

*design report*



**A Stitch in Time.** Want to hold time? You might just be able to with this 365 Knitting Clock by Siren Wilhelmsen from the 100% Norway exhibit. As the clock ticks, one mesh is formed every half hour, giving one round per day; therefore, 365 rounds complete a 2m long scarf. [sirenelisewilhelmsen.com](http://sirenelisewilhelmsen.com)



**Retro Metro.** Chichi Cavalcanti's Tejo rug from the Hidden Line collection plays with pools of light and color created by triangular and quadrilateral shapes of subtle shades and acid greens that guide the eye across the surface. [chichicavalcanti.com](http://chichicavalcanti.com)

ACNE furniture debuts at Liberty Store with a collection of sofas inspired by Swedish designer Carl Malmsten, including this floral print chair created by Danish company Kvadrat. [acnestudios.com](http://acnestudios.com), [liberty.co.uk](http://liberty.co.uk), [kvadrat.dk](http://kvadrat.dk)



**BRITISH BRILL**

LONDON WOWED THE CROWDS LAST SEPTEMBER AS IT CELEBRATED DESIGN WITH OVER 240 PARTNERS SHOWCASING EXHIBITS, POP-UPS AND TOURS. HERE'S OUR SELECTION OF BIG HITS FROM THE EVENT

PRODUCER/WRITER, SHERYL SONGSONG SPECIAL THANKS, CATHERINE RICE



**Not Your Ordinary Cloth.** Kristine Bjaadal's Underfull tablecloth is a conceptual piece that reveals a hidden pattern when wet. It is said to be "the tablecloth that turns spilling into poetry." Watch how a plain white damask cloth reveals its message in the video demonstration at [kristinebjaadal.wordpress.com](http://kristinebjaadal.wordpress.com)

**Utter Flutter.** Catherine Hammerton's Flutter wallpaper is made from hand-cut paper ginkgo leaves stitched to a traditional wallpaper background, giving it a 3D textured surface. [catherinehammerton.com](http://catherinehammerton.com)



Jenny Beardshall's glass blown Balloon Pendant Lamp is definitely a nod to 60s pop aesthetic. [rawstudio.co.uk/glass.html](http://rawstudio.co.uk/glass.html)



Looking like an inverted steel pot, the Bogracs suspension lamp from A+Z is enameled and hangs from a spring. The lamp was part of Tent London, an inter-disciplinary event showcasing contemporary and vintage design, just to name a few. [tentlondon.co.uk](http://tentlondon.co.uk)



**Paper Cut.** Folded in origami fashion, Francisca Prieto created a most intriguing piece of artwork with Between Folds' Underscore, a commission from gallery Sebastian & Barquet. [blankproject.co.uk](http://blankproject.co.uk)

For other exhibit information on the London Design Festival, go to [londondesignfestival.com](http://londondesignfestival.com)



**Modern Hybrid.** Created entirely with imaginative products, Hands On's limited edition includes David Clarke's Deep Spoon, which seems like it's "stirring up mischief." On the other hand, Reiko Kaneko's Drip and Lip Cups have 24 carat gold "lipstick stains." Stains have never been this chic! [reikokaneko.co.uk](http://reikokaneko.co.uk)



**Red Box.** An international site for architectural experimentation, the 10th pavilion of Serpentine Gallery designed by Jean Nouvel opened in London Design Week to celebrate its 40th anniversary. Constructed from glass, polycarbonate and fabric as seen on its cantilevered parts and retractable awnings, the bold and red geometric structure truly becomes an important piece of architecture in London. [serpentinegallery.org](http://serpentinegallery.org)

The Flower Cup chair has a back made up of wood lists bent to form many petals. The design came from a merger between Japanese study Leifdesign and London's De La Espada. [leifdesignpark.com](http://leifdesignpark.com), [delaespada.com](http://delaespada.com)



Manufactured in Australia, FINK Jug was created by Robert Foster, and is made from anodized aluminum, to keep the contents chilled. [finkdesign.com](http://finkdesign.com)



Silversmith Miranda Meilleur creates vessels, spoons and sculptural pieces that are suffused with a tactile quality, creating delicate objects of desire in silver and copper. [mirandameilleur.co.uk](http://mirandameilleur.co.uk)





