

# CENTURY<sup>®</sup>

## CENTURY FURNITURE TO DEBUT TARA SHAW COLLECTION

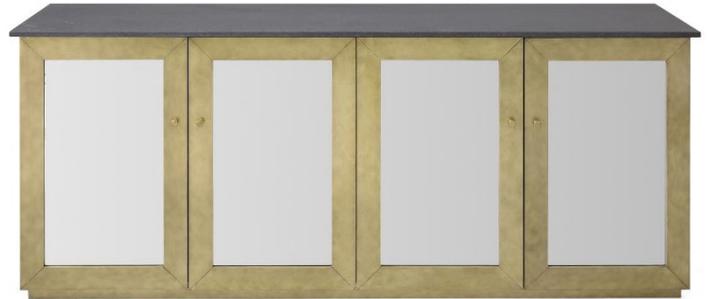


**High Point, North Carolina (October 2024)** - This October, Century Furniture debuts the highly anticipated Tara Shaw Collection during the High Point International Furniture Market. With over seventy designs, the collection includes bedroom, dining, and occasional as well as a range of upholstery. Tara Shaw has fused her signature aesthetic as an interior designer with her background as an antique's purveyor to create a line that blends traditional forms with fresh aesthetics, luxury with practicality, and an exciting mix of styles.

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Drawing from years of purchasing antiques for discerning clientele as well as her thriving interior design business, Tara was inspired by scarcity in the market for finding beautiful and rare pieces. "My love of centuries old antiques and classic mid-century led me to create a line of furniture which is based on the past but speaks to the present."

Among the new case goods introductions, the **Le Marais Credenza** is a brass four-door credenza with a honed marble top, inspired by mid-century design, reflects the mid-20th century's emphasis on clean lines, functional forms, and a blend of natural and industrial materials. This era, particularly noted for its innovative use of metals like brass and sleek surfaces like marble, sought to create furniture that was both aesthetically pleasing and practical, aligning with the modernist ethos of simplicity and minimalism. The credenza's design pays homage to the mid-century movement's influence, which continues to be celebrated for its timeless appeal and its ability to merge elegance with everyday utility.



The Swedish four-door credenza reflects the Gustavian style's elegance and restraint, which emerged during the late 18<sup>th</sup> century under King Gustav III. This style is characterized by its neoclassical influences, seen in the credenza's gilded details and raised panel doors, which were inspired by French neoclassicism but adapted to Swedish tastes with a lighter, more subdued palette. The conforming top and detailed craftsmanship highlight the period's emphasis on functionality combined with aesthetic refinement, making such pieces a symbol of Swedish sophistication and continuation of the country's rich furniture-making tradition.



Yet another period represented in this collection is Mid-Century Italian as seen in the **Saint Laurent Lounge Chair and Ottoman**. The one-piece seat and back are constructed of top-grain leather shaped into an ergonomic scoop for optimal comfort. Perfect for any modern living room or juxtaposition with old world.



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The Italian 18th-century inspired Sainte Rome Accent Table, featuring faux marble paint, a detailed scalloped skirted base, and hand carved paw feet with hair detailing, exemplifies the elaborate craftsmanship and decorative artistry of the Baroque and Rococo periods. During this era, furniture makers often used faux finishes to imitate luxurious materials like marble, showcasing their skill in creating visually striking pieces within a more accessible budget. The intricate design elements, such as the scalloped base and paw feet, reflect the period's fascination with ornate, nature inspired motifs, blending functionality with rich visual appeal, and highlighting Italy's significant contribution to European decorative arts.

The **Trocadero Desk** is a Grande Italian walnut desk with ebonized details and carved feet is a reflection of Italy's rich tradition of fine woodworking and classical design, particularly prevalent during the Renaissance and Baroque periods. The use of walnut, a favored wood for furniture due to its durability and beautiful grain, is typical of high-quality Italian craftsmanship. The ebonized detailing, which involves darkening the wood, adds contrast and elegance, a technique often used in fine furniture to highlight intricate carvings or architectural elements. The carved feet, possibly depicting animal paws or classical motifs, are characteristic of Italian furniture design, which often draws inspiration from classical antiquity and incorporates symbolic and decorative elements.



Perhaps one of the most interesting pieces is the **Loire Cocktail Table**, a contemporary high gloss Ottoman coffee table featuring mid-century inspired feet, showcases a fusion of traditional craftsmanship and modern design sensibilities. The high gloss finish draws from mid-century modern aesthetics, which favored sleek, clean lines and minimalist forms, while the gilded hand-carved feet pay homage to classic French decorative arts, adding a touch of opulence and historical reference. This blend of styles reflects a contemporary trend of merging different design eras, creating pieces that are both timeless and versatile, bridging the gap between the past and present in interior design.

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"Tara has managed to create an extensive collection inspired by her love of fine antiques that also imbues modern forms and style," says Justin Binnix, VP of Case goods and Outdoor. "We are delighted to debut this collection and officially welcome Tara to our family of design partners."

The Tara Shaw Collection will debut in the Century Showroom at 200 Steele. On Saturday, October 26, at 4:30pm Century and Veranda will host Q & A with Tara Shaw and Editor in Chief, Steele Marcoux, followed by a book-signing and cocktail celebration.

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## About Tara Shaw

"Antique finishes show their age and history, blemishes and all. That kind of imperfection is a lovely thing to live with because it's so forgiving. It's just what I want to come home to."

-Tara Shaw

Tara Shaw's design principles stem from over 30 years of success as a "guerilla antiquer" in France, Italy, Sweden and Belgium. She is also a respected supplier of European antiques for a host of *AD100*, *Veranda*, *Elle Decor* A-listers, among others.

She is the author of "Soul of the Home" and is working on her second book for Abrams. "Soul of the Home", was #1 in Antiques & Collectibles on Amazon for over two years.

Her design work has a global clientele, and her work has been featured in numerous national and international shelter magazines.

## About Century Furniture

Century Furniture is one of the world's largest privately-owned manufacturers of high-end residential furniture. Founded in Hickory, North Carolina in 1947 by Harley F. Shuford, Sr., Century is now in the third generation of family ownership and operation and remains committed to their founder's ideal, to create furniture of such impeccable quality that it brings joy not only to the people who own it, but also to the craftspeople who build it.

Century is recognized in the industry as a design leader, ranked in the forefront for its expertise in finishing and the many details of fine craftsmanship. Its broad line of wood and upholstered furniture consists of bedroom, dining and occasional collections in traditional, transitional and contemporary styling. They have licensed collections with numerous high-end designers including Thomas O'Brien, Charlotte Moss, Carrier and Company and Windsor Smith.

The company has an extensive case goods facility with state-of-the-art woodworking capabilities and a sophisticated finishing operation, as well as three upholstery factories - all located in Hickory, North Carolina. Today Century's family consists of over 900 associates with a management team conditioned for growth.

### For more information, contact:

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