



# MADAME *de la* MAISON

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Press Kit

ROSE tablecloth mixed with sable and rose napkins shot on location at Chateau Tercey in Normandy, France.

## WHO WE ARE

Madame de a Maison is a full service tabletop rental company that believes in making life's gatherings, big or small, beautiful. We search the famous flea markets of France to find the best antiques, work with the top brands that customers desire, and collaborate with the best suppliers in Europe to create our own collection of table linens . We believe there is power in gathering at the table so we rent, sell and create beautiful items to turn ordinary tables extraordinary no matter the size. A dinner party for 2 or a wedding for 100, we rent items to cover the table. We can help style and set up if necessary and even bring in flowers if desired. And for anyone dreaming about getting their hands on French antiques but cannot get to France, our shop offers a tightly curated selection of antique linens, plates, crystal, barware, glassware, cutlery and decorations that ship worldwide.

## E V E N T S

Discuss, Delivery, and Delight...

This is our approach to rentals for private dinner parties as well as weddings. Imagine how nice it would be to change your tabletop look for a dinner party as you would change your look for a special party, minus the cost or feelings of waste that might go into making a big purchase for one special event. We take the same approach to a wedding or corporate event that we do to a dinner party or brunch. We discuss the event to customize the look, deliver and style if necessary then clients can sit back in utter delight when they don't have to clean, iron or store linens or tabletop items.



THYME tablecloth with MAIS napkins and blue and white antique rental plates and cutlery.

# LINENS

We currently offer 9 different colors of 100% sustainable linen fabric in napkins, tablecloths, and runners. Our textiles are grown and produced in Europe. All napkins are available for rent and for sale.



Aubergine



Bleu Minuit



Orage



Thyme



Rose



Sable



Lavande



Maïs



Mont Blanc



Photo taken at the Devogèle family linen farm in Chailly-en-Brie, France.

## WHY WE WORK WITH LINEN?

- Flax, the fiber that linen fabric is made from, is ethically produced locally, hypoallergenic, 100% biodegradable, and produces zero waste.
- Unlike other natural and cellulose fibers, that require irrigation and tons of water, flax needs only rain to survive.
- 85% of the world's linen comes from Europe and flax is the only fiber originally from Europe.
- Flax requires very little fertilizers, and no pesticides or defoliants. It protects and fertilizes the soil, is grown from certified GMO-free seeds and stores carbon that is released into the atmosphere.
- Using linen means you are contributing to the movement for a more eco-conscious, healthier and sustainable world.

\* Facts from the CELC, The European Confederation of Flax and Hemp, and The Masters of Linen.

## ANTIQUES

- Every visitor to Paris wants to visit the flea market and every traveler to the south of France desires stumbling upon a countryside estate sale. We scour France to select the best antique pieces and make them available for sale in the online shop that ships internationally. Now all Francophiles and antique lovers can have access to treasure from France.



- We also have a selection of antiques for rent for dinner parties and private events for clients who want the antique look without the commitment to purchase.



Embroidered on MONT BLANC napkins.

## CUSTOMIZE

We can customize our linens with embroidered monograms based on a provided design or a specialized font and design developed with our clients.



## WHY I STARTED MADAME DE LA MAISON

I created Madame de la Maison because celebration is in my DNA. I am Nigerian and my folks love to party. Their guest list is full of family, friends, and even welcomed party crashers. As long as there's food, music and good vibes, they're happy. I learned from an early age there is power in gathering around a table and sharing with others. After university in Texas I moved to New York where I worked as a stylist and on fashion exhibitions for the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Museum of the City of New York. At this time, I found a group of Mexican girls with a similar DNA. Mexicans love a good celebration too! The ten years I lived in New York were full of wine-filled weekly festivities. Every Thursday no matter what was happening in my life, I met with my latin crew for "Juevesitos": food, drinks, dancing, chats and lots of Spanish. Some of the happiest and most memorable moments of that decade took place on a Thursday.

I left New York and moved to Paris, married and started a family. Paris brought me many treasures but I have missed that sense of community and joy that I derived from weekly fellowship with others. So, I am bringing it back! I am putting the spotlight on the table and helping others do the same. I want to encourage everyone to gather around the table and celebrate life with beautiful things whenever possible.



