



DISCOVERIES

WORLD OF

Rebecca de Ravenel

In her airy Los Angeles home, the fashion and accessories designer marries carefree island style with worldly panache

REBECCA DE RAVENEL, IN A DRESS AND EARRINGS FROM HER NAMESAKE LINE, AT HOME IN LOS ANGELES WITH HER DOGS, FRIDA AND LUNA; THE SERENA & LILY DAYBED IS CLAD IN HER POPPY PRINT, AND THE NEEDLEPOINT PILLOW WAS MADE BY HER GRANDMOTHER.

HAIR BY ALEX THAO; MAKEUP BY JAMIE STEVENS

DISCOVERIES



1

1. AN ANTIQUE WICKER DINING SET FROM PAT MCGANN GALLERY ANCHORS THE DINING AREA. 2. TABLE LINENS, PLATES, AND GLASSES OF DE RAVENEL'S OWN DESIGN. 3. A PAPIER-MÂCHÉ GIRAFFE BUST AND PAPER "PLANT" FROM JOHN DERIAN COMPANY HOLDS COURT BESIDE A PALM BEACH REGENCY MIRROR. 4. IN THE LIVING AREA, A PETER BONDE ABSTRACT PAINTING HANGS ABOVE ANTIQUE IRON PEACOCKS; THE SILVER RABBITS WERE GIFTS FROM DE RAVENEL'S GODFATHER, AND THE MIX OF THROW PILLOWS INCLUDES DESIGNS FROM MARIGOLD LIVING AND BRIGITTE SINGH.



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You could say Rebecca de Ravenel's chic, European-inflected take on island style is the result of osmosis: Born in New York to bon vivant parents, she spent her childhood on Nassau, in the Bahamas, before moving to Paris at age seven. "The first time I went to school in France, I couldn't understand why I had to put shoes on," recalls the Los Angeles-based fashion designer, whose wildly popular Les Bonbons earrings and long, flowy dresses have become vacation staples for the jet set.

Happily, de Ravenel hasn't lost her penchant for going barefoot. Her light, bright home in the Hollywood Hills is perfectly suited to indoor-outdoor living. "The doors are always open," she says, breezily gliding through the free-flowing living and dining areas, filled with peppy floral fabrics,

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1. A TABLE FROM CHARLES JACOBSEN INC. SITS ATOP A MADELINE WEINRIB RUG. 2. ARTWORKS BY ILIA TCHACHNIK, MALICK SIDIBÉ, AND FERNAND LÉGER HANG ABOVE A CUSTOM TABLE; THE PALM BEACH REGENCY STOOLS ARE COVERED IN BRIGITTE SINGH FABRIC.

an antique wicker dining set with heart-backed chairs, and striped Madeline Weinrib rugs. “I originally wanted the house to be very white,” she says. “I tried, but I just seem to be incapable. I keep adding and layering.” Among the myriad cases in point are antique iron peacocks from her family home in the Bahamas, little black vases found in Burma, and a Man Ray photograph of her great-grandmother Baba d’Erlanger.

Out in the courtyard, de Ravenel sinks into a banquette with cushions covered in a botanical blue-and-white textile. “It’s a tablecloth from this company Marigold Living that I came across on Instagram,” she explains, adding with a smile, “I ordered a few.” Her textile obsession, she notes, has become a running joke among her family and friends. “I have a cupboard that is solely dedicated to fabrics.”

This is, of course, less of an indulgence than it may seem given her line of work. In her hands, the boundaries between home and fashion are intentionally and organically blurred. The antique plaster seashells she chose to flank the living area’s salon-style art arrangement resemble a blown-up version of her signature earrings. A poppy print she created is reimagined on a sofa cushion, lamp shade, table linens, and even china. And yes, she produced the tabletop items, although no, she is not launching a home line—at least, not yet. “It’s something I really want to do,” she says, “but it’s too soon.”

De Ravenel relocated her life and business from the Bahamas to Los Angeles four years ago. “I was looking for something that would be a bit of an escape,” she says of her search for this house. “What’s amazing about it is that it’s surrounded by windows. You wake up in the morning and there’s that California light.

“It’s a very happy home,” she continues. “There’s always food in the fridge, drinks in the bar, dogs barking.” At that, one of her three rescues, Tulip, joins her on the banquette. “It’s very lived-in, and I think that’s the way it should be. Imperfection really has quite a lot of charm.” rebeccaderavenel.com

—JANE KELTNER DE VALLE

