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MADE-TO-MEASURE SUITS, UNIQUE VACATIONS, CUSTOM KIDS' CARS AND BESPOKE GIFTS



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RIVIERA CAFÉ RACER WALT SIEGL

A former cultural attaché to the Austrian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Walt Siegl had loved motorcycles all his life—even dropping out of school as a teenager for a stint as a professional racer. His work as a toolmaker in Germany, Austria and Italy had given him skill in metalwork, which informed the steel sculptures he created from his studio in Long Island City, Queens. Today Siegl makes

custom bikes for a living. He works alone in a restored 1833 New Hampshire textile mill, creating just four or five each year, combining select vintage parts with new components modified or made from scratch. Siegl's most recent creation, the Riviera, made for Philadelphia artist and furniture-maker Tyler Hays, is modeled after European "café racers" of the late '60s and early '70s—low-slung

sport bikes, built for speed and style, from the likes of Ducati. Siegl did the paint job himself and had the hand-stitched leather saddle custom-made. "But because Tyler wanted an American engine," Siegl says, "I started the Riviera with the crank case from a Harley." Siegl modified or replaced almost every component to high-performance specs, taking three months to complete it. (at BDDW) —D.M.

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