architecturals
Hearthside Mantels
Range Hoods
Elements of Accent

surfaces
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FORMAL
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For two decades this year, François & Co. has upheld its absolute pledge to meticulous craftsmanship and timeless design. Every material, every sculptural element in our carefully-curated collection is something we have fallen in love with. Let this booklet serve as your introduction to the François & Co. product line—a ‘distilled’ version of our product offerings.

Thierry François
founder / principal
TAKING INSPIRATION FROM THE DRAWING ROOMS AND SALONS OF PARIS, LONDON, OR ROME IN THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES, FORMAL STYLE IS A PORTAL TO A MORE ROMANTIC ERA.

The décor may be grand or intimate, opulent or austere, but it is always refined, elegant and charming. It’s founded on harmonious classical proportions, pleasing sinuous lines, and delicate, finely-detailed ornamentation. Naturally, the vintage and the antique take pride of place. Although traditional, there is room to express one’s personality through carefully chosen treasured objects. And, of course, the focal point of any room is a classic mantel.

This era in decorative arts is characterized by superb craftsmanship, which drew on the fine arts of painting and sculpture. Rococo and Baroque came to prominence during this period. The style is lavish, opulent, and highly ornamental, yet also playful.
WHEN WE THINK OF ‘FRENCH FORMAL STYLE’, WE THINK OF THE GRANDEUR OF LOUIS XIV THROUGH LOUIS XVI, THE PALACE OF VERSAILLES AND THE GRAND MAISONS OF PARIS—a style considered the height of elegance and refinement, which enchants us to this day. Furniture and architectural elements made liberal use of exotic woods, marble, and gilt. Architecture employed fluid, asymmetrical lines and graceful curves, accented with light colors and intricately delicate, yet complex patterns. In keeping with this sensibility, French Formal interior décor tends toward ornate furniture, ornamental mirrors, tapestries, wall paintings, decorative friezes and plasterwork.
french formal

- **Busset**
  - p. 8

- **Moselle**
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- **Muse**
  - p. 12

- **Mont Richard**
  - p. 15

- **Capri**
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- **Josephine**
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- **Madeleine**
  - p. 31

- **Mandelieu**
  - p. 32

- **Clemente**
  - p. 34
The sleek lines of this mantel are typical of Louis XVI style. The straight jambs are topped with rosettes. The entablature features a motif of volute waves running across a set of symmetrically unfolding pomegranates.

**French Formal**
The entablature of this classic Louis XVI style mantel is delicately decorated with fluting and a paneled tablet at its center. Two elegant rosettes rest on straight jambs featuring a set of stopped flutes or cabled fluting.
the MUSE

A beautifully executed piece featuring classic stop fluted jamb surmounted by square paterae. The frieze is decorated with an exquisitely carved centerpiece bearing musical instruments. The original was discovered buried in the basement of a Paris antique dealer.

French Formal
Typical of the reign of Louis XV, this mantel features a classic bolection molding profile. Its simple uncluttered lines combined with generous curves makes this mantelpiece compatible with classic or contemporary interiors. The Mont Richard also has optional cornice shelves typically seen in bolection style mantel combinations.

**French Formal**

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48" 57 3/4" 56"
The Mont Richard

PHOTOGRAPHY
Emily J. Followill

INTERIOR DESIGN
Smith Boyd Interiors

optional shelves

PROFILE 1:

PROFILE 2:
### the CAPRI

A striking design of elegant architectural form, the Capri incorporates a corniced shelf and bolection moulding.

#### French Formal

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**NOTE:**

Also Available without Mantel Base.
the JOSEPHINE

This classic Louis XVI mantel features two fluted half columns as jambs. They are crowned by capitals with carved acanthus leaves. The frieze is sculpted with a quiver, a bow and laurel branches.

French Formal
By extracting the essence of the Scagliola technique, an original process of forming hand-crafted limestone and marble, Scagliola Stone™ has the look of natural, hand-cut stone. Using an intricate, artisanal approach, this one-of-a-kind “cross-batch” technique provides the antique character found in each piece. Various stains and colorings add the charm of age and texture resulting in the finest of handmade stone available.

—Thierry François
This is a beautifully ornate reproduction of a rare Régence period mantel, circa 1720. The frieze is finely carved with a flourishing central motif of flowers and foliage. The top and bottom of the jambs are also adorned with fine foliage carvings.

