

MODERN LUXURY

Interiors

CALIFORNIA

LOUNGE ACT

THE LATEST
LAUNCHES
TO CREATE
AN OUTDOOR
SANCTUARY

+

THE GOLDEN
STATE'S
BRIGHTEST
STARS SHARE
THEIR STORIES

FORCE OF NATURE

DESIGN'S TOP TALENTS TAKE IT OUTSIDE

T H E C O M M I T T E E

WE'RE PLEASED TO INTRODUCE THE TOP TASTEMAKERS WHO KEEP THE GOLDEN STATE LOOKING SO GOOD. THESE STYLE-SETTERS REPRESENT THE BEST IN THEIR INDUSTRY, AND WE ARE HONORED TO WELCOME THEM AS PART OF OUR MODERN LUXURY INTERIORS CALIFORNIA COMMITTEE.

BY LAURA ECKSTEIN JONES

BARCLAY BUTERA
CEO, BARCLAY BUTERA INTERIORS



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEXINGTON HOME BRANDS

What sparked your interest in design? I was fortunate to grow up in a very stylish household since my mom is in the interior design business. After a brief stint in law school, I knew I had a more creative calling. I opened my first design firm 25 years ago and have been loving it ever since.

How would you describe your aesthetic? I strive to design interiors that are glamorous but comfortable at the same time. I

love plenty of textures, colors and patterns layered—it's my signature look. Well, that and pops of animal print!

What design trend you are loving at the moment? I am just not a trend guy. I love timeless, classic interiors; many of my first projects I did 25 years ago look current today.

What design trend are you so over? I never did go for the overdone, ornate, cluttered look.

Too much "whimsy" makes me cringe.

How do you weave your sense of style into everything you do? My style is definitely all-American with a West Coast twist. From my wardrobe to my interiors to the parties I design, I favor classic elegance, and of course plenty of blue and white in the mix.

Wallpaper or paint? Oh, no question. Wallpaper, hands down.

Antique or reproduction? Originals, especially if I find something amazing at the Paris antique markets.

What is the best bang for the buck when it comes to making a big impact? Fabulous art! I happen to be in love with abstracts these days. Most often it's the first thing people see when they enter a room, so go with the best and most sophisticated art you can afford. barclaybutera.com

JONATHAN RACHMAN
PRINCIPAL, JONATHAN RACHMAN DESIGN



What first sparked your interest in design? As a child growing up in Indonesia, I was exposed to so many arts, artisans, architecture, textiles and sculptures. In my youth, studying and living in Switzerland and Paris exposed me to a similar environment plus fashion in the classical Western setting. These visual memories sparked my interest.

How would you describe your aesthetic? Definitely timeless with

the best elements of East and West; classical, old-school, yet current and highly customized and tailored; hushed luxury.

What design trend are you loving at the moment? While I don't follow any trend (I find it contrived and limiting), I am absolutely in love with how de Gournay's bespoke custom handpainted wallpaper is adapting to more modern approaches: bold, unforgettable and always bespoke.

Their embroidered velvet cushions are also divinely scrumptious!

What design trend are you so over? The over-counter mount sink: unsavory, unhygienic and impractical

How do you weave your sense of style into everything you do? It's like everything in my life: having a principle, and I constantly insist on staying true to myself in what I do

and how I behave or dress or shop as well as design. I can only be me.

What is a timeless design moment you think will never go out of style? Anything Hubert de Givenchy created and designed, be it fashion or interiors.

What is the best bang for the buck when it comes to making a big impact on a project? A lavish decorative light fixture: It's like your Taffin brooch. jonathanrachman.com

PHOTO BY SUZANNA SCOTT PHOTOGRAPHY

How would you describe your aesthetic? In general, our aesthetic is clean and modern, with nods to tradition and an emphasis on warmth and tactile materials.

What design trend are you loving at the moment? Zellige tile as the new subway tile. It's been popular for several years now, but it's so subtle and beautiful in any space that I don't think I'll tire of it for some time.

What design trend are you so over? I think I've seen enough mudcloth pillows for a while.

How do you weave your sense of style into everything you do? It has to be comfortable if I'm going to wear it. Our interiors are similar in that we want every space to be used and enjoyed. We never aim to create a room so precious that no one sits in it.

What is your favorite color palette to use in projects currently? I'm historically a blue-green person, but I've been loving warmer hues the last couple of years: ochre, terra-cotta, dusty rose, apricot, cream tones.

What is a timeless design moment you think will never go out of style? Joseph Dirand's Paris apartment—it has inspired so many of our own projects and thousands of designers around the world. He is a master of

blending minimalism with classicism in perfect harmony.

What is the best bang for the buck when it comes to making a big impact on a project? Investing in at least one key piece per room with major design chops (often a vintage lounge chair, table or light fixture) that serves as the focal point of a room, while balancing the budget in other areas, goes a long way. laurennelsondesign.com



LAUREN NELSON
OWNER & PRINCIPAL, LAUREN NELSON DESIGN

PHOTO COURTESY OF LAUREN NELSON DESIGN



What first sparked your interest in design? As I child, I enjoyed playing with Lego sets and had a curiosity about design and interior spaces.

How would you describe your aesthetic? Sophisticated, bold and tactile, with refined details and playful surprises

What design trend are you loving at the moment? I try not to follow trends, but I do love mohair and faux fur.

What design trend are you so over? Patterns that are not beautiful, and complicated by postmodern inspiration

How do you weave your sense of style into everything you do? I love clothing (possibly have a shopping addiction!) and love beautifully made, simple pieces with very nice details.

Wallpaper or paint? Tough one! 49% wallpaper, 51% paint.

Antique or reproduction? Antique

What is your favorite color palette to use in projects currently? Army greens, soft natural whites, rich woods

What is a timeless design moment you think will never go out of style? Midcentury and '60s

What is the best bang for the buck when it comes to making a big impact on a project? Painting a room with strong, richly saturated jewel tones

What do you wish more of your clients understood? The importance of hiring highly skilled craftsmen juleswilsondesign.com

JULES WILSON
PRINCIPAL,
JULES WILSON
DESIGN STUDIO

PHOTO COURTESY OF JULES WILSON DESIGN STUDIO

MARTYN
LAWRENCE
BULLARD

FOUNDER,
MARTYN
LAWRENCE
BULLARD
DESIGN



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARTYN LAWRENCE BULLARD DESIGN

What first sparked your interest in design? My mother told me I drew houses on a chalkboard when I was 4 and rearranged the furniture in my sister's dollhouse constantly. I guess the decorating gene was just in me from the beginning.

How would you describe your aesthetic? Purely eclectic. I love all beautiful things, no matter what age or provenance, style or value. It's all about a feeling and an emotion.

What design trend are you loving at the moment? Color is back along with bold pattern. It's almost like fashion—think Gucci and its old-lady prints being mixed together into a new, fun, fabulous chic that's fresh and full of life. That's exactly what's going on in the interior world and I love it!

What design trend are you so over? I'm not a minimalist; I like interiors that scream comfort, that

capture the owner's soul and give a window into their soul. I hate when people follow a trend because they think it's the way to be or to think. Be an individual; don't follow trends, make them your own. Mold them to you and what makes you feel good. Always remember modern luxury is comfort.

What is a timeless design moment you think will never go out of style? The black-and-white

floor, in all materials
What is the best bang for the buck when it comes to making a big impact on a project? The best design dollar ever spent is on a dimmer switch. Lighting is everything, and the simple luxury of a dimmer changes the atmosphere and vibe of a space, instantly making it, and you, always look better. martynlawrencebullard.com