



MAGAZINE

Designer Sacha Walckhoff's apartment proves that we can trust theatrical mix & match in design

Tour a special space in Paris where bold elements dominate

by **Stavroula Kleidaria**
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It takes a special kind of skill to combine multiple prints. However, there is one person who is fearless in the face of any violation of design rules and standards, and he is none other than Sacha Walckhoff! As the legendary fashion editor Diana Vreeland once said, "the eye must travel". On this view, Walckhoff explains that "we need eye-catching pieces, some bright colors and some neutrals, to create a wonderful contrast." His Parisian home, in fact, an apartment of "typical Louis Philippe architecture" which has remained almost untouched since the 19th century, hosts a cluster of prints and strong design elements. In this personal haven, nothing obeys rules and everything is off limits,



Perhaps his intuition for the dynamic of bold print comes from the fact that he has crossed the glossy floors of so many fashion houses. Kenzo, Michel Klein and Christian Lacroix Maison, where he has been Creative Director since 2010, all received the Walckhoff "treatment" somewhere along the way. More recently, of course, he has also turned his talents to solo ventures, such as a furniture collection for the Parisian gallery Gosserez, overflowing with coveted pieces, and the "Magic Garden" porcelain series for Rosenthal.



As for his own home, which he shares with his partner Pascal, a hair designer for the Comédie-Française, there is, he says, "always something black and white, something graphic, while stripes are essential." On his walls, Art "blooms" and stands out against the background of the strongly graphic wallpapers he designed for Graham & Brown. This, after all, is his school of design: forged from divine madness, but chosen to underline with enough restraint and simplicity the whole thing and connect it effortlessly. Each proposal in the space is a design "tightrope" and Walckhoff is its conductor.



So it seems incredible to everyone that the designer can relax at night in one of the living rooms he has recreated in his new apartment. This is because the eye constantly wants to travel from one detail to another, as in the space there are many treasures that one can find if one looks more closely, such as, for example, a Warhol painting or the screen that covers the vestibule and is made with gilded 17th-century Cordoue leather panels -which he discovered in a Paris flea market-, or the clay stove and marble fireplaces, which are original pieces. And in "partnership" with all of the above, the Farrow & Ball paint, which balances the overall effect, the choice of placing Anthracite on the double doors and the soft green shade chosen for the bathroom. "They make me happy every morning," he says of all his choices. His advice to us? "Each room should be like a small landscape and a natural continuation of the next space. Above all, the home should look like you, be the happy reflection of your personality."

About



With a background based on French, Swiss, Slavic and African roots, Sacha Walckhoff's influences are as diverse as his origins. His long association with the Christian Lacroix fashion house began in 1992, while his fashion career has also been reflected in collections for Kenzo and Michel Klein. His tenure as successor to Lacroix culminated in his appointment as Creative Director of the house in 2010, from which he led an ambitious expansion of the label into new areas, such as lifestyle, design and interiors.

Recently, he has developed his own uniquely stylized "vocabulary" in projects: a furniture collection for the Parisian gallery Gosserez, a series of unique porcelain vases for Vista Alegre, and tableware pieces with Rosenthal, among others.

Discover more photos in the gallery!

PHOTOS: GILLES TRILLARD

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