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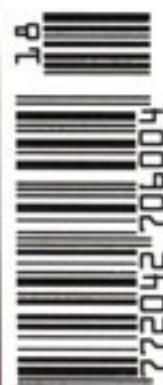
MODERN CARPETS & TEXTILES FOR INTERIORS

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BARBARA FRUA DE ANGELI

A Milan-based interior designer whose clients predominantly come from the fashion world

How did you become an interior designer?

I started by helping friends to choose colours and decorate their homes. Then there was a kind of natural progression to acquaintances and finally to clients – most of whom are from the world of fashion, because I had worked as a magazine fashion editor for ten years. I always had a strong colour sense and working on photographic sets helped form me as a designer.

How would you describe the way that you approach your work?

I'm quite anxious each time I begin a new job, but I'm also incredibly curious. I put a lot of effort into understanding the history I'm presented with. It's important to me to respect the personal history of my client as well as the history of the building. I try to create a balance between those elements.

Who are your clients?

They are mostly private individuals, although at the moment I'm involved in restoring the interiors of a golf resort.

In your view, what are the most important aspects of an interior?

All those things which, when put together in the right way, create an atmosphere of harmony. The principal elements in a room are lighting, colour and textiles. Textiles are a fundamental part of the balancing act.

What kind of fabrics do you find most interesting?

I love vintage ethnic fabrics. The textiles I love to use are made of natural fibres and, wherever possible, hand-woven.

In which of your many projects do textiles play a principal role?



1 Living room of a house in Maremma, Tuscany

2 Bedroom in Maremma, Tuscany

I would say all of them, even the ones in which very few textiles are used. Sometimes it just takes a touch, if it's a strong decisive one, to give character to a room.

How do you source your fabrics?

Mainly from Tessuti Mimma Gini in Milan – a company whose furnishing fabrics I'm involved in editing. The fabrics are made in India and use a very Indian colour palette that is, at the same time, to western tastes.

What about the carpets you use?

These come from my friends Raffaele Carrieri at Altai, and Alberto Levi at Levi Gallery. Both are conveniently located in Milan and are great a source of rugs which have the kind of cultural resonance that suits my design ethos.

And what's your latest project?

A big homestead on a wine-growing estate in the Maremma, Tuscany. www.barbarafrua.it RW o