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LIVING



HOME
+ GARDEN

Faces in the Crowd

By Ryan Brown Photograph by Gary Moss



monitoring day-to-day workflow in the design department, where she and an ingenious team create textiles and trimmings for the home furnishings industry. “Textiles are so important because they are the tactile element in a room,” says Williamson. “They set the tone of a space through the use of color, design, and construction.”

Williamson’s new post takes advantage of her penchant for staying on the cutting edge of industry trends. In search of inspiration, she visits exotic locations to take part in prestigious design events, such as the fabric trade show she recently attended in Como, Italy. By exploring pioneering design concepts, she finds unconventional methods and patterns to incorporate into her own work. “I have been loving the trend of botanicals in not only textiles but also wallpaper,” says Williamson, who finds this unusual use of natural elements striking. “It really becomes the conversation piece in a room.”

Her artistic knack has been a common thread in Williamson’s life since childhood. Originally from Louisville, Kentucky, she moved around the southeast when she was young, eventually attending the Savannah College of Art and Design, where she earned her bachelor of fine arts degree in fibers (textile design). “I’ve always been interested in fashion and art,” she says. “Textile design combined my loves of drawing and painting with the tactile qualities of fiber.” After graduating from college, she moved to New York City to work as an intern for clothing designer Cynthia Rowley. She later pursued home textile development at Duralee Fabrics and the Robert Allen Group before relocating to California for a position with fashion design brand BCBG Max Azria.

Williamson’s decorative flair extends to her own home, where she and her husband proudly display their original artwork. “One of my favorite pieces is a canvas with a side profile cameo I made using naturally dyed fabrics, collaging them together to create the image and layering a thin piece of tinted acrylic on top to cast a warm hue over the image,” says Williamson. “I loved the idea of creating a modern cameo on a grand scale.” Professionally and personally, Williamson weaves style into her surroundings. ♦

Sarah Williamson

This textile designer heads up a creative team to weave new looks into the fabric of our lives.

Essential in the production of clothes, furniture, and many types of artwork, woven fibers are often as beautiful as they are functional. Today, innovative designers produce more impressive textiles than ever through a combination of handcrafting and digital printing,

expressing the personality of any space through draperies, carpets, and upholstery.

One such visionary is Sarah Williamson, the new design manager at Moorpark-based, international fabric wholesaler Pindler (pindler.com). With a year and a half of experience in Pindler’s product development division, Williamson is now responsible for managing resources and