



Pretty in Permanence

BY ALYSON PITARRE

INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED DESIGNER SANDRA NUNNERLEY MASTERS THE ART OF CREATING TIMELESS INTERIORS THROUGH HER MODERN INTERPRETATION OF THE CLASSICS.

Sandra Nunnerley is acutely aware of the enduring nature of interior design. "Fashion may influence design," the New York-based designer is fond of saying, "but you can't change rooms every season." W Magazine has called her "one of the most fashionable designers" in New York, after all.

Nunnerley has cemented her place among the world's top designers. House & Garden UK selected her as one of 10 leading American designers. In 2017, she will appear on the Architectural Digest France International List, which honors 100 design talents worldwide — a distinction she has enjoyed multiple times. She remains keenly focused on her signature

style, one that is both modern and timeless, anchored in a sophisticated understanding of architecture, historical periods and art. Her work, which ranges from a glamorous NYC duplex that once belonged to Hollywood producer Jack Warner in the Sherry-Netherland Hotel to a project in Hong Kong to beachfront retreats in her native New Zealand, continues to garner praise for her characteristic style, often described as "contemporary with a classic twist," bringing together period pieces with modern design.

We recently caught up with the ever-stylish, New Zealand-born designer to ask her about her inspirations, what drives her design choices and how she has found her muse "in the world around us."

What inspires you?

Travel inspires me, as I often discover new artists or modes of expression that are not known at home. Each year, I make a point of going somewhere new. I've hiked to Machu Picchu in Peru and floated down the Sepik River in New Guinea. These are voyages of discovery, and although you never know exactly what you're going to take home from the experience, they're crucial to inspiration.

How much has your upbringing in New Zealand informed your style or your work?

My mother was a journalist and ensured that I had a broad cultural education. She would take me to every show that came to town. I had the best of the entire world at my fingertips growing up in beautiful New

Zealand. My inspiration came from history, art and fashion. I've always been drawn to the natural beauty of my surroundings and even now tend to gravitate to elegant but simple things.

In what ways has fashion inspired your work?

I agree with the brilliant French fashion designer Coco Chanel, who has always inspired me, when she said this: "Fashion is architecture: it is a matter of proportions."

How would you describe the way you live at home?

The way I live at home is similar to the way I encourage my clients to think about living in their



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