## AJIRI AKI BIO

Ajiri Aki, born in Nigeria and raised in Texas, spent 10 years working in New York City in the fashion industry for companies including W Magazine, WWD, DNR, and Suede Magazine. Originally an editor and stylist, she then ventured into costume history while working at The Costume Institute of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The Museum of the City of New York. This experience led her to pursue a masters degree in Decorative Arts from Bard College in New York City.

In her attempt to learn and cover many angles of the fashion industry, Ajiri worked as a Director of Development and Production for Orange Films and then later founded A. Spectrum Projects catering to fashion and lifestyle companies. In these endeavors she offered digital strategy, website redesign, ecommerce integration, fashion presentation videos and digital marketing campaigns with clients such as Thakoon, Neiman Marcus, Farfetch, and DVF. In 2015 Ajiri co-authored with Stacey Caldwell, “Where’s Karl?: A fashion forward parody”. A New York Times Bestseller illustration book revolving around the fashion industry’s love and obsession with Karl Lagerfeld that was published by Clarkson Potter (Random House) and became an instant success.

She currently lives in Paris with her husband and two small children.

Contact [ajiri@madamedelamaison.com](mailto:ajiri@madamedelamaison.com) +33 (0)6 52 37 71 36 for more information.



March 10, 2018

Link: <https://www.vogue.com/article/madame-de-la-maison-french-country-antique-tableware-linens>



LIVING > HOMES

## Madame de la Maison Will Help You Set Your Table With French Country Antiques

MARCH 10, 2018 9:14 PM  
by LILAH RAMZI



Ajiri Aki of Madame de la Maison  
Photo: Courtesy of Madame de la Maison



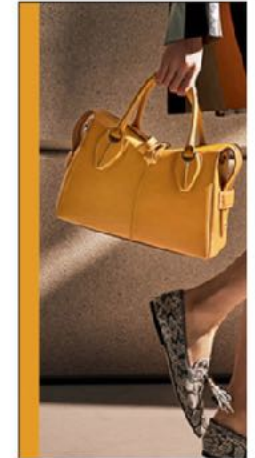
"I have been collecting for a while, only now, my husband can't get mad at me," jokes Ajiri Aki, a vintage porcelain enthusiast who calls her home an "antiques factory." With the launch of her company, *Madame de la Maison*, just one month ago, Aki's personal hoard of tableware serves as her company's inventory. And she can now justify her never-not-antiquing way of life; no matter her location, Aki has one eye open for Limoges porcelain or a tureen from Sèvres.

The concept for the Paris-based *Madame de la Maison* is three-fold: one of a kind antique place settings are available for rent for special occasions (Aki also produces events), there's an online shop (with etched crystal champagne coupes and toile patterns aplenty), then there's her own line of linens. The last of which she manufactures locally using 100 percent linen to create natural-fiber napkins and tablecloths dyed, embroidered, and monogrammed in the most pleasant of shades. The brand's ethos as a whole is also one of sustainability; Aki recycles dinnerware, and her linens are ethically-produced with a biodegradable fiber.



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# RECENT PRESS



DOMINO

Fall 2018 Issue

Link: <https://www.domino.com/content/ajiri-aki-party-planning-tips/>





GRAZIA France

June 2018

Link: <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/2027/9725/files/Grazia-france.pdf?4481380055437317995>



## ASSIETTES ET BOUTS DE FICELLE

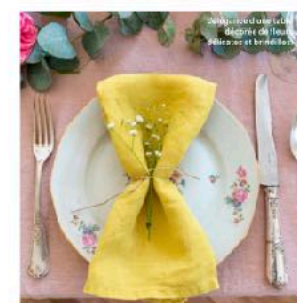
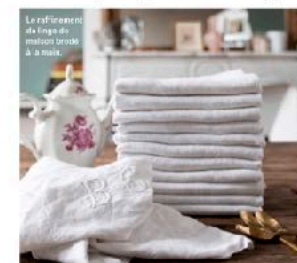
Chieuse investie, Ajji Aki a une obsession: la vaisselle d'assortie de nos grands-mères, parfois oubliée. Elle la litze à l'argu'lorne oxydée, le lin brodé et des brindilles, et réinvente les coces à table. **Par Sophie PERRAUD**

