

LA DOLCE VITA

BY PALOMA CONTRERAS

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THE STYLE FILES: PHILIP MITCHELL



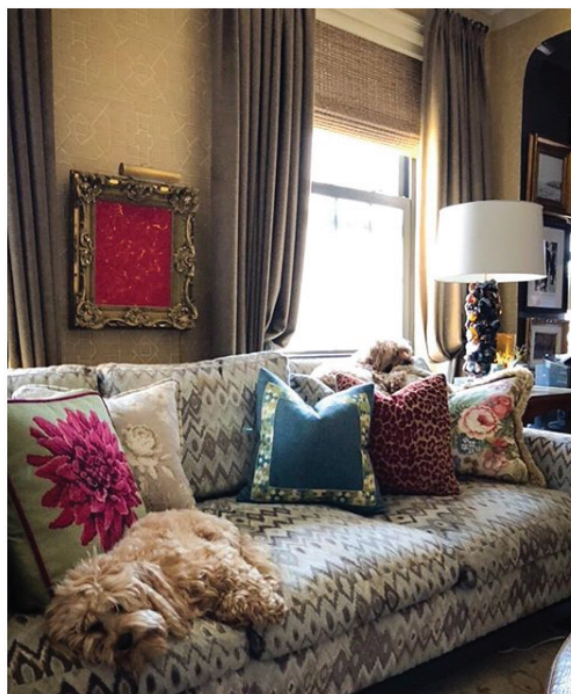
An interior designer whose international reputation for creating classic, warm, and striking spaces, **Philip Mitchell** has offices in both New York and Toronto. He splits his time between these two metropolises and also has a country house in Chester, Nova Scotia. Living in multiple places at once and drawing inspiration from his surroundings is something at which Philip is quite seasoned having grown up in both the Canadian countryside as well as in Los Angeles, California. After working for two of Canada's largest design firms in Toronto, Philip struck out on his own, establishing his eponymous design firm in 2002. In the time since, he has amassed an international clientele and has participated in the Kips Bay Showhouse twice. Philip and his partner Mark are also incredibly nice and have the two cutest dogs, a pair of Ganaraskans named Jacob and Wylo who have heart-melting faces! With a fabric collection and a new book on the horizon, it seems that further expansion is on the docket for Philip and his firm. Enjoy!

THE STYLE FILES: *PHILIP MITCHELL*



Paloma Contreras: How would you describe your style?

Philip Mitchell: Classic, Curated, Comfortable & Personal



[Philip shares two adorable Ganaraskan dogs, Jacob and Wylo, shown here lounging at home in Manhattan, with his husband Mark Narsansky.]

PC: You split your time between New York, Toronto, and Chester, Nova Scotia. Has spending time in these cities influenced your aesthetic in any way?

PM: New York – The general exposure to everything new and innovative that Design has to offer and incorporating these items into my projects. Toronto – The more conservative sensibility of this City definitely impacts my work in a more restrained and appropriate way.



(Philip and Mark's Home in Toronto)

PC: What does your home say about you?

PM: That I enjoy life to the fullest surrounded by personal collections that include everything from inherited porcelain to commissioned artwork. I have an appreciation for anything bespoke and touched by hand and a love for the past.



PC: Where do you turn for inspiration?

PM: Travel, People, Experiences, Books, Instagram



{A Moment Captured in Paris on a Recent Visit | Photo via Philip's Instagram @philipmitchelldesign}

PC: Who are your personal style icons?

PM: My Mother, My Husband and anyone who lives or lived well surrounded by things they love.



{Philip's Room at this Year's Kip's Bay Showhouse}

PC: What trait do you most admire in a person?

PM: Honesty



PC: What is your guilty pleasure?

PM: Art



[Philip's Design of the Grand Staircase at the Kip's Bay Showhouse a Few Years Ago]

PC: Who has been your greatest professional influence?

PM: My Husband Mark. Because he always pushes me and my aesthetic a little further, in the best possible way.



PC: What is your idea of living "la dolce vita"?

PM: Spending Weekends with my Husband Mark at our House on the sea, entertaining, cooking, drinking and relaxing with our guests & our dogs.



PC: What can we look forward to next from you?

PM: I am currently in the process of working on a fabric and furniture line and am developing an upcoming book.



{Philip recently Recreated his Kips Bay Room at the Lee Jofa Showroom at the D & D Building in New York}

PHILIP'S *FAVORITE THINGS*



Go-To Outfit: A Dress shirt, Jeans and a Blazer

Style Mantra: Classic and Appropriate never go out of style.

Scent: Penhaligon's – Endymion

Piece of Jewelry: My Grandmother's Promise Ring & My Wedding Ring – I never take either off.

Color I Never Tire Of: I never tire of any of any colour. Variety is the spice of life!

Flower: Orchids or Hydrangeas (In any Colour)

Indispensable Design Element: Personality

Era for Design: 1920's

Dream Project(s): Restoring Any Historically Important Estate, Apartment, Townhouse or Hotel for that matter, that a client has the vision and passion to save.

Fabric/Textile: Anything handmade

Hostess Gift: I typically send them something the following week post event.

Meal: Literally anything fresh, simple & well made

Drink: An ice cold dry vodka martini with a twist, shaken not stirred

3 Things I Love About My City: New YorkThe Architecture | Toronto – The Neighborhoods | Chester – The Ocean

Weekend Destination: Our Home in the Historic Seaside Village of Chester, Nova Scotia

Hotel: Le Meurice – the bathrooms are perfection

City: Paris – The Culture, The Architecture, The food, The people. I could go on and on.

Museum(s): The Frick, Villa Necchi Campiglio, Musee Jacquemart Andre & the Aiken-Rhett House.

Artist: Too many to mention

Song that Always Puts Me in a Great Mood: Walking on Sunshine performed by Katrina and the Waves

Actor/Actress: Cary Grant & Christian Bale / Audrey Hepburn & Tilda Swinton

Prized Possession: My memories

Risk Worth Taking: Believing in yourself & Falling in Love

Greatest Extravagance: Artwork & Free Time

Go-To Color Palette: Earth Tones

Rule to Break: I don't believe in "Design Rules"!

Movie Set Design: I am Love, Auntie Mame, Atonement

I can never have too many... Kisses from our Ganaraskan Pups Jacob & Wylo

XO,
Paloma

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