1



2



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6



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## Feminine

Get a dose of whimsy from floral frocks, drapes and delicate details

1 16x16cm white linen napkin with coral orange print (P160 each), from Firma 2 Tall transparent glass vase (P995) and artificial flowers (P425 each), from Rustan's Home 3 Blue floral pillowcase and comforter (P8250/set), from Rustan's Home 4 Orchid pink jusi fan (P180), from Firma 5 Pink and white room by Rachel Ashwell; photo from *shabbychic.com* 6 Placemats (P1500; P1700 with pouch), coasters (P150 each), all from Hive 7 Small square plates with orchid design by Trazos Criollos Orquideas (P699.75/set of 4), from Rustan's Home 8 Coaster set (P1180), from AC+632 9 Umbrella in pagoda print by Guy de Jean (P8800), from AC+632 10 Dresses (detail) by Rachel Ashwell; photo from *shabbychic.com* 11 Floral neck pillow (P1500), from Kish 12 Tissue box holder with floral design (P2250), from Rustan's Home. styling **SHERYL SONGSONG** assisted by **HANNAH GALANG AND MARS SAMBO** photography **PAOLA ASERON AND PAOLO BUENDIA**



10



8



9



12



11



# *It List*

Make a splash with accessories that will inspire your home in the long, hot days of summer



Summer weekends are great days to spend lounging by the poolside, and enjoying picnics and outdoor activities with your loved ones. Whether you decide to bask in the sun, drift off to a sweet slumber in your relaxing bed, or soak in the comforts of your own bathtub, remember to surround yourself with a foray of furniture, fabric and flowers filled with summers' eye-popping hues and cool, airy vibe produced by **SHERYL SONGSONG** photography **PAOLA ASERON AND PAOLO BUENDIA**

WHITE SOLIHIYA DINING CHAIR (P11,500), FROM KISH



Acrylic wine glass with plates by Litala (P1980/set of 2), from Rustan's Home



Metal incense holder with cover (P3680), from Firma

White dinnerware set (P2400), from Kish



Plantbox (P2950), from Rustan's Home



TUFTED VELVET FABRIC

OTTOMAN BY DEVON (P11,100), FROM HIVE



Brown and rattan folder in hunter's croc (price upon request), from Prizmic and Brill



Meditation fragrance set by Loving Spa Home (P795), from Rustan's Home



Boat shaped basket (P1800), from hive



GREEN AND BLUE CARAFE WITH ICE RECEPTACLES (P420 EACH), FROM AC+632

Wooden tray (price upon request),  
 Capuccino cup with saucer by  
 Topchoice ((price upon request),  
 Litala group cup and saucer with  
 blue owl design (P1470), all from  
 Rustan's Home



Round vase  
 stoneware  
 (P2200), from  
 Kish



**PURPLE STOOL BOREM**

BY PHILLIP STARCK FOR KARTELL (P8000),

FROM RUSTAN'S HOME



Cyan, yellow, and  
 magenta towels by La  
 Plage (P2250 each),  
 from Rustan's Home

Cotton ball  
 container by  
 The Mane



White leather croc tray (price upon  
 request), from Prizmic and Brill



Moroccan bean  
 bag in forest  
 green and gold  
 (P8,500), from  
 Rustan's Home



Round Moroccan low table  
 (P5250), from Rustan's Home



QUILTED COMFORTER AND BROWN  
 CROC LEATHER BELT (PRICE UPON  
 REQUEST), FROM PRIZMIC AND BRILL





Glass top tray with metal handles (P1950), from Rustan's Home

Mail holder in croc white leather with nickel hardware (price upon request), from Prizmic and Brill



Plastic trash bin by Umbra (P1350), from Rustan's Home



Multiple choice 16 piece gourmet set by Topchoice (price upon request), from Rustan's Home



LARGE SQUARE GREEN PILLOW BY SFERRA 1891 (PRICE UPON REQUEST), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME



METAL SALAD BOWL (P17,500) AND SALAD TOSS (P3950), BOTH FROM RUSTAN'S HOME



Picnic basket with bottle holder (P5780/set), from AC+632



Tissue box holder by the Manelion (p4750), from Rustan's Home

SQUARE STOOLS COVERED IN BALLOONS BY KARTELL (P145,80), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME





Moroccan lamp (price upon request), from Rustan's Home



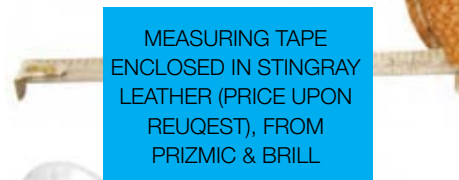
GIVE YOUR NEST A RELAXING AURA THIS SEASON BY USING FURNITURE PIECES & ACCESSORIES THAT EVOKE COMFORT AND MEMORIES OF DAYS SPENT AT THE BEACH



Couture lighting lamp by Maura Daniel (p16,500), from Rustan's Home



SMALL CERAMIC WHITEBOARD WITH GRAPE DESIGN BY PLACETILE DESIGNS (P1650), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME



MEASURING TAPE ENCLOSED IN STINGRAY LEATHER (PRICE UPON REUQUEST), FROM PRIZMIC & BRILL



Luggage tag in rattan encased in croc brown leather with brass hardware (price upon request), from Prizmic & Brill



Starfish plate (P1720), from Firma



Garden-inspired Siesta mug, bread & butter plate, dessert and serving plate (prices upon request), from Hermes





it list

Canvas bag by Lili and Nana (P595), from Rustan's Home

Panama hat (P3980), from AC+632

Siesta serving bowl (price upon request), from Hermes

COLORED COACHING TABLE (PRICE UPON REQUEST), FROM PRIZMIC AND BRILL

Sea sponge inspired accessory (P26,500), from rustan's Home

Baskets (P980 - large, P880 - small), from AC+632

MOROCCAN BEAN BAG IN RUST ORANGE (P12,500), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME

HAMPER (P3250), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME

YELLOW THREE STEP LADDER (P16,000), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME

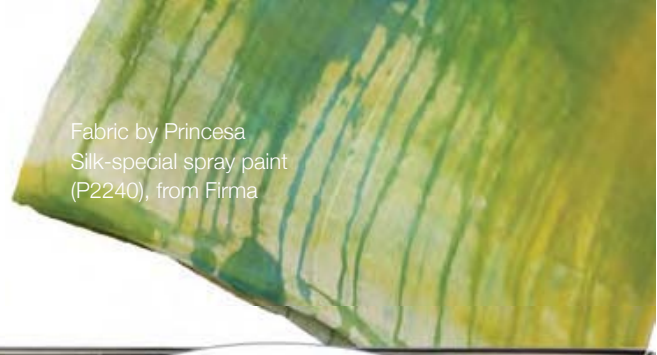
Wine sling in rattan, sling in croc skin (price upon request), from Prizmic and brill



Bath set (P420), from AC+632



Atelage silver spoon and fork with equestrian motif (price upon request), from Hermes



Fabric by Princesa Silk-special spray paint (P2240), from Firma



Mudpie initial soapdish and soap set (P1150), from Rustan's Home



VANTIY OTTOMAN BY DELPHINE GROULT (P25490), FROM AC+632



MAHOGANY CABINET (P12,500) AND GLASSES (P2075 EACH), FROM RUSTAN'S HOME



Multiple choice ice cream bowl, (wooden spoon included) by Topchoice (price upon request), from Rustan's home



WHITE BALL CHAIR (P24,200), FROM HIVE



LARGE SQUARE BASKET (P2300), FROM HIVE



Personal wood radio (P17,950), from Firma



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### Five musings...

1. Milan certainly enthralled the editorial team while doing this issue: We are fortunate to have been able to cover the Saloni 2010 (Milan Furniture Fair), one of the biggest and most prestigious design trade shows and exhibitions in the world. Contributing writer and researcher Cara Garcia summed up the trends and we hope to see you try one for your home. Also, I am proud to present our cover story on the newly opened and dashing Maison Moschino, which added illusory touches to our Fashion Architecture Issue.

2. Three guest artists are featured this issue: Fashion designer cum stylist Estien Quijano interpreted and recreated the styles of fashion icons' Alexander McQueen, Evita Peron, Audrey Hepburn and Marie Antoinette into home furnishings; Secondly, photographer cum industrial designer Paolo Buendia turned the homes featured in My Space into images that speak of drama and flights of fancy. Lastly, fashion designer cum illustrator Christine Go-Tan paints us a picture of the four girls of Sex and the City and their apartments. Now, you can also remake their style in your own space by following our accessory guide in It List.

3. En Route makes its debut with our travel and lifestyle editor Tess Villareal's insider's guide to Copenhagen: what it's famous for, things to see and do, where to stay, eat, drink and shop. Find out why this is one of the best destinations to enjoy both fashion and design.

4. I was reading The Times' list of "25 Movies that Shook the World of Fashion." Some of my favorites are: Coco Avant Chanel (ranked #8), Funny Face (#13), The Thomas Crown Affair (#18) and Avatar (#24). (For the complete list, log on to [fashionfoiegras.com](http://fashionfoiegras.com).) Not included is Marie Antoinette starring Kirsten Dunst, which I highly commend for the costumes designed by Milena Canonero and shoes made by Manolo Blabnik and Pompei. The movie was shot in the Palace of Versailles as well, which could make this film top both a "fashion and set (interior) design movie list." It makes me wonder, what other movies would make it to the Best Set Design list? Please do email me your thoughts at [editorial.SBL@gmail.com](mailto:editorial.SBL@gmail.com).