Un panier en "vile" poutier" sur le bord de la croute et, en son creux, de jolis pains de blé... Ajji Aki, 70 ans, est née dans un village du sud de la France. Elle a grandi comme Ajji Aki. Dans sa région, elle a appris à faire la vaisselle et à réinventer les coces à table. Elle a travaillé comme journaliste pour un magazine et comme cuisinière pour des occasions de mariage, de baptême, de mariage pour passer ses weekends en une "vile" poutier. Elle a choisi d'ouvrir un espace de vente dans la boutique d'objets de décoration la décoration de son intérieur. Elle a réinventé la vaisselle de nos grands-mères, parfois oubliée. Elle la litze à l'argu'lorne oxydée, le lin brodé et des brindilles, et réinvente les coces à table.

**TABLES DÉCORÉES ET PÊTES CHINÉES**  
Experte, passionnée et créative, Ajji Aki sent le besoin de créer des objets de décoration qui l'inspirent. Elle a réinventé la vaisselle de nos grands-mères, parfois oubliée. Elle la litze à l'argu'lorne oxydée, le lin brodé et des brindilles, et réinvente les coces à table. Elle a travaillé comme journaliste pour un magazine et comme cuisinière pour des occasions de mariage, de baptême, de mariage pour passer ses weekends en une "vile" poutier. Elle a choisi d'ouvrir un espace de vente dans la boutique d'objets de décoration la décoration de son intérieur. Elle a réinventé la vaisselle de nos grands-mères, parfois oubliée. Elle la litze à l'argu'lorne oxydée, le lin brodé et des brindilles, et réinvente les coces à table.

LIFESTYLE

► Vintage. Blanche Petite... qui, comme elle, propose leur trésor de porcelaine et de cristal à la location ou à la vente, c'est que cela répond à une envie bien contemporaine. Volonté de ne pas se contenter d'être de sortie de la vaisselle d'assortie produite par milliers dans des usines anonymes, partager une occasion ou revenir avec, et passé, les délicates vieilleries apportent une valeur assurée au repas. «C'est la seule vie mal, que l'avenir est incertain, il y a quelque chose de réconfortant, de réconfortant, à être entourés de beaux objets qui ont traversé le temps», analyse Ajji Aki. Ajji Aki pense. Et d'ajouter en un clin d'œil une citation de William Morris, initiateur du mouvement Arts & Crafts. «N'est-ce pas être toi que tu ne saches plus un que tu crées bien...» Conseil précieux qui lui a servi à travers le temps.



**LES PIÈCES CHOISIES DE MADAME DE LA MAISON**

- Bois à huile en cuivre, 35 €
- Shaker en cristal et laiton, 160 €
- Couteau à beurre en argent, 61 €
- Serviettes (une de 4), 35 €





VOGUE Mexico

October 2018

Link: [https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/2027/9725/files/mxvg201811\\_pgl43\\_pdf.pdf?18238589553992629950](https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/2027/9725/files/mxvg201811_pgl43_pdf.pdf?18238589553992629950)

## ¡Todos à TABLE!

Un suceso familiar cambió su vida para siempre y la llevó tras un largo CAMINO que culminó en *Madame de la Maison*, un espacio que nos enseña y recuerda la magia que conlleva reunir en la mesa a nuestros seres QUERIDOS

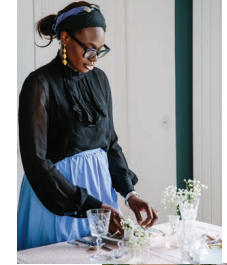


Aki viaja por todo Francia a los mercados de pulgas más famosos en búsqueda de tesoros para la mesa. Sus períodos favoritos son el victoriano, Art Nouveau y Art Deco. Derecha: mantelería y platos posteros de Haviland proveniente de Limoges.

El lino de la mantelería es una fibra hipodérmica, 100% biodegradable que no produce ningún residuo. Al contrario de otras fibras, el lino solo necesita lluvia para cultivarse.