**Perigord**

---

**The Perigord**

Floral and foliage motifs are prominently featured in the **Perigord** mantel, showcasing the intricate craftsmanship of the Régence period. This mantel is a stunning example of French Classicism, blending elegance and sophistication in its decorative elements.

**French Formal**

This mantel is perfect for those seeking a touch of classic grandeur in their interior design. With its detailed floral motifs and refined lines, it makes a statement in any room, adding a layer of timeless beauty that complements various décor styles.
The curved and paneled jambs of the Esterel support a serpentine shaped shelf decorated with a carved floral motif in the center. Pastoral themes like these were very popular during the 18th century.

French Formal

antique reproduction seal
Genuine Impression of the Original
### The Louis

A Classic Louis XV style mantel with generous curves. The paneled legs with acanthus leaves on the bases rise up to end on consoles decorated with scroll and leaf motifs. The frieze features a beautiful carved inverted shell with foliage at its center.

**French Formal**

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The Régence style ornamentation is present throughout this mantel, such as the richly detailed shell in the center of the moulded serpentine frieze and the scrolls sculpted in low-relief on each jamb resting on endblocks.

**MADELEINE**

The Régence style ornamentation is present throughout this mantel, such as the richly detailed shell in the center of the moulded serpentine frieze and the scrolls sculpted in low-relief on each jamb resting on endblocks.

**French Formal**
The Mandelieu is a French Régence mantel with elegant contours highlighted by boudin moldings running along the jambs and hearth opening. It has an unusual central carving of an inverted shell and foliage on the frieze. It is featured here with a Louis XIV detailed overmantel.
The city of Poitiers in the region of Poitou-Charentes, France, was the home of the Clemente mantel. Circa 1750, it is a beautiful example of a classic Louis XV style mantel. Its curved lines and thin, delicate jambs make it a rare piece. The Clemente features curved paneled legs and a serpentine molded shelf with a delicate shell carving at its center.

French Formal
ITALIAN FORMAL STYLE COMES FROM ITS VENERABLE AND CHARMING PALAZZOS where exquisite craftsmanship is a hallmark. The Italian’s love of beauty and art is evident everywhere, from captivating trompe-l’œil wall paintings and ceiling frescoes to elaborate stucco friezes and classical mosaics reminiscent of the Renaissance. Italian style may have religious imagery and themes, steeped as it is in the history of the Catholic Church. Yet its elegance may be leavened by whimsy, grand proportions and intricate details expressed with exuberance.
ITALIAN FORMAL
a lifestyle

RICH IN HISTORY, ‘ITALIAN FORMAL STYLE’ IS DOTTED WITH ROMANTIC TERRA COTTA TILE, STONE VILLAS AND PALAZZOS—some of which date back to the days of the Roman Empire. ‘Italian Formal style’ exudes a deeply appealing warmth, a timeless aesthetic which never fails to enchant.

With prominent stone fireplaces as focal points; the villas are intended to last generations. Decorative elements include hand-troweled plaster walls and its soft reddish limestone, ‘rosso ammonitico’, that gives ancient Italian villas their sun-burnished rosy glow. Ceiling architecture is often embellished with tiled barrel-roofs, or massive timber beams, with stucco accents.
Italian Formal

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Chevalier p. 44
Château Roux p. 48
Château p. 51
Valenza p. 53
Bellucci p. 55
Valentine p. 56
Bordeaux p. 59
Villeneuve p. 60
the RENAISSANCE

Classically proportioned, this robust mantel is a typical Renaissance piece. The sturdy pilasters curve up into scrolled capitals and support an elegant entablature bearing at its center a rectangular tablet. A succession of recessed and protruding mouldings give a strong architectural relief to this mantel.

Italian Formal

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| M  | 78"
| L  | 96 1/4" | 64" | 76" |
The Chevalier Mantel, a 13th century original, boasts an extraordinary stature and history. The mantel's heavily sculpted legs rise up to two corbels decorated with gargoyle figures which support a shelf enhanced with blazons. The blazon on the right bears a lion and on the left an eagle. The central motif is carved in the shape of an “oriflamme” or medieval banner with pointed streamers.

Italian Formal
Each and every one of the François & Co. Period Reproduction pieces is born from the original antique—“The Masterpiece.” We scrupulously follow the molding techniques and the exacting processes used by museums to capture and preserve the integrity of masterworks of all kinds.

—Thierry François
The Châteauroux is an elegant fireplace mantel featuring an arched opening and pretty foliate carvings. It can be further embellished with our optional lion’s head or keystone design.

