



**HOUSE PROUD** Below: London fashion designer Abigail Smiley-Smith and artist Philip Smiley, as captured by Todd Selby. Right: Brooklyn artist Fanny Bostrom and photographer Bill Gentle.



**Is there another photographer or artist who inspired The Selby?** August Sander. But he was more interested in describing classes of people like, “here are the bakers, here are the laborers, and here are the aristocrats.” I am more interested in individuals. **You focus on a category of people that Paul Fussell, in his book *Class*, calls category X: basically, bohemians.** **Have you found that there is another thread that unites these people for you?** I make an effort to try and make it as diverse as I can in terms of the backgrounds and the socioeconomics of it, so it’s not all just rich people or all thrift-store hipsters but a mixture. I guess I am really interested in people who are doing their own thing and being artistic about it. **Soundtrack to your life?** “Hustlin’” by Rick Ross. **Growing up in suburban California, what were the physical objects that surrounded you and your family?** We traveled a lot, so we’d do two or three big trips a year all over the world. I think that’s where I got my fascination for traveling and for photography and for finding unique things. We would go to Papua New Guinea or China or the Soviet Union at the time. We had all these things we collected as a family...tribal masks or a vintage Soviet flag...We’ve always been a bit peculiar. **Can you give the name of anyone who’s said “no” and kind of broke your heart?** Ralph [Lauren] hasn’t said yes yet. I’ve been working on him for years now. It hasn’t happened yet, but it will. I’m pretty confident. **Any New Year’s resolutions?** To touch my toes. I need to stretch more, do my yoga. **Tell me about your film projects.** I’m starting to do some short documentaries that are in the style of *The Selby*. There’s one on my website for [hipster snack shack] *Rockaway Taco*. **What blogs do you follow?** [ajourneyaroundmyskull.blogspot.com](http://ajourneyaroundmyskull.blogspot.com), [turtleteeth.tumblr.com](http://turtleteeth.tumblr.com), [hellosandwich.blogspot.com](http://hellosandwich.blogspot.com). **On your nightstand?** The Rose Bakery cookbook, *Breakfast, Lunch, Tea*, is fantastic. **Weirdest object you’ve come across?** Probably Marilyn Monroe’s sleeping pill bottle. **Who’s the historical figure you would have loved to shoot?** Napoleon in his house. He’d have all sorts of crazy stuff. **What has inspired you lately?** YouTube. It’s like traveling into the human psyche. I watched a documentary last night on this woman who’s an objectophile, which means she has relationships with physical objects. She is in love with the Eiffel Tower. **Based on the houses you shoot, someone could say there is definitely a Selby aesthetic.** **How would you describe that aesthetic?** Maximalist. Minimalists need not apply! 🚩

*Todd Selby will be on hand for an informal artist talk Saturday, Jan. 22, 11AM at Jackson Fine Art.*

## Shiny, Happy Hipsters

Photographer Todd Selby’s boho subjects and their beyond-cool pads come to Atlanta’s Jackson Fine Art | By Felicia Feaster | Photography by Todd Selby |

Called the “Horst of the hip set” by *The New York Times*, Brooklyn-based lensman Todd Selby, 33, offers a very different peek into private lives with his eclectic cast of global boho-istas slinking about their funky digs in his stylish *theselby.com* blog and his recent book from Abrams, *The Selby is in Your Place*. Selby’s eccentric approach to portraiture has gained him access to an astonishing array of homes, from Chanel über-designer Karl Lagerfeld’s Paris space to the bibelot-dense worlds of Laurel Canyon, East Village and Tokyo hipsters. From **January 21-March 25**, in his first-ever American gallery show, Selby will feature a selection of work from his book at **Jackson Fine Art** ([jacksonfineart.com](http://jacksonfineart.com)). The peripatetic shutterbug took a moment between trips to Miami’s Art Basel and scouting in San Francisco, Tokyo and London to talk to *The Atlantian* about the mega-designer whose house he’s stalking, and his Orange County childhood among a Wes Anderson-esque clan of exotic travelers.