Ajiri Aki perdió a su madre a los 12 años, un trauma que marcó su vida para siempre. La falta de ese centro y cariño inigualable la ha llevado a formar su vida de una manera muy especial. ¿Qué ganó tras esta pérdida? Tías, muchas tías. De sangre, de cariño, de todos los tipos posibles. Mujeres que la buscaban, que se reunían y celebraban bautizos, bodas y cumpleaños. Mujeres que le enseñaron que las familias existen de muchas maneras y se pueden recrear reuniéndose para comer, beber y celebrar. Nació en Nigeria, se crio en Texas, su vida profesional comenzó en Nueva York y ahora vive en París. Al mudarse a la capital francesa, Ajiri llevó con ella el espíritu de su pasado. Pero esta ciudad, con sus espacios limitados, no se prestaba para tener las vajillas y los utensilios necesarios para los festejos del calibre que le gustaban. Gracias a sus estudios en Artes Decorativas en Nueva York, y trabajar en el Costume Institute del Museo Metropolitano de Arte, su educación sobre moda e interiores es profunda. Fue así como decidió unir sus pasiones y estudios, creando Madame de la Maison ([www.madamedelamaison.com](http://www.madamedelamaison.com)). Esta es una compañía que vende y renta los servicios completos para cualquier evento especial, de cualquier tamaño. Sea una cena para dos o una boda de 100, MM te proporciona desde centros de mesa, servilletas, saleros, vajilla, flores y cualquier decoración necesaria. Todo, salvo la mantelería, es una antigüedad. En la tienda *online* se pueden comprar y personalizar manteles y servilletas de lino, todos hechos en Europa con colores exclusivos como *Maiz*, *Aubergine*, *Lavande*, *Orange* y *Sable*. El punto estelar son las antigüedades y la plata francesa que Aki ha enviado a todo el mundo. Con Madame de la Maison, Ajiri le da la oportunidad a quien sea a crear el momento perfecto para reunir (y celebrar) a su versión de una familia ideal. ● EUGENIA GONZÁLEZ DE HENN



Izquierda: Aki organizando la mesa con cristalería antigua. "Me siento más atraída a la decoración de mediados del siglo XVIII hasta principios del siglo XX".



REMODELISTA

November 1, 2018

Link: <https://www.remodelista.com/posts/madame-de-la-maison-vintage-french-tableware-linens-paris/>

REMODELISTA

REMODELING 101 FIND A FIRM GET INSPIRED SHOP OUR PICKS DESIGN TRAVEL OUR STORY GARDENISTA ORGANIZED HOME

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Antiques & Vintage Issue 44 — À La Française

## Vintage French Style You Can Rent: Madame de la Maison in Paris

by Annie Quigley Published: November 1, 2018



Advertisement

Here's a novel idea: Instead of generic catering supply, you can now rent vintage Limoges porcelain and Longchamp serveware for your wedding, dinner party, or just because. It's all through **Madame de la Maison**, a one-woman operation helmed by Ajiri Aki, based in Paris. Aki—who was born in Nigeria, raised in Texas, and worked in the fashion industry in New York (including at the Met's Costume Institute) before going back to school to study decorative arts—lives now in France, and takes day trips to the country's *brocantes* to sleuth one-of-a-kind vintage finds, then offers them for rent in Paris and beyond. ("So long as the shipping is covered, I'll ship anywhere!" she told *Vogue*.)

Aki also offers a selection of antique tableware for purchase (first come, first served), as well as a line of her own ethically produced linen napkins and tablecloths in a wide range of hues. Take a look at her collections (and take cues from her *très* French styling, too).

Photography via Madame de la Maison.





METROPOLITAN  
(Eurostar Magazine)

October 2018

Link: <https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/2027/9725/files/metropolitancover-oct2018.pdf>

**Paris**

## AJIRI AKI

Aki came to Paris via Nigeria, Texas and NYC, and to style via working in fashion and studying costume history. As an excuse to indulge her passion for antiques she set up Madame de la Maison last year, selling and hiring exquisite vintage tableware and linens. [madomedelamaison.com](http://madomedelamaison.com)

Aki est arrivée à Paris via le Nigeria, le Texas et New York pour se consacrer au style après avoir étudié l'histoire du costume. Passionnée d'antiquités, elle crée Madame de la Maison qui vend et loue de la vaisselle et du linge de table d'époque.

