

A photograph of a sunroom interior. The room features a large window with a green frame looking out onto a garden. A dark wood chandelier hangs from the ceiling. In the foreground, a sofa with a green and gold patterned fabric is visible. The overall atmosphere is bright and airy.

Inspired by  
Patrick Sutton



PATRICK SUTTON'S UNIQUE childhood helped shape the passionate and romantic interior designer he is today. He grew up in New York with a well-known travel journalist for a father and fashion model mother but spent much of his younger years travelling around the world to exotic locations. "As a boy I would travel to the most beautiful locations with my family," remembers Patrick. "We'd visit some of the most fantastic places in the world and they certainly left an impression on me."

"We could be in Como, Italy at a most elegant palazzo and I used to wander around the halls and the gardens, taking it all in. I began to get an understanding for proportion, light and romance. All of these things started to come to me intuitively."

Photographs by: Gordon Beall and Erik Kvalsvik

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Following his childhood experiences, it was no surprise that Patrick went on to study architecture. “Being an architect meant I could understand the complex nature of making a building. As an architect you often need to remove yourself from the people inhabiting the building and look at it analytically and objectively. For interior designers it’s very different, they need to engage into the story of the life of the people living there.”

Patrick naturally eased into interior design. As an architect he would visit clients to design their homes but rather than just look at where the building might be sited on the property he would imagine the dinner party going on.



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"I would think about the life inhabiting the space, not just about the structure. I became more drawn towards the interior project rather than the architecture." But he also had the eye of the architect - one could say the best of both worlds.

"When you look at designing the interior of a house, you look at the overall project and the location."

"You want to capture the spirit of the place. For example we just finished an apartment in Manhattan overlooking central park – a city whose ethos is about art and culture."

"Yet when we arrived the whole apartment was beige. We updated the design to reflect the exciting, vibrant city that is New York. We added colour and fantastic art. We made it bright, happy, interesting and chic."



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“Another one of our clients had purchased a penthouse in the mountains of Utah. We researched the area and discovered it had once been a thriving silver mining town. Our approach to the interior therefore, was to treat it like a luxurious Bond-villain hideout crafted from the rafters of an abandoned mine and adorned with the latest high tech gadgetry and creature comforts. It really suited the client. You want to make the place feel like it belongs to the area, and this was our way to weave in the local story.”

He prefers to stay clear of trends: “A very successful client of mine shared with me that one has to be in constant vigilance about not becoming complacent. It’s very easy to jump onto a new trend and follow it but to me that isn’t so inspirational. What I think is trending is more about lifestyle and attitude than a popular colour or aesthetic.

“After being barraged by digital media and information overload, people are tending to look to quality products that have the hand of man evident in its making and connect them to nature. They look to engage with their humanity through bespoke fixtures or furnishings and seek out products to help express and integrate them into a culture looking for calm and respite.”

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"Another interesting movement within interior design is that the line between men and women is becoming closer. Men are becoming more engaged in family life and as a result are accepting their feminine side. No longer do men choose the mahogany paneled rooms and the woman the lace. There is much more convergence among the sexes."

Patrick continues in his pursuit of creating a fully integrated design experience, from concept to detail, which has been a core value of his work. Through his background of travel he manages to create modern, elegant, romantic and comfortable interiors that have earned him commissions worldwide.



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