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BEN AFFLECK

ON HIS TERMS

STUDY IN DESIGN

FLOOR SHOW

Design firm Commune has collaborated with rug company Christopher Farr on a collection of rugs inspired by California and craftsmanship.



COMMUNE DESIGN, the Los Angeles-based studio behind some of the city's more inventive interiors, has a reputation for its holistic, craft-based approach. It's not unusual for the team to print custom textiles, fabricate tiles or even, as it did recently for director Anthony Russo's home, fashion a redwood closet inlaid with ginkgo-leaf marquetry. But Commune designs products, too. This December, working with contemporary rugmaker Christopher Farr, the studio launches a collection of wool-and-silk carpets. "We couldn't find something we really loved, so we made it ourselves," says principal Steven Johanknecht of the four-pattern range. "It's more romantic. And nature-based."

The small-scale floral and geometric designs have a lushness and intricacy that hint at William Morris wallpaper, Japanese family crests and California plant life. "People want to be surrounded by things that nurture them and

have soul," Johanknecht says. "A little less immediate, less trendy."

A few years ago, the studio ventured to Pasadena for a retreat at the 1908 Gamble House, created by Charles and Henry Greene for a scion of the Procter & Gamble company. The hand-built bungalow encapsulates the idea of *gesamtkunstwerk*, or total work of art, common in the American arts and crafts movement, which is another Commune touchstone, says principal Roman Alonso. "And the Gamble House is the big mack daddy of that," he says.

Once the carpet collection was a reality, Alonso and Johanknecht asked if they might slip some rugs into the Gamble house, at least for a photo shoot. The answer was yes. "It was kind of a dream," Alonso says of the experience. "The craftsmanship is exquisite. And it's just so incredible how Greene and Greene did every single thing in it." *From \$11,000; communedesign.com; christopherfarr.com. —Sarah Medford*



UNDER FOOT

From top: A Commune for Christopher Farr Mochi rug at the entrance of Pasadena's Gamble House; the Cactus Flower rug.



HEAVY DUTY

Thick, rugged soles give the responsible penny loafer a punk edge.

From top: Prada; Salvatore Ferragamo; Gucci; Celine by Hedi Slimane; Manolo Blahnik; Tory Burch. For details see Sources, page 134.