**'I love scarves!**  
Nigerians always have a flamboyant headscarf. I have an insane collection of 50 or more vintage scarves. I'll have ten favourites for a while, then rotate.' / « J'adore les foulards ! Les Nigériennes en portent toujours des barrioles, mais j'ai mon style perso. Dans ma collection de 50 foulards vintage, j'ai dix chouchous que je renouvelle de temps en temps. »

**My personal style is a mash-up of silhouettes from the 30s to the 50s. If I could, I'd walk around in a 1947 Dior 'Bar' dress. I love a cinched waist and big, full skirt.' / « Mon style perso est un mix de silhouettes des années 1930-1950. J'aimerais me promener dans une robe Bar Dior de 1947, j'adore sa taille cintrée et sa jupe ample. »**

**'I'm obsessed with big earrings and wear a ridiculous number of bracelets. My daughter always asks why I make so much noise when I walk...'** / « Je suis obsédée par les grosses boucles d'oreilles et je mets des tas de bracelets. Ma fille s'amuse que je fasse tant de bruit en marchant. »

**'What's my natural style habitat? I love the heyday of train travel.'** / « Mon habitat naturel en matière de style ? J'aime l'âge d'or du voyage en train. »

**'In the USA, people have huge closets defined by trends. In Paris, it's more about personal style. I found giving lots of things away made me happier, more confident.'** / « Mon style a bien changé depuis que je suis à Paris. Aux US, les gens ont des garde-robes énormes suivant les tendances ; ici, chacun a plutôt un style personnel. J'ai donné plein de choses. Je suis plus assurée et plus heureuse. »

**Her Paris top five / Liste de shopping**  
Studio W Vintage,  
21, rue du Pont-aux-Choux, 75003  
Chez Sarah, [chezsarah.net](http://chezsarah.net)  
Thank God I'm a VIP, [thankgod.com](http://thankgod.com)  
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, [madparis.fr](http://madparis.fr)  
Musée Nissim de Camondo, [madparis.fr](http://madparis.fr)

PHOTOGRAPH: FRED LUNACHE; WORDS: JESSICA CARROLL THOMPSON

# RECENT PRESS



GLAMOUR Spain

May 2018



**L'OFFICINE UNIVERSELLE BULY 1803**  
Este histórico templo de belleza renació hace cuatro años en manos de Victoire y Ramcane, creadoras de Cire Trudon para albergar cosmética de nueva generación.

Saint Laurent (hasta el 10 de junio). Si lo tuyo es googlear "trendy" a la hora de organizar tu ruta de tiendas, la capital francesa completa con buenas dosis de *savoir faire* una serie de paradas obligatorias. Una de ellas es Merci, el lugar con más peregrinaje hipster de Le Marais y al que siempre querrás volver. Este *concept store* es cafetería, biblioteca (donde consultar las ediciones impresas más interesantes) y tienda de ropa e interiorismo a su vez. Completan la oferta deco The Socialite Family, el primer espacio de inspiración francesa dedicado a la decoración y estilo de vida de familias modernas, urbanas y conectadas que suele dar a conocer sus propuestas en formato pop-up; y Madame de la Maison, donde hacerte con menaje típicamente francés o manteles versallescos. Y qué sería una visita a París sin pasar por uno de sus históricos templos de belleza, como L'officine Universelle Buly (1803) o The Salons of the Royal Palace (1992) de Serge Lutens, la casa de perfumes dedicada a los gustos más exigentes. Porque si de algo sabe París, es de lugares exquisitos. 🇫🇷



**MERCI**  
Este *concept store*, mitad cafetería, mitad tienda deco, es una de las visitas más frecuentes en Le Marais.



**MADAME DE LA MAISON**  
La nigeriana Ajiri Aki está detrás de esta firma donde podrás hacerte con menaje típicamente francés.





# CONTACT



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