

# W



**Generation W The Artist is Present**  
**Francesca DiMattio - Opposites Attract**

Francesca DiMattio's new house in upstate New York, where she lives part-time with her artist husband, Garth Weiser, is a study in contrasts: opulent Versace pillows sit on stark-white Eero Saarinen chairs; sunset-themed thrift store bedsheets mix with a colorful rug woven by children in Africa. "I approach all aspects of my life in the same way I approach my art," says DiMattio, 31, who draws from sources as varied as fashion and design magazines, art history, and the furniture in her studio to create seemingly chaotic canvases that riff on perspective, scale, and architecture. Recently, DiMattio has expanded into ceramic sculptures, hand-painting them with everything from Ming-dynasty detailing to feminine florals. "I'm interested in what happens when you get different things and mangle them together," says the artists, who has two shows opening this month: one at Sotheby's S2 gallery in New York, the other at Pippy Houldsworth Gallery in London. "Suddenly, something very French Rococo looks like Grandma's pitcher." Not surprisingly, her personal style also incorporates oft-opposing elements: Designer shoes mix with Salvation Army dresses and tailored suits with crocheted tops all topped with the braided updo she's worn since high school. "I can't tell you the variety of people my hairstyle speaks to," she says. "German, Icelandic, African, Mexican... I think that's what I like about it. It can go in so many different ways."

**Karin Nelson**