

ellie

SOJOURN

*Interiors + Inspiration*

APRIL/MAY  
2014



**RESORTS:**

*Cabo Azul*

*One & Only*

*Las Ventanas al Paraiso*

**A TOUR OF  
HOTEL EL  
GANZO**

**Q & A WITH  
DESIGN ATELIER**

CABO



# *Tête-à-Tête*

WITH INTERIOR DESIGNER

*SANDRA ESPINET*

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF S.E. DESIGN SERVICES

---



*Renowned Luxury Interior Designer, Sandra Espinet, shares a little insight on her 'classic luxury and casual international style' that she has featured so eloquently in her dramatic and alluring designs and recently published book, 'The Well-Traveled Home' (Gibbs-Smith August 2013). Sandra currently resides in Los Angeles, CA and Los Cabos, Mexico, where she owns and operates her design firm S.E. Design Services.*

**You would describe your personal style as...** Eclectic is the word most of us use today to describe our style because the reality is that most of us do mix and match styles to create a personal and unique zone. I fall into that category too. My life, my style and my world is ever changing and ever turning. I am open to all kinds of beauty and creativity. So yes – eclectic!

**Obsessed with...** Life is very imperfect. I am obsessed with trying to make it perfect. I think that's why I love interior design. I love the idea that I get to leave little bubbles of perfection behind me and know that some spaces in the planet are all good. My client's homes are Zen zones of perfection.

Now ... how do we fix India and Cambodia?

**I find ....** Biz Jets, very, very **sexy**

**Frankly speaking.....** Inspiration is a topic I give speeches about. So many things can bring on inspiration. But the main thing is having an open heart and being able to appreciate what's around you. You don't have to go far and away to be inspired. Simple things in nature or in your home can bring on the creative flow. For example, I designed a rug for my Aga John collection called "walk little bird". A bird came to my garden every morning as I drank coffee that week and he inspired me to draw him. He ended up on a rug! Just let life in!

**My design philosophies are** Be honest in business and be wildly creative in design.

**International Influence...** I am my international influence!!! I have lived in 9 countries and have spent most of my life traveling around the world. Except for Antarctica, I have hit all continents. My new book "The Well-Traveled Home" was inspired by my travels and design work combinations.

**Dream Client/Celebrity....** Most of my clients are not "Hollywood" celebs, but they are all dream clients and all amazing people who make the world a better place and make great moves to improve life. They are mostly incredible self-made business owners or leaders and have all been influential in my personal growth. But if you are looking for some name-dropping? I would say Angelina Jolie, Barack Obama and Richard Branson would all be dream clients for me because they are people who fascinate me and who seem to have ideas and images I like. I could learn so much from them too.

**Buzzworthy...** Windowless jets. Have you heard about the design concepts for the future? I can't wait!

**Bored to Tears with...** Anything Kardashian.

**On my Mood Board...** I am off sailing to Turkey in June, so I am into dreamy visuals of teal, sea and summer. My current inspiration board is all about fresh summer breeze. It will change soon though. Just like my moods.

**Ultimate escape location...** Home. I travel so much that to me, being home with my husband and our 2 French Bulldogs, The Bean and Sugar, is the ultimate holiday. Of course it helps that we currently live in Los Cabos, Mexico and I always feel like I am on vacation.

**My personal home decor...** is custom furniture that is SOOO comfortable, wacky French flea market finds, bold colorful art, jute area rugs, white or pale stone colored walls with brightly painted little rooms like hot pink laundry rooms or yellow coat closets.

**Favorite Vacation Spot...** Any Aman hotel. I am an Aman junkie and have stayed at most of their locations. I sometimes choose vacations around their new hotel locations. If Aman Hotels is there – it's good enough for me. I am a huge fan of Adrain Zecha. Genius!

**Wildest Travel Experience....** Oh... now we need to open a bottle and sit down for a while. I have so many travel stories I could write a book. Oh! I just did "The Well-Traveled Home". But seriously, where do I start? Maybe with the Sky Burial in Tibet? That was surely a crazy day.

**Personal Home Décor...** My home has a neutral color palate and leans towards modern. However I do have several antiques and collected accessories from my trips. Items I have brought back from trips that make me smile or make me happy when I see them. I have a zebra rug from Africa, antique French windows converted into mirrors, and Tibetan rugs.

**Fashion Sense...** Fashion changes like the wind, but this year I am into all things Rick Owen, La Perla, Tom Ford or Kaelen.

**Best Find while Shopping...** I met my husband on a shopping trip to Mexico. Best trip and best find of my life! ■



Photo Info : Private Residence, San Jose del Cabo, Mexico Photography by: Hector Velasco

















Photography by: Hector Velasco

















Photo Info: Private Residence, San Jose del Cabo, Mexico Photography by: Grey Crawford





*Photo Info: Casita Hahn Residence - Villas del Mar, Palmilla, Los Cabos Photography by: Grey Crawford*



*Photo Info: Private Residence, San Jose del Cabo Photography by: Hector Velasco*





Photography by: Hector Velasco



