5. At the Frozen II exhibit of Tom Epperson sponsored by Chloe, I met Noli Viñas, president of the Rotary Club. He told me about their new project Makabayan books -- a three-volume tactile picture book on Sibika at Kultura and HEKASI (geography, history and civics book) for blind children. They aim to print 409 copies for SPED centers in the Philippines; one copy costs P18,688 (about \$375). Together, let us help underwrite their production expense. For donations, please contact Annette Esparaz at +632 718 1888.

As this issue goes to print, I am thankful that the weather is slowly becoming kinder to us. As Jane Austen would say, "What dreadful hot weather we have! It keeps one in a continual state of inelegance." As we all fashion ourselves to live elegantly, allow us to be your new design and travel companion. This issue, let's start with how we dress, and how we live.

Sheryl Songsong

*Most inspiring stories come from places that are dear to a person. This issue, I'm sharing two.*

*At the tender age of three months, I was brought to Muscat, Oman and lived there for the next 12 years of my life. My parents and older sister have been living there for quite some time and so when I was born, it was only natural to spend my childhood in this city I still call home. There are a lot of things I will never forget about Muscat: Waking up to the sound of waves in our Azaiba beach house and smelling the salty air; being told to keep quiet every 12nn and 6pm as you hear chanting and praying from mosques; the perfectly asphalted roads in the city (not a bump or rock along the way); and blaring horns and 'rejoicing' (as the Omanis would say) each time the Oman team wins a football game in the Gulf Cup (causing so much traffic – something very uncommon in Muscat). Then, there's also the smell of a basket-full of dried fish balanced on the heads of Bedouins crossing towns; and the very sweet (almost harsh) floral scent of Arabic men and women. Until now, whenever I visit Muscat, I still stare at the sea of women in black abayas walking in shopping centers (when they're probably the ones looking at me since I'm dressed very differently in casual jeans and a shirt); and lastly (before I fill up a dozen more pages of my fond memories), how can I ever forget the "unique" (and often times, funny) store names and signs such as 'Automatic Bakery' (there is also one named 'Manual Bakery').*

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*Story # 2 fast forwards to my last year in college when I was fortunate to be chosen as our country's representative in an interior design competition and student exchange program in Japan. I convinced my good friend Kring Zulaybar to come to Osaka with me, and boy did we have quite an adventure (this was my first time to travel without family). From the time we landed in Kansai Airport at 8pm, finding our way to the hotel and school, having 'lost in translation' moments, realizing we can't use our GSM phones, and to me breaking down and wanting to come home on my first night there (I seriously wanted to leave and didn't care about anything anymore). I was probably such a pain in the butt (and I'm deeply sorry for that); but with Kring's calming force, and my sister and parents' frequent calls and support, I managed to stay and actually enjoy the experience. To this day, I don't regret it and cherish the weeks I experienced a culture totally different from Manila's. For starters, I barely understood the people; I absolutely loved how convenient and organized their railway system was; train rides and long walks (it took me almost three hours to get to school from my host family's house: 20 minute walk uphill, two long train rides, and another 20 minute walk...whew!); cool vending machines and convenience store meals; the quirky shopping boutiques; just to mention a few. The feeling of independence taught me so much about self-discipline – you have to respect and take care of yourself, and learn to adapt.*

*These two experiences never fail to bring a familiar feeling of nostalgia – something that helps me take a step back, observe the things around me, discover my strengths and weaknesses, and most importantly, breathe and take in life slowly. There are still so many places to visit and I eagerly await the opportunity to travel some place far and learn.*

*This issue, we hope to enlighten and excite with what we have in store for you: a lot of cultural happenings and leisurely destinations. To name a few – Paris' Maison et Objet; a Grecian walk-through of their history, architecture and art; and the famed Kasbah Tamadot by Richard Branson. Locally, we visited Bella Rocca in Marinduque, which I highly recommend for those looking for some real peace and quiet. We also did a number of features in Boracay with the hope of rediscovering the island away from its famed night scene, plus an environmental watch report on the island's rapidly growing community.*

*Let me leave you with two eye-opening and humorous quotations that inspired me while making this issue: "Always keep your eyes open. Never sleep in the car. Keep watching because whatever you see out the window, or wherever...it can inspire you," by Vogue creative director Grace Coddington. Whilst Elizabeth Berry says, "Shipping is a terrible thing to do to vegetables. They probably get jet-lagged, just like people."*

*Sheryl Songsong*

*(There are numerous people to acknowledge in making this issue. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped make our trips comfortable and memorable.)*



## A FASHIONABLE FETE

A concept home store's brand of coveted opulence

AC+632 (area code manila) invites everyone to stop and smell the roses with a concept home store by Ricky Toledo and Chito Vijandre located at the second floor of Greenbelt 5, each corner stocked with conversation pieces that would be an interesting addition to anyone's residence.

