 1751-53.

Gilded bracket clock, 1758.



Box set of gaming pieces, 1735-40.



Bed hangings, c. 1690-1715.