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Decorating A Bachelor Pad



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[Picasso's Grandson On How To Buy Art For Your Bachelor Pad](#)



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More than a century ago, around 1905, a friend loaned Pablo Picasso a camera. He took that camera and took a photo of himself in the bathroom. And there it was, quite possibly the world's first selfie.

“In fact, the image in the mirror is like the image of a ghost,” Picasso’s grandson, Olivier Widmaier Picasso told me in a recent sit-down. “It’s not clear. It’s something because of the time of exposure was probably disappearing, fading. It was interesting.”

That was the point. The photo made you feel something. Whatever it was. Even one piece of spot-on photography or art can elevate the vibe

in your place. So I asked Olivier Widmaier Picasso, son of one of Pablo Picasso's mistresses, the rules on decorating your spot. Because if you're going to take advice on buying art, you should take it from a Picasso.

Known as one of the greatest artists and painters of all time, Pablo Picasso's ancient selfie gave a glimpse of himself through imagery. If you listen to Olivier Widmaier Picasso, that's what artwork designed to inspire — a moment. That was Widmaier Picasso's plan when he selected the photography art for his "Revealed" exhibition, featured in a number of Sofitel hotels.

Sure, the idea of capturing a moment to inspire emotion might sound sappy if you're not into art. But every guy needs to put something on his wall right? And your apartment or house is not your college dorm room, so enlarged photos of famous swimsuit models aren't going to cut it.

So take moment to **upgrade the mood in your place** from posters of hot girls and marijuana, to conversation pieces that actually say something about you. It is, after all, your space. Let it speak for you.

Your Feelings Matter

Widmaier Picasso explains that choosing a piece goes way beyond picking up what looks good. Ask yourself if you feel a connection with the artist. "Maybe by seeing his studio you feel some proximity, closeness," he says.

"I think the choice of the artist according to his notoriety and fame probably shows the level of education you have. If you chose Picasso, that's easy. But if you look for Keith Haring it shows that you are on a different level. If you want to show a little part of you, not being you in the picture you may show your education in art. But first it's emotion. Do you feel comfortable with this picture or not?"

"It's the same as if you pick up a car or a watch or maybe a coat. You can have a beautiful coat by a big brand or maybe you can show something different to be apart and probably those men they want to show their own style."

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How Much Do You Spend?

It's hard to put a number on how much you should spend. It will depend on the person. But consider it in the same way that you would any other expense — ask yourself if it's worth it to you.

“When you collect art you have to feel an effort, [like] buying yourself a leather bag or a watch or maybe a car. You have to say, 'OK, I prefer to have this on my wall because I want an emotion. I prefer this emotion than just driving my car from one red light to another red light.' You have to feel a moment of stress. But if you survive the moment of stress, if you really want it, you'll be happy. It's like seeing a girl in a bar — that one, or that one?”

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Less Is More

You may already be spending more than you planned. Choose wisely. Better to land a knockout punch than a bunch of strong jabs.

“I think it's always better to have one good piece than three medium-quality pieces,” Widmaier Picasso says. “Even if the remaining walls remain blank. But again, I will probably put a photograph in a corridor or somewhere in an entrance where people are going in and out. I think it's better this way to create a conversation. If it's a landscape, it's different. It's more like a decorative item.”

Ultimately, it's your space and your art. It should say something about you.

“It's better if you're an active person to show that you have some taste. Not good taste or bad taste — but *your* taste.”

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