

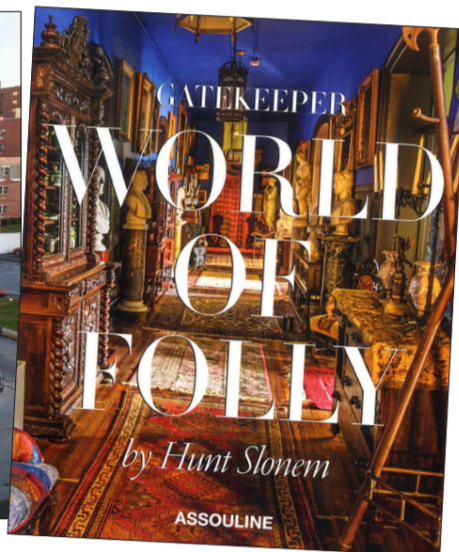
Historic Homes & Properties



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The Colonel Louis Watres Armory, Scranton, Penn. ©Chris Balton photo, courtesy Assouline.



Gatekeeper: World Of Folly



Interior of Colonel Louis Watres Armory, ©Chris Balton photo, courtesy Assouline.

Gatekeeper: World of Folly by Hunt Slonem, text by Sara Ruffin Costello, with a foreword by Dr. Geza von Habsburg, 300 pages, 150+ illustrations, Assouline press, New York, summer 2018; hardcover with jacket, \$85.

"I don't believe people choose buildings, I believe buildings choose people. I just fell in love with it." —Hunt Slonem on saving the Watres Armory.

The Colonel Louis Watres Armory, built in 1900 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is Slonem's latest project that showcases the art-

ist's novel take on interior design — matching vibrant, multicolor interiors with a bricolage of historically potent and rare items found from around the world. This system of "collectorating," or collecting and decorating, has become Slonem's trademark and can be found across the artist's multiple historical properties around the country. Through the course of its century-old lifetime, the 102,000-square-foot space has served not only as an armory, but a performance hall for Russian composer and pianist Sergei Rachmaninoff, a whistle-stop for campaigning presidents, and even briefly as a clinic. *Gatekeep-*



Hunt Slonem, ©Luigi Cazzaniga photo, courtesy Assouline.

er: World of Folly walks readers through this masterpiece room-by-room, object by object, filling us with the sense of wonder for which the artist is so well-known.

Hunt Slonem is an American painter, sculptor and printmaker, well-known for his exotic and eclectic works, featured in galleries the world over and in col-

lections at the Guggenheim Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Smithsonian and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. His homes in Louisiana and upstate New York have been featured in the *New York Times* and *Interview* magazine. He has previously published *When Art Meets*

Design (2014) with Assouline.

Sara Ruffin Costello is a designer, decorative and writer who lives in New Orleans. Former creative director of *Domino* magazine, Sara is a frequent contributor to *Architectural Digest*, *New York Times T Magazine*, *Travel & Leisure*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Vogue* and *Glamour*.