One corner of the store is dedicated to 'Le Prince Jardinier', translating to 'the garden prince', with a collection of tools, clothing, picnic baskets and other accessories for flower arrangement and gardening. The corner was inspired by Prince Louis-Albert de Broglie, famous for saving the iconic Paris institution of Deyrolle (which is a favorite store of Ricky and Chito).

The shelves and tabletops are filled with party and entertaining essentials such as Belgian linens, crystals, silver accoutrements, table accessories, accent pieces and hard-to-find Danish hand-dipped, driplless and smokeless tapered candles in unusual colors to complete any celebration.

One section is dedicated to bed and bath, offering luxe teddy bears by Filipino designer Audie Sison, which happen to be in-demand pieces in Japan, Europe and the US. Portugal's Claus Porto has a line of beautifully packed soaps and perfumes, which have catered to royalty since 1887. To complement any room, the decadence of the store is spread throughout the area with Millefiori natural oils, the finest of its kind.

Paying homage to the man of the house, there is even a special area for men's needs such as humidors, bar sets, handkerchiefs, cuff links, office accessories, games, and even fragrances and after-shave. Other attractions include Panama hats, English bowler hats, Spanish handmade walking sticks and designer umbrellas by Jean Paul Gaultier and Chantal Thomass.

Avid collectors will be happy to know that vintage spectacles and sunglasses in celluloid from England and France, feather calligraphy pens, mother of pearl fountain pens by Dallaiti of Italy, and a line of fine leather notebooks and table accessories from Pinetti of Italy, the atelier entrusted by designers like Armani for their leather accoutrements, are also available.





At the far end of the store, an area commits to the boudoir of delights for the ladies—with jewelry, bags and accessories by Wyn Wyn Ong, Bea Valdes, Gigi de Jonghe and Amanda Coleman. Wyn Wyn creates singular pieces that make use of indigenous materials such as pearl and Philippine hardwood mixed with specially cut, top quality gemstones in unusual shapes and designs, while Bea’s internationally acclaimed bags and jewelry celebrates Philippine artistry, which she has fostered through the years. The opulence of the Maharajahs and the elegance of the British Raj are inspirations of Gigi to come up with edgy and contemporary silk headbands and cotton pastel blouses inspired by Nancy Mitford, which combines the richness of ancient design with that of the digital-age. Moreover, Amanda’s delicate gold earrings and neck pieces bring to mind the English countryside’s foliage.

On a larger scale, the rest of the store is filled with salon pieces dressed to showcase exclusive and elegant pieces that will delight the senses. Period styles are given a dose of either whimsy or progressive touches to come up with avant garde furniture and accessories. For instance, Tats Manahan’s coveted pieces are Chippendale-inspired accent chairs adorned with etched gold-leaf chinoiserie and another inspired by a Venetian grotto. Furthermore, AC+632 exclusively distributes polychromed and gold-leafed furniture pieces by Cebu-based Delphine Groult, niece of Andre Groult, an outstanding French interior designer of modern decorative arts in the 20th century.

With all that AC+632 has to offer, there never seems to be enough time (nor space) for the finer things that inspire and bring pleasure to our homes and lives.

For store details, call 632 758 2564. text **SHERYL SONGSONG**  
photography **SHERWIN TAN AND PAOLO BUENDIA**



## Head: ECLECTIC INFLUENCE

Subhead: A salute to personal expression and cosmopolitan taste, Decon Santos' upscale condominium is on full display

By Sheryl Songsong

Photographs by Paola Aseron

Without ringing the bell, the pitter-patter of tiny feet signals there's someone at the door. Two adorable Yorkshire Terriers say hello and let you in. They begin to sniff your shoes and look at you with goo goo eyes, as if hinting for cuddle- or playtime.

A voice is heard from the hallway connecting the kitchen and powder room to the living and dining space, "I see you've met my two babies Miuccia and Alaia." This home is exquisitely glamorous yet undeniably warm—its idiosyncratic interior conceived by realtor and home accessory designer Decon Santos. It is brightly lit, thanks to the white walls and floor-to-ceiling window that provides natural light to the entire space. There is a subtle, well-edited mix of contemporary and oriental elements making it an eclectic space without being overbearing. Hues of white and gray from the walls and wallpaper provide the necessary backdrop for such aesthetic. The notably (and enviably) high ceiling is the main attraction and star of this home. It brings about an air of luxury, and also shows off the paneling, recesses and moulding quite well.