**Italian Formal**

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**NOTE (PAGE RIGHT):**
Also available without Foliate Detail, Lion’s Head and Mantel Base.
Italian Renaissance inspired, the Château features a stepped shelf edged with an Egg-and-dart moulding and fluted borders.

**Italian Formal**

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The Valenza is an elegant and sophisticated mantel featuring an intricate frieze with fleur-de-lis carvings and elaborately scrolled corbels.

**Italian Formal**

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The Bellucci exudes Mediterranean charm with its gracefully executed classical details. The cornice is trimmed with a delicate carved leaf frieze and a regal cartouche set in the crown. Four scrolled corbels support the impressive shelf, balancing the proportions of this majestic piece.
the VALENTINE

This magnificent fireplace of Neo-Renaissance style features a very elaborate decoration carved in low relief. The entablature features an allegorical scene of antique aspiration.

Italian Formal
The Bordeaux is a refined mantelpiece featuring an arched opening supported by a pair of clean, smooth columns. This mantel comes in two sizes and we offer an optional fleur-de-lis carving to ornament the façade.

**Italian Formal**
the

VILLENEUVE

An imposing, elegant mantel that boldly frames a fireplace, the Villeneuve features a cleanly-sculpted breast supported by a pair of scrolled foliate corbels.

Italian Formal

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Photography
Emily J. Followill

Interior Design
Carol Weaks Interiors
Formal Style elicits ornate architectural elements and fluid grandeur—high ceilings, tall windows, elaborate wall treatments lined with intricate wallpaper and highly polished wood panels or trompe l’œil. Formal Style interior decor is often distinguished by features such as glistening mirrors, luxurious fabrics, and sparkling crystal chandeliers. Color can be bright with chintz florals being especially prominent, tamed with stripes, gingham’s and plaids and accented with tassels, fringe and trim.
ENGLISH FORMAL STYLE ENCOMPASSES THE GRACE, RESTRAINED ELEGANCE, AND REFINEMENT OF THE GEORGIANS, AS WELL AS THE LUXURIOUS ABUNDANCE OF THE VICTORIANS. Rich dark colors abound—the red brick of a Victorian brownstone, the deep burgundy of heavy velvet drapes, the variegated reds of textured, patterned wallpaper. Rooms might be filled with mementos and collections, busts, framed paintings, and prints. The Victorians were also known for their intricate patterns—stripes, florals, geometric patterns, damasks, wallpapers, luxurious fabrics and rugs covering every surface, while the Georgians harked back to classical Roman architecture for inspiration, often using delicate gilded details to bring flashes of light and opulence to a room.
The Carlisle featured in Scagliola Stone™ Cesarino Marble.

**english formal**

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Carlisle  
- p. 70

Kelscott  
- p. 73

Laucon  
- p. 74

Heronden  
- p. 76

Womersley  
- p. 79
the **KENDLESTON**

A simple and elegant mantel piece with a breakfront shelf and inner moldings running along the hearth opening. A strong architectural piece that will complement a variety of decors.

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**English Formal**

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**the CARLISLE**

An exceptional fireplace mantel featuring a bolection molding profile. The Carlisle features an unadorned center tablet accenting the shelf with scrolled ornaments flanking on each side.

---

**English Formal**
the KELMSCOTT

Bold lines and details make the Kelmscott an impressive mantel with traditional flair. The stepped-out design of the side volutes supports a shelf featuring a unique reeded carved pattern.

English Formal

Dimensions:
\[
\begin{align*}
A & \quad 80'' \\
B & \quad 48'' \\
C & \quad 56''
\end{align*}
\]
The frieze of this decorative English fireplace mantel features a rich foliage carving and is flanked with round square paterae. Inverted scrolls on the side of the legs are decorated with vase and foliage motifs as they sweep down to the plinths.

**English Formal**
The Heronden is a very detailed English mantel with a dentil cornice and delicately carved frieze. The center tablet features a vase surrounded with swag and foliage motifs. The legs are ornamented with carved bellflowers tied with ribbons and surmounted by end-blockings with Athenian urn enrichments.

English Formal
the WOMERSLEY

A fine English fireplace mantel featuring an allegorical scene of a woman playing the lyre. Fluting is featured on the jambs and frieze. The jambs are also embellished with carved round paterae and are surmounted by end-blocking decorated with carved urns.

English Formal
DISCOVER also our CLASSIC & MODERNE & RANGE HOOD collections

Custom kitchen hood featured in our Classic Collection.

COllections
moderne  |  classic