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Combray Textile & Design's exquisite embroidery

Inventive fabric and furnishings from two Brooklyn-based sisters



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Paris-born sisters Laure and Aurélie Hug – the talented duo behind Combray Textile & Design – create bespoke embroidered fabrics and furnishings for the home. With an atelier in Brooklyn, an office in France and master craftsmen based in Mumbai, the sisters balance traditional techniques with a contemporary aesthetic, incorporating a range of designs including geometric patterns, vibrant floral motifs and exotic birds.

Drawing on their combined backgrounds in art and design (Aurélie studied at the Ecole Camondo and is an 18th-century textile expert; Laure is an artist and former film-production designer), the sisters begin each commission with a series of hand-drawn sketches that are brought to life through fabric samples. "Many customers come to us with a specific idea or artwork," explains Aurélie. "One client asked us to take their mother-of-pearl box and translate the design into an embroidered fabric." Others take inspiration from Combray's existing body of work – rich fabrics featuring Chevron pattern (fifth picture), diamonds, lush landscapes and floral motifs, such as Isis and Monstrua (third and fourth pictures).

For each commission, a wide range of fabrics is available, including silk, velvet, linen, wool felt and leather. Coloured and metallic threads as well as raffia can be intricately woven into the pieces, and further texture added with rich embellishments such as metal rings, bone, beads and leather or wooden sequins. Smaller commissions typically take between eight and 12 weeks to complete.

The sisters' inventive designs can feature on a range of accent pillows (such as the thread-embroidered Sofia, from \$650, second picture), ottomans (from \$3,500) and side tables (from \$3,000). Full wall upholsteries and panels (Palomino, first picture, from \$3,000 per panel) can also be commissioned – yet another way that Combray's intricate workmanship can liven up an entire space.

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www.combraydesign.com).

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