

— MUST-HAVES —

Where Worlds Collide

Celebrated designer Jarvis Wong explores the evolution of interiors—and shares a few of his favorite objects of desire.

by *Bill Van Parys*



Jarvis Wong



3



1

1. Jomon Yakishime Vase by Kansai Noguchi: “Reminds me of a Valentino gown.” tropheemacocotte.fr (for similar)

2. Marni Market Circular Basket in iron and PVC: “Handle me with care!” marni.com

3. Miller Fong ‘Lotus’ Chair: “A Kaftan and martini will complete this look.” fongbrothers.com (for similar)

4. Ebonized Maelstrom Cabinet by Caleb Woodard: “The softness of this piece is like waves in the ocean.” calebwoodardfurniture.com



7

1. KANSAINOBUCHISTUDIO.COM; 7. DESEDE.CH



5

“Stylish interiors should always be functional *and* comfortable.”

5. Lunar Club Chairs by Mark Brazier-Jones: “Shaggy, stylish, and ready to rock.” maisongerard.com

6. Ceramics by Namika Atelier/Gabriel & Guillaume: “Artisanal delight!” gabrieletguillaume.com

7. Terrazza Sofa by Ubaldo Klug for de Sede: “Furniture landscaping! Children-friendly and super comfortable.” franceandson.com



4



6

BLENDING INFLUENCES

For inspiration, Wong draws from a breadth of knowledge and experience. Born in Hong Kong, he spent his teens at a boarding school in Lake Forest, Illinois. From there, he earned a degree in architecture from Columbia University before making a splash at the nation’s preeminent architectural firms. He also worked in the fashion industry as a women’s wear designer at Ralph Lauren.

Wong’s skills have brought him to the intersection of fashion, art, and architecture, enabling his studio to, in Wong’s words, “create a modern and eclectic look that is luxurious, elegant, refined, stylish, and seductive.”

But it takes more than striking interior elements to bring a space to life. The environment in which a building exists, be it a luxury residential development or a private home, is also key. Take, for example, Wong’s work on the iconic McKim, Mead & White–designed 108 Leonard Street in NYC. Built in 1894, the building’s Tribeca location and proximity to Chinatown inspired him to create a contextualist approach featuring pieces from the ’70s meshed with Asian influences. “Design should respond to its surroundings and be inspired by them,” Wong says. “This approach makes the result richer, more layered, nuanced, and ultimately more meaningful. It allows the client’s personality to shine through our design.”

ZOOMING IN THE WORLD

One could argue that our interior spaces have become more important than ever simply because they are no longer just for us. The importance of aesthetics has skyrocketed in the age of working remotely—while on camera for the world to see.

“An aesthetically well-curated space is not only important to one’s mental health, but it is part of the narrative of who you are and an extended projection of you to the outside Zoom world,” says Wong.

During your next video conference session, ponder this: Are you enthralled by what others are saying...or by the fabulous home office that forms their backdrop? The answer may be both. How do you create your own enviable Zoom room? Simplicity, functionality, personality—and the right light. Find a quiet corner of the house so you can focus, and try to work near a window, Wong advises. “Zoom meetings all day can be daunting and stressful,” he says. “The ability to look out the window, even in an urban environment like New York, can be relaxing and healing.”