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SWARMS OF SNAILS, AN OBSESSIVE'S DRAWINGS, A PUPPETEER GONE MAD TURNS LANDSCAPE PAINTER, A MYSTERIOUS LADY IN A BLUE DRESS, HOOFED TABLES AND WHAT'S UP WITH CALATRAVA — JUST A FEW OF THE TOPICS SPROUTING AMIDST SPRING'S DESIGN + ART SCENE. HERE'S THE INSIDE TRACK.

THIS IS THE

HOUSE that Rob Built

The fourth floor of Nelman Marcus Downtown is priming for an invasion. Come Thursday, March 22, Rob Dailey (of Robert William Dailey Design and Decoration) will storm the Gift Galleries, armet

and Decoration) will storm the Gift Galleries, armed with his type of ammunition: hue-soaked pillows, rugs, artwork, upholstered furnishings and table decor. Upon request of keen NM Downtown general manager Shelle Sills, Dailey is curating a pop-up home shop under the moniker Fashion House — filled with NM staples, such as Reynaud and Michael Aram, mixed amongst pieces Dailey has brought in from the outside world. "Customers can view tabletop china and glassware in a most unexpected way," says Dailey of the fantasy installation wherein high-price and affordably priced merch blends with ease. Along with his own furniture designs, look for pieces from David Sutherland Showroom, lamps and accessories from George Sellers, rugs from Paul Smith, cushions from Vivien Westwood and Alexander McQueen, and photography from Alex Remington. How much time does one have to discover Dailey's magical mix? He is warning all to stop in early because: "It's temporary so you never know when it might pop out!" *Brooke Hortenstine*









John Dickinson REDUX

For everyone who covets the late designer John Dickinson's iconic plaster furnishings but has yet to snag the rare piece at auction, we have good news. David Sutherland, the gentleman who first represented the California designer in Texas, has acquired the rights from Dickinson's estate to reproduce some of his most important pieces in a limited series. Starting with 12 and adding two more designs next summer, Sutherland is producing the small and medium African tables, the Footed table and the Hoofed table — which are recognizable by their paw and hoof feet - as well as the table with Rope Tie, the naturalist Tree Stump pedestal and the Twig lamp and mirrors. Dickinson's whiteplaster tables, lamps and even beds, many produced in the '70s, were quite fragile, but thanks to technical innovations, the Sutherland John Dickinson Collection will be reproduced with a lightweight glass-fiber-reinforced concrete that can withstand moisture, freezing conditions and rust, so most can be used outdoors as well. To the trade at David Sutherland Showrooms. Laurann Claridge



Snail Story

Frick Swessor's studio with Schrimetri in process, 2011

Morror on the Alled with Frick Swenzen, What

We're enthralled with Erick Swenson. What nerve, what talent. The Whitney Biennial– exhibited, Saatchi Collection sculptor, who lives in our own midst (we even once made his Wild

West Halloween party), has been tapped for a site-specific creation for the Nasher Sculpture Center's Lower Level Gallery. Kudos to director Jeremy Strick for branching out from the greatest hits of modern sculpture and choosing someone with Texas chops (April 14 – July 8). Catherine D. Anspon

Meadows Meets Its Man



the moment, it's Santiago Calatrava. The Spanish architect jets into town the first weekend of the month for the debut of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge — the massive civic project of Calatrava's design spanning the Trinity River. There are bridgeopening parties galore (most notably those held atop the MHH March 2, 3 and 4 and benefitting The Trinity Trust), but the monument's inauguration has also stirred several art happenings, particularly one at the Meadows Museum at Southern Methodist University

The exhibit premiere of Calatrava and SMU: A Decade in Motion coincides with the MHH-opening weekend on Sunday, March 4, and spotlights a rarified peek at Calatrava's sculptural oeuvre. A highly curated collection of the architects work will go on view — from a watercolor-and-graphite sketch of his famous Wave sculpture to several abstract works in marble, granite and brass, and even personal correspondences, inscriptions and mementos. Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Bhd., 214.768.2516; meadows museumdallas.org; Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge Celebration Party information, 214.740.1616; mhhbridgecelebration.com. Christina Geyer



Van Gogh Goes to FASHION WEEK

With their Spring 2012
Collection, the Rodarte sisters win our vote for most artful fashion house. It all began with their first volume — an original, limited-edition nuanced collaboration with art-house photographers
Catherine Opie and Alec Soth (JRP/Ringier, September 2011, \$80, area booksellers).
Now their latest collection

offers homage to Vincent Van Gogh, from evening gowns to little frocks emblazoned with details from the Impressionist's oeuvre, including The Starry Night and Sunflowers. Now we know what we're wearing to the Dallas Art Fair Preview Gala. Price upon request, through Barneys New York. Catherine D. Anspon