

Trends

## **Painted Interiors Are Totally Trending**

Thanks in part to a unique Christie's project and a charming new exhibition at Eerdmans

By Alia Akkam April 30, 2021



A famed Mario Buatta interior, illustrated by Pierre Bergian. Photo: Courtesy of Eerdmans

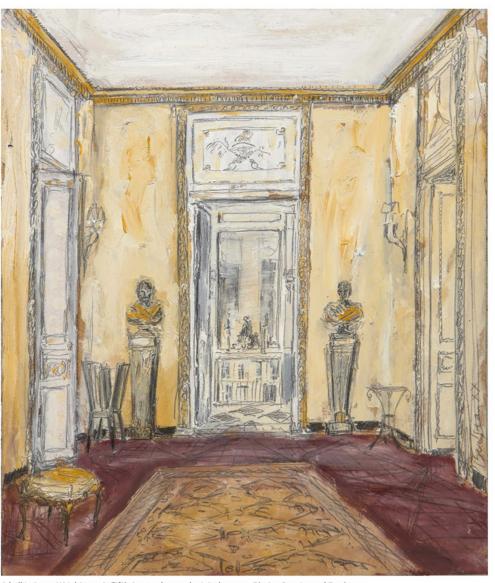
At Eerdmans, "Pierre Bergian: Portraits of Rooms" is set to run through May 28 on a by-appointment basis.

It highlights more than 20 paintings by the Ghent, Belgium-based artist, who delineates memorably disparate interiors through moody, rich brushstrokes. These include fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld's Paris lair as well as New York socialite Jayne Wrightsman's Fifth Avenue home, and Dawnridge, the fantastical Beverly Hills house that Tony Duquette designed and lived in. There's even a space decorated by John

## Fowler.

"Normally my interiors are quite empty, but these paintings have a bit more frivolity," says Bergian. "Interiors mirror the people who live there and I tried to capture their souls, even if they are not there anymore."

Armed with his sketchbook, Bergian was able to visit some of these locations, such as illustrator Pierre Le-Tan's Paris apartment, which was layered with books, sketches by the likes of Alberto Giacometti, and Persian textiles. Other times, Bergian based his work simply on images and imagination. "My portraits are not photographs," he says. "I love to make interpretations, building a room inside me."



A hall in Jayne Wrightsman's Fifth Avenue home, depicted anew. Photo: Courtesy of Eerdmans