Eyes are immediately drawn to his wall of books and paintings. "My guests are always in awe with the book shelf and how I filled it up," proudly says Decon. Not an inch to waste, he hangs his impressive collection of paintings in between books with knick-knacks carefully curated with them. You can easily spot pieces from Fornasetti, Hermes Home, Maison Les Rob, More Than A Chair and Ethan Allen, just to name a few.

Decon takes inspiration from designer Kelly Wearstler. With an open plan, his home features a juxtaposition of contemporary and classic, masculine and feminine, curves and lines. This is reflected in the tightly edited color combinations, choice of wooden and metal furniture, smart use of mirrors, tight-cut editing of transitional pieces, and gold tones that frame and enhance his surrounding. You can't really pin down one particular style for this home. Some pieces are from his former home, and he's first to say that he is happy to reuse his old furniture items and restore them into new life. "With a fresh coat of paint or displaying certain pieces differently, it's as if it's new again. Plus, I don't like everything brand new. Having these pieces make my home feel very much lived in and not just for display."

The result is an instant classic, a style that is bound to be timeless. "My style depends on my mood and season. Just like how I dress—I infuse a little trend into my rather classic taste in clothes. The same goes for my home. I usually buy pieces that will stand the test of time. Lately, I've been investing in timeless and quality home pieces."

Looking around, his home style reflects a life well traveled. “Every time I travel especially to exotic destinations, I make sure to drop by a flea market or a vintage store and try to buy something for the home that would remind me of that trip.” Turn a corner and you will surely find a piece worthy of conversation. For instance, by the main door, you’ll see a chair by Marcel Wanders and an army of gold ants crawling on the shelf. In the sitting area, there’s a Hermes leather horse saddle and shagreen accent table. And of course, there’s his artwork collection. He admits to being currently obsessed with paintings. According to him, his best acquisition was his 1987 BenCab painting.

Every home has a hero element. For Decon, it’s Ito Kish’s award-winning Gregoria chair. It’s not hard to see why – its exquisite craftsmanship and workmanship is timeless and unique at the same time. It’s definitely a showstopper. “It’s something people instantly recognize,” he says. In fact, Decon says it was love at first sight and purchased it right away. A handmade silk rug in the living area that a friend brought home from Pakistan comes a close second favorite. “Imagine. It took years to finish this entire rug. It’s simply fascinating.”

This upscale two-bedroom condo spans 127 sqm and the location is absolutely golden. Decon exclaims, “It’s in the middle of everything!” When asked about his first memory of his home, he answered, “Seeing it for the first time during a site inspection, I instantly pictured myself living here. I fell in love with the location and its ceiling height, which isn’t common in most condos. The moment I laid my eyes on it, I told myself, ‘I’m not letting this get away.’” It’s been four years since he moved in and he has hosted memorable New Year’s Eve dinners here with his family. “This home is filled with so many special moments especially when I have my little nephew around. He loves hanging out here.”

He then signals lunch was ready and ushers us to the dining area. Immediately, he talks about his wooden tabletop purchased from Tagaytay and that he had the leg frame custom made. He is proud to mix and match pieces to create something of his own. One can’t help but notice the bowler hat drop lamps. It’s quirky, provides just the right lighting and works perfectly for the dining area. The table is set beautifully—the sight of matching blue and white china and placemats, intricate silverware and designer ware is straight from the pages of a coffee table book—while elegant white roses provide a breather from all the details. Decon reveals he likes to entertain at home. He enjoys setting the table when guests come over, and loves to serve Martini, wine, tea and cheese. For big parties, however, lechon, paella and pasta are his staples.

After lunch, Decon shows us the master bedroom. It is remarkably reminiscent of an Upper East Side apartment. “I love New York style apartments. It’s probably where my design aesthetic for this unit came from. My room was particularly inspired from the movie *Cruel Intentions*,” he gushes. A three-piece crystal chandelier watches over a four-poster bed and a pair of matching ottomans from Ethan Allen. The walls



are painted in a midnight blue color and he tells us he doesn't like the sun peeking in his room, hence the automatic black out curtains. In one corner, he has a home office and admits to love spending time in his bedroom, even if to work on his computer and surf all day. "When I'm alone, you'll find me napping and cuddling in bed with my dogs. This is where I find tranquility. I could stay here all day if only there's no work to do." Is there anything else he needs in his bedroom? Well, he's been thinking of getting an Osim full body massager. Who wouldn't want to pamper themselves at the touch of a button?

Everyone has dreams of owning a walk-in closet. Decon decided to renovate the second bedroom and managed to build and design a loft-type closet complete with a spiral staircase to connect the bi-level structure. "It was very challenging to build this loft closet on a flat unit. It was difficult to secure all the permits, but we were eventually allowed to do so." No waste of space here. He made use of every nook and cranny (even the odd spaces) for extra storage and shelving. His closet is complete with a settee, a side table for his coffee-making unit and a leather rug for added glamour. With dark gray walls, his bag collection takes center stage. It is neatly stored in glass-covered shelves with directional and accent lighting, and provides a nice display in the room. A particular Ralph Lauren clutch bag holds a special place in Decon's heart. As a young boy, he bought it with his savings when he was still in grade school making this a memento from his childhood.

