

DESIGNERS

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PORTFOLIO



John Martinelli Photography

WHEN WORKING ON HER MOST PERSONAL PROJECT — HER OWN HOME — DESIGNER LISA STONE LEFT NO STONE UNTURNED. FROM THE BEDROOM TO THE MUDROOM (ABOVE), EVERY SPACE EXUDES HER LIVELY, MAXIMALIST AESTHETIC. TURN THE PAGE TO TOUR HER ABODE, AS WELL AS A FUNCTIONAL FAMILY HOME IN OREGON AND A SUSTAINABLE RETREAT IN TULUM, MEXICO.



RARE STONE

WITH JOY, AN OPEN MIND, AND UNCOMMON CURATION, LISA STONE DRESSES EVERY INCH OF HER NEW HOME.

WRITTEN BY **JANE DAGMI**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **JOHN MARTINELLI PHOTOGRAPHY**

In middle school, Lisa Stone babysat so that she could look inside other people's houses. Transparent about her motives and future plans to be a decorator, some of the parents would indulge her and ask for advice. In high school, Lisa took her first official decorating classes, and went on to get an interior design degree at Drexel University. Peeking inside the carriage house she shares with her husband David, it is obvious that interior design is her rightful destiny.

Her personal style is unapologetically maximal. Thirty years into her interior design career she continues to evolve her meticulous more-is-more style which, in her own digs, plays out amidst a panoply of bold colors, energetic patterns, trim, and distinctive silhouettes. For clients, the palette will typically be more restrained, but nonetheless the overall design will be privy to her deft layering and curating.

Energized by complex interiors, Lisa creates environments where the eye can wander and discover. "The effect of the space should not be revealed in a quick glance, but should constantly delight with surprises," she says.

Over the course of 3 ½ years, Lisa completely personalized the newly constructed, two-story, 3,600-square-foot abode. Situated in a planned community on Philadelphia's Main Line, Lisa worked with the builder to modify the interior architecture so that it would work optimally for their lifestyle. Some of these changes included downsizing the living room's footprint to gain space for Lisa's design studio/office and creating an impressive room divider in the cavernous 33' x 24' kitchen/family room to create a sense of cozy.

The cabinetry is all bespoke — Lisa's ultimate favorite design being the red lacquer bar outfitted with shagreen Art



(Far left)

While a Stroheim grasscloth unifies the large family room/kitchen space, an architectural divider delineates each area's function

(Middle)

Weekend mornings typically begin in the living room with a cup of tea and social media catch-up. The corner banquette, bequeathed from her aunt in 1986, wears its original pleated glazed cotton.

(Right)

Commanding 8' tall one-of-a-kind Gracie panels are hung above living and dining room entrances. Walls in the dining room are clad in teal Ultrasuede.





To make the open kitchen more in keeping with the mood of the house, Lisa designed an Asian-style range hood detailed with brass trim and rivets.



The chairs around a refurbished Grange table are covered in Brunschwig print and Perennials washable velvet. The painting by America Martin is Lisa's favorite.

“While I appreciate a simple interior with a serene color palette, I gravitate toward the excitement and energy of a complex interior with a bold palette — one that grabs me and doesn't let me go.

— Lisa Stone





Deco hardware and two Sub Zero refrigerated drawers. In the family room, fulfilling David's one request, Lisa created a black rift oak cabinet for an 80" television. She posits, "How dare I try to say, 'Do you really need that size TV?' when he let me design the entire house without compromise."

Fortunately the couple are on the same page taste-wise. They both embrace Asian culture and style which Lisa honors in the bedroom's heron wallpaper, the striking tiered range hood, and the Buddhas and porcelains placed throughout. They are sentimental about certain furnishings too, like the living room's Louis chairs which belonged to her mother, on which Lisa and David would sit and open Christmas presents. Now covered in two Schumacher fabrics, the antiques are, according to Lisa, at their best iteration.

The pair also share a penchant for strong color, especially red which Lisa threaded throughout, combining it with shades of avocado, peacock and teal. Used heroically on the first floor, she shifted to a much cooler palette upstairs. "I wanted a space that is quieter and Zen-like, but still has a defined point of view," she says. Black is an indispensable color tool as well, grounding and defining the shades and patterns around it. Fun fact: Lisa's paint schedule included over 40 colors!



Inspired by narrative, Lisa is a dramatic visual storyteller, and each room is a chapter. While a mudroom may not be a typically grand space, Lisa treats hers with an equal level of attention and detail. Papered in an Editions palm print with a floor enlivened by Brazilian black slate, this passage pays homage to Hawaii, one of her and David's happy places. He says, "I used to think that staying at a luxury hotel was the ultimate until Lisa designed our home. Now my vacation never ends!" ▶



(Above) The vixen bar, in SW Rave Red, was a labor of love in both design and fabrication.

(Left) Lisa subbed the standard fretwork headboard of the iconic Ferrell Mittman Palm Poster bed for an upholstered one.