



Her Indoors

by Michael Travers

It feels sometimes that every other person you meet in Bali is an interior designer of one persuasion or another, but as we all know it takes more than just an armful of jewellery, a CAD program, or words on a business card to make you a good one. It takes flair, a creative curiosity and a great body of work laid on the table, to be able to truly state your credentials as designer of note. Gill Wilson has these qualities and this is why she is one of a select group of interior designers at the top of their craft in Bali, pushing the boundaries of contemporary meets ancient design and blending the modern with the antique.

She specializes in creating one-off designs when she works with clients. She will not reproduce a design that she has already made for someone else. She will however do a variation on the design and in the process present the new client with a truly unique

piece of work that they can call their own. "A client will come and say that they want something that they have seen, but we won't make it unless we can change the design. We have to explain that it was made exclusively for somebody else and, in a sense they own that design. They eventually come around once they realise that they in turn will be getting something equally as unique - designed just for them," explains Gill.

Her company, Gill Wilson Interiors, has moved in leaps and bounds in the few short years since its inception. They started off by acting as middle men for other companies, installing curtains and providing soft furnishings for villas using only a skeleton staff. Today they have evolved into a total interior design company with a fulltime staff of eleven; including designers, fitters, office staff and drivers and have amongst their client list such names as Bvlgari, the Hyatt, Bali's



Oberoi, countless luxury private villas, and the Elephant Safari Park in Taro, Bali - where she outfitted their 27 recently opened luxury safari lodges.

Gill works closely with her partner and fellow designer Dewi. They put together a package that includes drawings, material samples and 3D renderings so the client can get a feel for the textures of the products and a visualization of what to expect. She has also just opened a showroom at her office building on the Sanur Bypass to create a place where customers can see her ideas and range of design pieces and room mock ups in situ. "This helps people visualize in real time and space what the finished product will look like," comments Gill.

After travelling and living in Asia for the better part of 22 years with her hotel GM husband, she has amassed a large and enviable

collection of antiques and fine art from around the region. In the process Gill has developed an appreciation for class and beauty and an eye for detail that has taught her so much about the inside world of design.

Her own house in Sanur is a living gallery to the passion for art that attracted her into the world of interior design. Surrounded by Japanese Edo prints, oil paintings, Chinese porcelain, silks and antique furniture you see the reflection of a woman of taste - it gives her the opportunity to showcase to her clients what her style really is.

The house gives testament to a life well travelled and cultures well digested; a visual resume for prospective clients if you will - a real creative talent in their midst and a true professional in charge of their future investment and comfort.

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