Decon describes his typical day for us. "I wake up at 10:30 am and check my phone for messages and I reply to email. Around 11:30 am, I'd have brunch. I discuss with my secretary my schedule for the day then leave home or wait for guests 'til around 5pm. I play tennis or workout at 6 pm; then meet friends or have dinner at 7:30 pm. When I get home, I catch up on my favorite TV series or surf the net 'til I get sleepy. I'm a late sleeper. I go to bed around 1 to 2 am daily. Everyone actually says, 'Hey, you're out again.' They'd be surprised to know that I actually like to spend a lot of time at home especially with all the traffic. If only I could do all my meetings at home, I'd rather stay in."

It is no wonder why he would opt to stay home—his living space is not just a complete stunner. It is inviting, comfortable and well thought off. Is there anything else he would like to add to his home? He answers, "Well, if I had the space, a guest room would be nice."

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Cutlines:

Master Bedroom – The master bedroom features a mosaic artwork that serves as its focal point

Bedroom Nook – A reading nook keeps the room warm and with a sweet atmosphere. Perhaps, for more cuddling with the dogs?

Home office Bedroom – By choosing a central artwork, gold mouldings and quirky accents, the home office keeps up with the mood of the rest of the bedroom

Detail shot Bedroom – Two gold frames are hung strategically to liven up this odd space near the bathroom

Dining Room – The dining is instinctual and personal, thanks to the choice of paintings, lighting and ornaments adorning the area

Foyer – The entryway is layered with texture, repetitive shapes and mixed patterns

Sitting Area – Innately relaxed, white walls and natural light take center stage in the sitting area

WIC – The stuff of dreams: this walk in closet is a loft with multi-levels of storage space

Study – Touches of dark wood, misty gray and gold accents adorn this quiet corner

Living Area – The living area is pepped up with an assortment of paintings, mostly by highly-acclaimed artists Arturo Luz, Malang and BenCab, just to name a few

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#### Tips:

1. **ADD QUIRKS.** “And the ants go marching in.” Don’t be afraid to add playful accents to your space. Choose something bold or humorous that will make your home come alive.
2. **HANG ARTWORK.** Lacking wall space to hang your artwork? Hang an assemblage of paintings in between spaces of your bookcase to add dimension and variation to your display. (It can also hide your messy shelves!)
3. **NATURAL LIGHT.** Shades up! Draw your curtains to the side. Choose window treatments that won’t hide the natural light coming from your windows.
4. **MIRROR, MIRROR.** Hang mirrors to make your space look and feel bigger. You can also make use of reflective surfaces to bring about a sense of grandeur to your home.
5. **COMPOSE A TABLEAU.** Give life to boring corners of your house by putting together vibrant accents such as metal bowls, printed lampshades and colorful books. Throw in a potted plant or small flower arrangement to perk up your space.
6. **CREATE ZONES.** Does your bedroom double as your home office? Keep to monochromatic color combinations and make sure that your desk stays organized by keeping an all-around stash box.

7. **SPLURGE ON ONE MAJOR ITEM.** Make a statement and buy a showstopper piece to transform your space. It's an investment of a lifetime.
8. **PICK A PATTERN.** Tired of plain walls? Printed wallpaper can be a surprising addition to your space. Just choose a pattern and color that will go well with the rest of your furniture.
9. **CREATE ARCHITECTURE.** Introduce mouldings to walls and create drama in your space.
10. **ESTABLISH AN ENTRYWAY.** Place a console table and a pair of chairs by the doorway to stay stylish and organized. Drop or pickup keys, mail and other small items when you enter or exit your home.



ABOVE FASHION PLATES RIGHT MRS. LIILIEN FAR RIGHT (FROM TOP) MRS. BRUNCH, MRS. CLEMENTINE BELOW JUST A TASTE

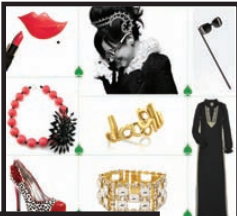


KELLEY LIILIEN

A style splendor's touch of whimsy to create visual drama—at its boldest!



