

PHILADELPHIA STYLE

Check Out Wexler Gallery's New Location

By Allison Weiss Brady | November 7, 2023

The beloved Wexler Gallery finds a storied new home in the heart of Fishtown.



The new 11,500-square-foot gallery space boasts soaring 35-foot ceilings.

A former Fishtown area pretzel factory from the 1900s has found a new purpose. Retaining the solid wood beams, skylights, brick walls and industrial ambiance of the original space, the open-air building has been transformed into the new home

of the prestigious Wexler Gallery (wexlergallery.com). Moving from Old City to Fishtown was an easy decision, as “we were running out of space in our former building, so we said let’s find a big warehouse to buy. Fishtown is a happening neighborhood...and this space has amazing bones,” says Lewis Wexler, who owns the gallery with his wife, Sherri Apter Wexler. They even paid homage to its pretzel roots by transforming Quinlan Pretzel Co. ads from the early 1900s they found during the renovation into wallpaper.

The gallery is filled to the brim with collectible designs and **contemporary works from established and emerging artists, including functional art that can double as home decor. Who doesn’t love an armchair by Jomo Tariku in the shape of a hair pick? Be the talk of the town by owning a design by Icelandic artist Gulla Jónsdóttor, who crafted oak coffee tables into movable puzzle piece shapes. Indulge in pieces from master artists, including Alexander Calder and Chuck Close. Want a piece of artwork made of crushed car parts? No problem. Just check out the sculpture by John Chamberlain.

The gallery also sells the artwork of several local artists, including Gregory Nangle, a graduate of Temple University’s Tyler School of Art and Architecture, who is known for combining glass and metal, constructing distressed mirrors and leather leaf chairs. Joining in the Philly representation includes ceramic artist Trish DeMasi, and Edward McHugh, who created a two-story painting for the recent gallery opening reception and served as the general contractor for the renovation of the new space.

But no matter what your style, Wexler’s new space has something for art aficionados of all types. “Wexler Gallery is for anybody who appreciates art,” says Wexler.