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PHOTO ESSAY: KOREAN LOVE HOTELS

MAY/JUN 2012
\$8 USA/CAN



ON THE RISE

CYDesign

After relocating from the Big Apple to the City of Brotherly Love, interior designer Christina Yorkston has officially found her sweet spot



NAME:
Christina Yorkston

HOMETOWN:
Philadelphia, PA

OCCUPATION:
Principal/Interior Designer

BACKGROUND:

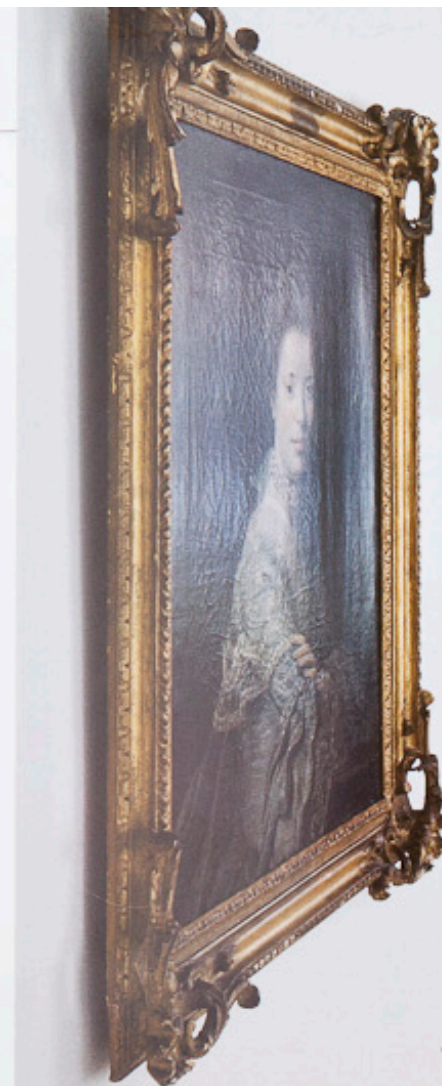
Yorkston definitely qualifies as a renaissance woman. She studied journalism and art history at NYU, managed projects in the defense and pharmaceuticals industries for a year and a half, and then studied interior design at Parsons. But design has always been a part of her life. As a child, her parents, both art and antiques enthusiasts, remodeled the family's 1729 Delaware home by blending traditional and modern aesthetics. This hybrid design style has stuck with her. "My parents still believe firmly in collecting what you like and mixing styles," Yorkston says. "They have modern art hanging that serves as a backdrop for an 18th century farm table. I got to see first-hand the hard work involved in creating a truly personalized home experience."

BUILDING A BUSINESS:

While working for the NYC powerhouse architect and interior designer Deborah Berke, Yorkston made the snap decision to step out on her own. "I thought, 'I can do this, I like this, I can make a living doing this,'" she says with crisp confidence. In 2008, she founded CY Design and moved to Philadelphia to jumpstart her firm.

BIGGER IS BETTER:

Yorkston just completed her first project, a private home located in sunny Palm Beach, Florida. Using a couple of vintage chairs that look like they came straight from Versailles as her focal point, she worked oversized pieces of art, including a large sunburst wooden mirror, into the design to create her trademark striking juxtaposition. Now, she's transforming a 1860s townhome from traditional to contemporary cool by strategically placing large-scale modern paintings and simple furnishings in its ornate rooms. It's her go-to look, and for the time being, she's sticking to it. —LAUREN CARROLL



At the North Palm Beach residence, Eric Kuczyński designed custom furniture pieces to fit Yorkston's design vision.



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—swagger armchair
—16 glass top coffee table
—circa 3 door credenza