

MODERN

MAGAZINE

DESIGN DECORATIVE ARTS ARCHITECTURE



▲ ROYÈRE'S RESILIENCE

"While I'd never claim to be a design historian in the academic sense, I have always considered Jean Royère a seminal figure in the continuum of French design. Like Émile-Jacques Ruhlmann, Royère created total environments, and had a sensitive way of interpreting classical forms. There is a feeling of modernity in all Royère's work—not a polemical, Bauhaus-style modernism, but a sensuous one. New York's Magen H Gallery recently brought in a cache of Royère pieces that includes a pair of 1950s armchairs in which the French designer drew on traditional Arabic fretwork carving, but simplified and flattened the style in a way that draws an ancient form into the twentieth century. They are perfect examples of Royère's idea of the modern."

ALAN WANZENBERG,

architect and interior designer, New York