BELOW SCARF-TASTIC BOTTOM SUNfastic! RIGHT A MOXY MRS. FAR RIGHT THE LIFE BEDAZZLED BOTTOM RIGHT MRS. LIILIEN PAPER DOLL

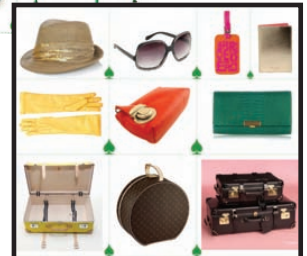


Devoted in pursuing visual brilliance, the flamboyant designer cum stylist Kelley Lilien is perceived as the 'mistress of eye-candy' with her fresh and clever design aesthetics, which landed her projects ranging from companies to cookie wrappers. Mrs. Lilien, as she is called by many, is based in California and is constantly searching for things spirited and inspiring to incorporate in her different styling endeavors, be it for editorial, interiors, stationary designing or packaging. Her blog, *blog.mrslilien.com*, is truly an epitome of style as she skillfully puts together fashion, home accessories and anything that delights the senses in her peg boards, some done in a paper-doll-cut-out manner. Her cheeky-chic designs are always enthusiastic and bold, and cleverly named after zodiac signs (Mrs. Pisces), word-play (She Likes to Mauve It, Mauve It!), rhymes (In the Mood for Nude) and forms of alliteration (Circus Chic and Poolside Perfection), enough to keep one curious and pumped up for more.

Aside from her blog and interior projects, she is also a contributing columnist for Napa Tips for The Curious + Eccentric, a blog under the direction of Alexis Swanson Traina, which is the supporting blog for the newly launched Swanson Vineyard website in collaboration with Andy Spade + Jean Phillippe Del Homme. According to The Mrs., some of her work will be published in *Anthology*, a home and lifestyle magazine set to launch in the US this

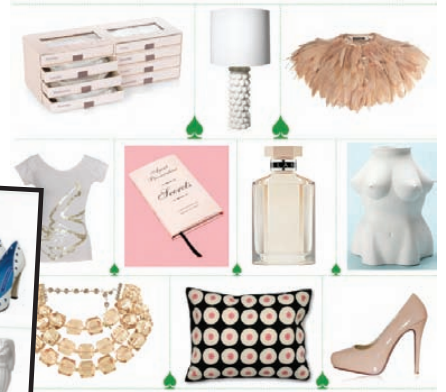


LEFT MRS. PISCES BELOW TRAVEL IN STYLE

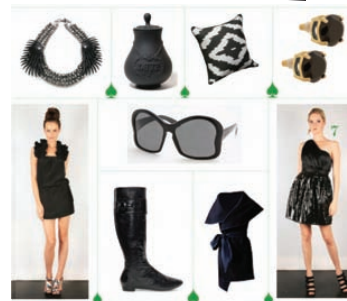
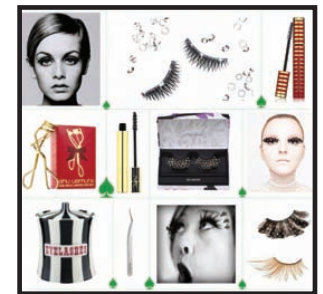




LEFT MRS. KEY LIME RIGHT FLOWER SHOWER BELOW A LITERARY MRS. BELOW JUST A TASTE



ABOVE IN THE MOOD FOR NUDE LEFT BLACKtastic! BELOW FAB LASHES BELOW A LITERARY MRS.



Fall 2010. Blog favorite *apartmenttherapy.com* also featured her and described her style as 'a mixture of Kate Spade, Jonathan Adler and a wee bit *Mad Men* with a twist.'

The Mrs. also owns a 'business that creates visual charm' — Pink Dot Press, a studio that customizes invitations and announcements. She not only takes care of the stationary; she also sees through the programs, place cards and menus, among others.

Her profile creatively states that "she applauds luxury and anything red-letter. She delights in the good life because it's just better! She's daring, dashing and somewhat dangerous. She's fearless and brilliantly boisterous, her styling splendor dripping with the 'Mrs. Taste.' With boundless enthusiasm and an exuberantly sunny disposition, she just might knock your socks off with her "Mrs. intuition." Now, that's rhyming in style!

It's hard not to like and admire Mrs. Lilien. Her witty prop styling combined with a great sense of humor will probably appeal to all ages, whether they're two or 80. One will delight in the unexpected and find that each day will seem more stylish with The Mrs.

To consult Mrs. Lilien, she can be reached at +619 709 4094 and *mrsllien.com*. text **SHERYL SONGSONG** photography **KATE MURPHY, MILK LA AND PEDEN + MUNK (STYLING IMAGES); PEDEN + MUNK AND MILK BOUTIQUE PORTRAITURE (PORTRAIT)**



ABOVE MRS. SHERBET RIGHT LOUD AND PROUD FAR RIGHT MRS. O' LILIEN

