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ELISE SOM FOUNDER

# ask the expert

# WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Collaboration with my design team. We sit and talk, sketch, discuss colors and textures—it's so great to communicate with another creative person and create something beautiful.

### HOW DO YOU DEFINE LUXURY?

Luxury is found in the softest textures and the most comforting materials which create aesthetic tranquility not found in the ordinary.

## WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON NEXT?

I am creating eco-friendly furniture, scents and linens that comply with forest sustainability guidelines yet retain the same level of luxury and aesthetic excellence.

# ELISE SOM DESIGN STUDIO

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"Perfect design occurs when the client's wants and needs fuse effortlessly with the designer's vision," says Elise Som, principal of Elise Som Design Studio in New York City. While Som graduated from Parsons two years ago, she is far from a novice. She has already redesigned a multi-million-dollar Gramercy Park residence and collaborated with renown designers, including starchitect David Adjaye. For Som, interior design is linked to fashion, color and history. So like a true visionary, she guides her clients' tastes to create a harmonious living space. Travel, one of her major influences, allows her to combine different eras and styles, such as, placing a Louis XVI dresser in an ultra-modern setting. Most recently, a trip to Africa has not only spurred an appreciation for bold fabrics and prints, but also a need to create a sustainable line of high-end furniture. "Eco-friendly can be beautiful and luxurious," she says. As Som's collections can attest, juxtaposing metals, fine hardwoods and sumptuous upholstery gives her work a signature touch. "Our furniture is like sculpture," she continues. "That one piece will touch everyone who walks in." Not surprisingly, this kind of creative thinking is what makes each space she works on uniquely distinct. "Interior design is connected to emotions," adds Som. "Entering a well-designed space will always make you feel something and this makes for very happy clients."



"A perfect interior always excites the senses, pleases the eye and comforts the soul."

-ELISE SOM. FOUNDER



The antique mirror on the wall gives the master bedroom a unique illusion. The side tables from ESDS Carre Collection and the Terzani chandelier give the room majestic touches.



The color palette blends seamlessly with the rest of the apartment, adding effervescence to an active space. The Bocci chandelier adds a sculptural quality to the space.



Custom shelving and cabinets fuse with Fornasetti wallpaper. A lavish Poltrona Frau chaise is bathed in natural light to emphasize a feeling of thoughtful repose.



The cool palette and texture of Quadrille fabric pillows tie in to the I-Bench, which anchors the tranquil and comfortable bedroom.