

MEET THE DESIGNER

RIENTS BRUINSMA

ROCO INTERVIEWS RIENTS ABOUT HIS STUNNING INTERIORS WHICH CAN BE SEEN IN SOME OF THE GRANDEST CITIES IN THE WORLD INCLUDING LONDON, NEW YORK AND PARIS

Rients Bruinsma, established his London interior design and architectural practice "Rients" in 2003. He has achieved success with private and corporate clients with a magisterial use of sumptuous materials to create an atmosphere of calm luxury without ostentation.

His style has been described as 'classic meets contemporary' breathing international sophistication.

Commercial projects include the Presidential Suite at Four Seasons Hotel in New York, and a conversion of the Ministry of Finance into the left wing of the Louvre.





DESIGN PROJECT
ONE HYDE PARK



DESIGN PROJECT
NOTTING HILL



WHAT WAS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND YOUR CAREER IN THE WORLD OF INTERIORS?

It has been a passion from a very early age. From age three I built miniature interiors (and made sofas from my mother's cotton wool balls). Later I drew endless floor plans, now I do it for a living. If I have spare time, I flip through magazines and look at available properties on real estate websites.

WHO DO YOU ADMIRE WHEN IT COMES TO DESIGN?

I like it when an interior is understated, casual and chic. It needs to be comfortable and reflect personality. When working on the One Hyde Park apartment in London I was inspired by the work of French born interior designer Jean-Michel Frank (1895-1941). Marc de Plantier and Dupre Lafon are also designers whom I admire and inspire me.

WHAT IS YOUR APPROACH WHEN WORKING WITH CLIENTS?

I listen carefully to what they want and have in mind, when they indicate that they need my input then I give it. I have a lot of repeat clients and most of them have good taste. I often know what they want. I love learning from my clients, not only when it comes to interiors but also regarding other matters. They can be a great inspiration.





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WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST CHALLENGING BUT REWARDING DESIGN PROJECT?

Probably working in One Hyde Park in London. The building had just been opened and had all kinds of rules and regulations which made it challenging for us but also for the suppliers and workmen. Having worked in most other apartment buildings in London I found the process difficult in comparison. In the end it worked out fine but it took some patience.

YOUR STYLE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS "CLASSIC MEETS CONTEMPORARY", HOW DO YOU ACHIEVE THIS BALANCE?

I think this is a bit dictated by the housing stock that we have in London and other major cities. Often the best properties are in period buildings and that is what we have to work with. To get the most out of these buildings I think it works best to restore the shell to its former glory or even better. In order to keep the interiors fresh and interesting it's paramount to mix traditional with contemporary design, but also regarding other matters. They can be a great inspiration.

For further information on Rients Bruinsma visit www.rients.com



WHERE DO YOU GO TO FIND INSPIRATION?

I love magazines and buy them from all over the world, digital these days which is fantastic. I also like travelling and look at palaces, castles, museums, etc. I love movies that are set in beautiful interiors, very inspiring. Almodovar does it well.



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