

RESIDENTIAL DESIGNER SPOTLIGHT

WHEN YOU WERE IN DESIGN SCHOOL, WHAT WAS YOUR INITIAL HOPE FOR YOUR DESIGN FOCUS? HAD IT ALWAYS BEEN LARGELY RESIDENTIAL BASED?

Ever since I was a young girl I knew I wanted to be an interior designer, own my own firm and do what I love! Residential is my passion but I love the creativity and challenges of any commercial projects. Toward the end of my Bachelor of Fine Arts I was actually primarily focused on nightclub and restaurant design.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE YOURSELF NOW IF YOU WERE BACK IN DESIGN SCHOOL?

It's not all minnows and lemmings but every successfully completed project makes it all worthwhile.

HOW DO YOU BEGIN A NEW PROJECT, KEEPING THE DESIGN IN TUNE WITH THE CLIENT BUT WITH YOUR OWN STAMP?

My favorite part of every project is getting to know my client and translating it into the design of their home. I understand that clients wouldn't hire me if they didn't want my unique design stamp. I like to push my clients outside their comfort level in terms of design, which takes trust, and they are always happy with the outcome.

SINCE YOU TRAINED WITH A MODERNIST ARCHITECT, ARE YOU HEAVILY INFLUENCED IN THAT GENRE TODAY?

I am so grateful for this training, it really taught me not only to appreciate modern design but also respect the architecture and environment in which I design. The two need to harmonize for a successful project. I love and appreciate all genres of design but modernism definitely more prevalent in Chicago.

HAVE YOU DONE A PROJECT THAT YOU'VE WISHED YOU COULD PERSONALLY LIVE IN?

I am finishing a single family home in the Bucktown neighborhood that's definitely an all-time favorite. I joke with my Client that I want to move into the Powder Room. That I should! I already completed a project in Marbella, Spain and did all of the sourcing in Morocco; until I say more! I could definitely live there...

WHEN CHOOSING COLORS AND ACCENTS, HOW DO YOU APPROACH A CLIENT WHEN YOU'RE ADDRESSED SOMETHING THAT MIGHT BE OUT OF THEIR INITIAL COMFORT ZONE?

It starts with trust. I am so sensitive to the fact that though I can envision it and know it will look great no one can life it up to help with many different taste and various scenarios. I insist and they are always happy they made the leap of faith with me.



PLAYING FAVORITES WITH BRIANNE

FAVORITE CHOICE FOR CREATING A STATEMENT IN A ROOM

Hot plating with texture, scale and contrast. Over-sizing a piece can make a statement yet striking impact. Layering textures creates a visual interest that can appear sophisticated yet bold.

FAVORITE ROOM TO DESIGN

Powder Room! How about the right balance are the best opportunity to have some fun and the small scale of Powder Room allows bold statements to be made!

FAVORITE PLACE OR WAY TO SOURCE FURNISHINGS

Holly Hunt is a favorite go-to designer. I also work with a great network of artisans and we make incredible custom pieces with creative collaborations. Also my wife has her own shop and I have a favorite couple whom we source pieces from.

FAVORITE ACCESSORIES AND ART

My favorite finds unique and vintage猎物 are my go-to shops for accessories. I also purchase plating during my travels with hopes to find the perfect item for them come day. An especially personal find is when our client in her a piano to match with looks good in her space. I like to support up and coming Artists as well.

FAVORITE COLOR

Black

FAVORITE FASHION DESIGNER

Vince for clothes and MacKenzie for home because Chicago is a very open city so both can easily match what you have or undermine it.

FAVORITE CITY OR INTERNATIONAL

US city Chicago. It's classic yet with a little attitude, and sense of the time important cities like Paris and London also has a certain ingenuity.

International city London. I think the fine, big city I've decided and I get in love with interior culture, the architecture and the brilliant people.

FAVORITE PERSONAL ITEM/ON-NYE

Our dog. No matter where they are always there to make you smile. Nuchingham's grandmother's gold dipped shark tooth necklace. She was a petite, nice woman and I love that she used this shark, playful yet elegant. I wear it almost everyday.

FAVORITE INSPIRATION/ART/CULTURE

Behind the scenes. My husband and I share a love for setting the world and we travel as often as we can to new destinations every time. The people, the food, the landscape, the music with soul. We take lots of photographs to capture incredible photos which I reference for inspiration. When I was 22 I traveled through Europe alone and still keep those notes to this day. I loved seeing the history of oldies, art and architecture firsthand.



BRIANNE'S HOLIDAY DECOR

The white palette of this charming Victorian home sets the inspiration for the silver-themed. Incorporating various textures and fine enough sparkle, give the already beautiful fireplace mantel a bit of extra whimsy without overworking it's vintage theme. The Dining Room is also set as a sparkly wine and silver palette allowing only the essence of fruit, flowers and food to bring in a pop of red, green and cream.

The dining in the home is open and without power over the dining table. I had fun creating

a floating silver mantel with greater emphasis in Brianne's fireplace. The staircase with silver was made to cascade by stringing numerous and memory. Three seas and holdhave's her for reflecting vintage furniture and fixtures and pulled some of my favorite independent doors for the exterior back setting in a more traditional tone. Over the years we have implemented many unique trees and colorful drawings around the house to keep the eclectic yet authentic Victorian charm.