

DESIGN FOR THE WELL-LIVED LIFE

# HOUSE & GARDEN

OCTOBER 2005

*Special issue*

**65** PAGES

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## AT HOME WITH... MADELINE WEINRIB

▷ techniques," explains Weinrib, who has done a collection for Troy in New York and will debut another at Ralph Pucci International next year. Her lack of training in textiles didn't hinder her career change. "Artists aren't afraid to think outside the box," she says. "We're obsessive, sitting up all night to resolve matters of line and color and proportion."

Weinrib spends such nights in the urbane, bohemian confines of her SoHo loft, surrounded by her diverse collections. A cluster of blue-and-white pottery, caressed by silk charmeuse drapes, takes over a bedroom windowsill. Dorothy Thorpe glassware fills a Chinese armoire. Shelves are stacked with faded vintage photographs and books Weinrib acquired on her travels. "I love surrounding myself with things that have a story, and a sense of memory," she says. She makes few concessions to the dictates of traditional decorating, freely mixing metals—pewter next to silver next to copper—and even table settings. "I collect single plates, which you can buy more cheaply, and mix them together," she says. "I avoid rules. They make things self-conscious, and take away a sense of discovery." Once a rebel, always a rebel.

▼ "My vintage Emilio Pucci rug is a sentimental nod to my mother, who was a big fan. I still have many of her Pucci coats and dresses in my closet, and the rug is like an extension of the collection."



▲ "I support local farmers, but for things I crave I go farther afield." Savannah Bee honey, \$18. savannahbee.com. Wölffer Verjus, \$10 for 750 ml. woeffler.com. Sánchez Romate sherry vinegar, \$19 for 750 ml, Zingerman's. 888-636-8162. Laudemio olive oil, \$34 for 17 oz. farawayfoods.com.

"YOU HAVE TO LIVE THE LIFE. THE DESIGN PROCESS DOESN'T STOP AT THE END OF THE WORKDAY. I'M CONSTANTLY LOOKING FOR INSPIRATION."



► "These pillows are made from antique Rajasthani patchwork textiles, originally used as shawls, tablecloths, and bedspreads. They're hand-embroidered, and made from all-vegetable dyes. The Indian culture puts such emphasis on detailing—every patch is like a whole world." Antique afghan pillows, \$400 each, Madeline Weinrib Atelier, NYC. 212-473-3000, ext. 780.



▲ "I've been acquiring blue-and-white pottery for years. I never tire of it, and it's so unexpected in a SoHo loft. I like mixing my good pieces with inexpensive items from stores like Pier 1 and Crate & Barrel."



◀ "I often get inspired by patterns and motifs I find in books, like this catalog on Ottoman textiles from the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul. Then I modernize and reinvent—it's never a direct translation." Silks for the Sultans, \$550, Rizzoli Books, NYC. 212-759-2424.