

# Live

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## In the Black

MEET THE CREATIVE MINDS BEHIND THIS SEASON'S HOTTEST BLACK-OWNED HOME DECOR PIECES  
By KYM ALLISON BACKER

### ↓ Roachele Negrón

**HOME BASE**  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
rayo & honey's decorative pennants deliver positive, cultural messages.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"rayo & honey decor encourages and inspires [people] to surround themselves with things that speak to our collective past and socially conscious future and to fill ... the lack of inspiring interior design with cultural connections." ([rayoandhoney.com](http://rayoandhoney.com))



### ← Michelle Olomojobi

**HOME BASE**  
Houston

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
Llulo's home goods include Ankara fabric and leather Africa-shaped pillows and poufs.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"I started creating these products to express the love for my Nigerian culture and the need for diversity in stores." ([llulo.com](http://llulo.com))

### → Anitra Terrell

**HOME BASE**  
Los Angeles

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
Reflektion Design's calling card is pillows and textiles in vivid shades and prints.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"Reflektion is all about home accessories that ooze cultural vibrancy and allow customers to create a home that feels fully expressed—collected, not decorated. We believe your home decor should reflect who you are, spark memories of past adventures, inspire new ones and be the ultimate statement of your style." ([reflektiondesign.com](http://reflektiondesign.com))



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### ← Serron Green

**HOME BASE**  
Newark, N.J.

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
Xplore Freedom offers industrial-inspired, one-of-a-kind and handmade home goods

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"To constantly make durable, quality products. The products/materials I use vary, but dominant materials are bur-lap, canvas, leather, reclaimed wood and cast iron piping." (*Check out Green's goods on Instagram @xplorefreedom*)

### ↓ Alexis Peskine

**HOME BASE**  
Paris; New York City; Salvador de Bahia, Brazil; Dakar, Senegal (*Follow his travels on alexis-peskine.tumblr.com/*)

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
Peskine's wood, nails and gold leaf acupaintings and his piercing photographs, taken around the globe, are a visual commentary on societal issues.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"I'm interested in questions of identity, mainly ones related to the Black experience on a global level. Through art, you are able to make a Klansman understand that Black lives matter even when ego doesn't allow that person to recognize it, and I am very interested in that idea." ([alexispeskine.com](http://alexispeskine.com))



### ↑ Joy Fennell and Valerie Wray

**HOME BASE**  
New York City (Harlem)

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
The 125 Collection candles feature a range of fresh scents and witty, customizable quotes.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"Your personal style and individuality should also be reflected in your home decor. Keeping your home stylish, fun and authentically you is key." ([the125collection.com](http://the125collection.com))



### ↑ Amira Rahim

**HOME BASE**  
Cedar Grove, N.J.

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
From the abstract to the figurative, Rahim's art is a wash in rich, striking hues.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"I began creating colorful abstracts when I moved to the United Arab Emirates. Lack of color in the desert forced me to look inward and become more inventive." ([amirarahim.com](http://amirarahim.com))



### ↑ 8. Quintin Middleton

**HOME BASE**  
St. Stephen, S.C.

**COMPANY DETAILS**  
Middleton Made Knives produces exquisitely designed blades that incorporate materials such as maple burls in addition to stainless, high-carbon and Damascus steel.

**PHILOSOPHY**  
"After years of making knives, I learned how to add my own style. I pray a lot while I'm working, so it's also my faith." ([middletonmadeknives.com](http://middletonmadeknives.com))

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