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Love your home

Create a space that reflects your own style.



RECALL: 18/11/2009

Nani Marquina My interior life...

The doyenne of Spanish textiles and rug-maker extraordinaire, Nani Marquina studied industrial design at the Massana School of Art and Design in Barcelona before starting her rug company in 1987. She has collaborated with many prestigious designers, including Javier Mariscal, Ron Arad and Tord Boontje, and her designs, which are manufactured in India by skilled craftsmen using traditional techniques, are sold in more than 45 countries. Nani lives with her photographer husband, Albert, and their dog, Tecla, in Sant Gervasi, Barcelona.

MY LIFE

I WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT my notebooks. I make daily to-do lists and annotate everything.

MY PERSONAL TRADEMARK IS my necklaces. I rarely go anywhere without a whole selection.

MY FAVOURITE SHOP IS Vinçon, on the Paseo de Gràcia in Barcelona [selling modern interiors products]. I also remember my first visit to Muji in Japan – I wanted to buy everything!

I LOVE DESIGNS BY Issey Miyake – they are like walking architecture.

MY FAVOURITE SHOES ARE by Camper. I like its philosophy: it makes shoes to suit everyone.

I RELAX BY flying to my home in Ibiza. Just getting on a plane automatically makes me feel calm.

I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT the sun or olive oil.

NOTHING MAKES ME PROUDER than celebrating the 20th anniversary of my company, particularly as so few people believed in it at the start.

MY INSPIRATION

I STARTED TO DESIGN CARPETS BECAUSE there were no modern rug designers in Spain in the Eighties. I saw a gap in the market for something I really loved.

THE IDEA FOR the African House collection came from murals painted by South Africa's Basotho tribeswomen on their homes. The motifs represent prayers for sun, rain and peace.

I'D LOVE TO WORK WITH

THE Bouroullec Brothers, Hella Jongerius, Konstantin Grcic and Patricia Urquiola, to name just a few.

I ADMIRE my friend Javier Mariscal. He has an unbelievable imagination.

MY FAVOURITE CITY IS Barcelona. The city is design, and we have a unique quality of life.

I FEEL I CONNECT with Joan Miró. He was a Spaniard who used colour in a remarkable way.

ONE OF MY HOBBIES IS collecting things. From vintage teapots to desert sand. For me, collecting means remembering.

MY HOME

MY HOUSE IS like a big container storing all the stuff I love – in a spacious and minimal way, though.

MY FURNITURE IS mostly by Spanish designers, such as Perobell, Santa & Cole, Stua and Punt Mobles.

MY DREAM piece of furniture is the Fjord armchair by Patricia Urquiola for Moroso. I love it's irregular shape.

MY INTERIORS NO-NO IS glass or acetate coffee tables. I really can't stand them!

MY TOP TIP IS less is more.



Joan Miró: The Museum of Modern Art, New York.



L'Estornell olive oil, £16.95 for 75cl, Partridges. Villa Julia play house, £159, Javier Mariscal for Magis at Design Museum Shop. The Hunter print by Joan Miró, £25, artrepublic.com. Issey Miyake A/W 09. African House rug, from £1,826, Nanimarquina at Geoffrey Drayton. Twins pumps, £90, Camper. Fjord armchair, £2,775, Patricia Urquiola for Moroso.

