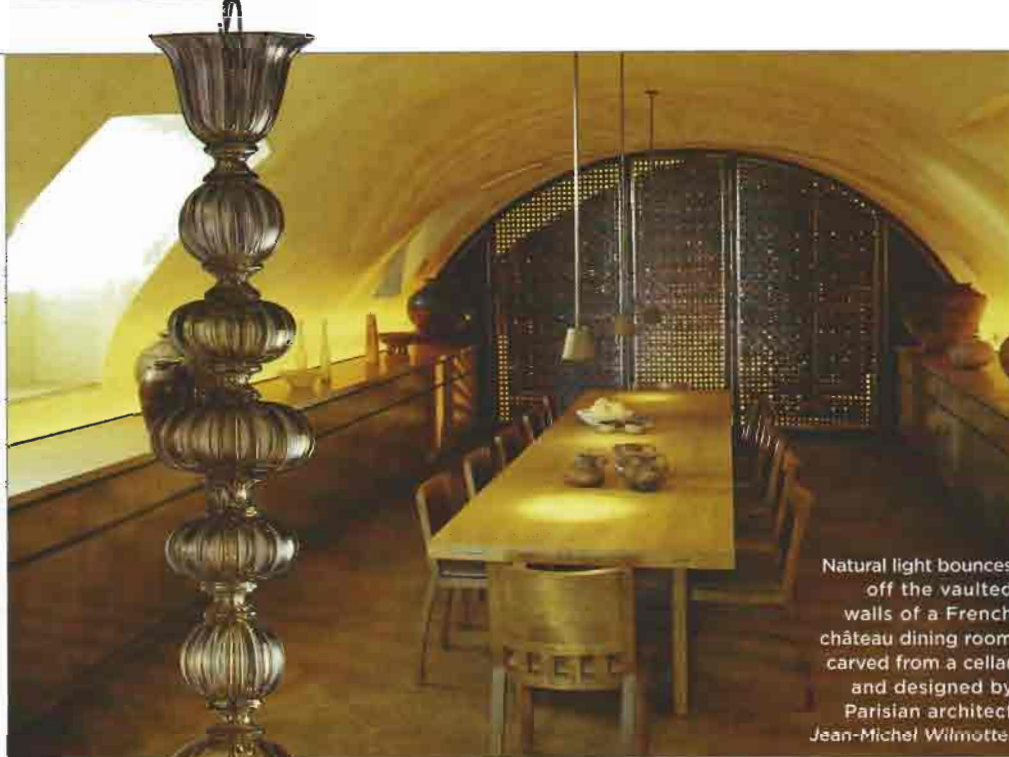




Designer Lulu de Kwiatkowski's first furniture collection, for Elite Leather, includes the winsome *Oliver* stool. Its seat is leather; the base is powder-coated steel (26" h x 15" w; \$800).



Natural light bounces off the vaulted walls of a French chateau dining room carved from a cellar and designed by Parisian architect Jean-Michel Wilmotte.



Venini's *Doge* chandelier, an ornate but timeless design, is constructed of mouthblown glass with gold-plated hardware (47 1/4" h x 19 3/4" d; \$4,520).

The classic *Cartoccio* vase from Fontana Arte, designed by Pietro Chiesa in 1932, still looks fresh in frosted yellow glass (11 3/4" h; \$760). It sits atop artist Sasha Sykes's wheat-straw-filled acrylic cube, a witty deconstruction of a bale—and one that keeps the farwyrd at a tongue-in-cheek distance (16" l x 16" w x 20" h; \$950). ☎

**YOLO Colorhouse**  
Grain 01

This new company's paints are produced according to Green Seal standards and contain no industrial solvents (about \$36/gallon).

**Prairie Paints**  
Wheat

The Sundance catalog's new paint line is blended entirely from recycled paints (\$25/gallon).



Who Knew?

**1** Hay and straw are not synonymous. Hay is cut grass, clover or alfalfa (all of which are green before drying) used to feed animals. Straw is any dried grain stem and is used primarily for bedding in animal stalls.

**2** For centuries artists and poets have commended the flattering effect of candlelight. In the age of electricity, that romantic glow can be replicated with paints in the straw palette (think honey, pale gold, soft ochre).

**3** Why is a delicious red fruit called a strawberry? Some say it is because in the summer sun, the runners of the wild plant become dry and yellow like straw.

“Straw is optimistic without being too warm and looks amazing when paired with dusty purples. It complements nearly all wood finishes.”  
—Laura Kirar, designer

See Resources, last pages