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# DESIGNED FOR EXCELLENCE

The sofa, chairs, and ottoman in this Bedford, NY, living room were all custom made.

Brittany Bromley's interior designs are inspired by natural beauty, and informed by a close and caring partnership with clients. The results are extraordinary.





Ralph Lauren chinoiserie wallpaper graces the dining room in a New York City prewar building.



Interior designer Brittany Bromley achieves the seemingly impossible—creating spaces that simultaneously impress and invite; that are breathtakingly expansive and yet approachable all at once. It’s the mark of someone who is sure of herself and her craft. “My style has naturally evolved as my design career has progressed,” Bromley explains. “In the beginning where I would’ve been more hesitant and allowed the client to lead on certain items, I’m more confident now about suggesting that a particular fabric, although beloved by the client, is not upholstery weight and even when backed probably won’t work for a heavy traffic sofa!”

#### EARLY INFLUENCES

Even in her childhood, Bromley was enthralled by well-executed interior décor. “I grew up in downtown Chicago. I was fortunate to live in beautiful homes and always adored the way the homes in which we lived reflected our sensibilities and enriched our lives,” she remembers.

She attended college in New Orleans, a city with faded grandeur and eclectic charm that, she says, “was very influential in my design career.”

Her career took off quickly. “After I designed my first home, I had several people ask me if I would help design theirs, and very quickly afterwards I had

14 projects and three people working for me! We often laugh that I had my full residence project before I had a resale number.” She founded her company in 2013, and practices out of Bedford, NY, taking on anywhere from 20 to 25 projects per year.

#### CONTINUAL COLLABORATION

Bromley is exquisitely attuned to her clients’ needs and desires. “The first thing I do when I meet with a client is ask them questions about their lifestyle—Do they have children, dogs? Are they left-handed or right-handed?” she says. “The answers to these questions about how they live help inform how we will help them design the rooms in which they live.”

The most challenging part of the job? “It’s the devil in the details,” she readily responds. “We have a saying—‘If it can go wrong, it will,’—so we check once, twice and often three times to make sure things are exactly as we specified or ordered, and even then we are occasionally foiled in our attempt at perfection!”



Matching Gustavian lamps are focal points in this Oyster Bay, NY, guest bedroom.





An antique Persian rug adds a colorful lift to a room in Pound Ridge, NY

#### A CLASSIC OUTLOOK

When creating a room, Bromley aims to achieve enduring appeal. “I’m not a person who loves the idea of something being trendy. If a style in your home is likely to feel dated, perhaps you might consider another option. We prefer updated classics,” she says, adding that of all current design trends, her favorite is the refurbishment of antique furniture in lieu of buying new pieces. (The trend she likes least? “Blonde wood furniture with succulents as decorative elements,” she shares.)

Her love for the classics notwithstanding, she’s a big fan of mixing eras: “Layer, layer, layer,” she says. “A mix of old and new and custom pieces results in the best outcome.” She also adores working with all things tortoiseshell, and prefers the patina of metals like brass and nickel, which warm with age.

Bromley’s rooms feel inspired because she finds ideas everywhere, not only from her style icons—Tom Scheerer, Sister Parish, and Alberto Pinto among others—but from daily life. “I am inspired all day long by different things. Garden design, the play of symmetry in winter branches, unusual color combos, and so on. I once designed a whole room based on the combo of three unusual colors that met on a boat hull partially submerged under water while walking around a marina!”

#### CLOSE CLIENT TIES

Bromley’s passion and unswerving attention to detail turns clients into fans and occasional second-time customers. “It’s always wonderful to work with repeat clients,” she says. “You’ve developed a trust with them and you have an innate ability to define the things to which they will respond and gravitate. We are always so flattered when we are asked back to design multiple residences for the same family. Nothing pleases us more than helping people in the evolution of their design lives!”

Sometimes too, the relationship lasts even longer. “More often than not we become close friends with our clients. It’s a privilege when someone asks us to help inform the way that they live, and it often turns into a friendship.” —D.S. 🐾



Antique Native American art and vintage brass floor lamps feel fresh in this seating area.

#### SPEED ROUND WITH BRITTANY BROMLEY

**People would be surprised to know:** I was a competitive figure skater.

**Guilty pleasure:** Canceling “out” plans and binge-watching TV seasons of favorite shows with my hubby on weekend nights in freshly ironed sheets

**My next trip will be to:** Palm Beach for a site visit

**My favorite animal is:** Baby miniature goats

**My favorite interior designer is:** Mary McDonald

**Favorite color:** White

**Every room needs:** Something black



A dramatic front entrance hall in Locust Valley, NY



Symmetry gives this Bedford, NY, living room a formal air.