



DESIGN DESTINATION

LENOX HILL

Nearly two decades after Al Saroyan launched Lenox Hill as the interior design arm to his architecture firm, Saroyan Masterbuilder, a recently opened showroom in Carmel-by-the-Sea is bringing the brand fresh attention. When his daughter-in-law, Mica Saroyan, joined the Monterey Peninsula-based business in 2023, the two saw an “opportunity to breathe fresh life into Lenox Hill and create a new center for design in the area,” she explains. Visitors to the showroom can peruse pieces by the highly regarded likes of Stellar Works, Fornasetti, Lee Broom and Flos (below). “We’ve done the legwork for our clients, curating a selection that highlights not only distinctive products but also beloved favorites from around the world. Our collection includes everything from custom bespoke furniture to one-of-a-kind antiques, ensuring that there’s something for everyone,” Mica says. “We strive to present these options in a way that feels inviting and manageable, so our clients can explore without feeling overwhelmed.” As creative director, the showroom is her purview; she also leads the design team on various interior projects. With both endeavors, she says, “Our design philosophy is a harmonious blend of classic and contemporary styles, reflecting the way we curate our personal spaces.” lenoxhilldesign.com

TALKING SHOP

MARBLE LOTUS



While decorating her own home, Soni Mehra had trouble sourcing “pieces that reflected my Indian American identity,” she recalls. “So, I started building what I couldn’t find.”

In 2023, she

launched Marble Lotus, an online retail brand specializing in South Asian design. Last year, Mehra took another big step, opening a showroom in San Francisco. Here, she shares more about the endeavor. marble-lotus.com

What products do you carry? Wallpaper, lighting, furniture and accessories. We display pieces based on where they come from: marble items from Agra, brass objects from Moradabad and carved-wood pieces from Jodhpur are each showcased in their own sections. We also have a dedicated wall of 800-plus fabrics for upholstery, in partnership with

Norwalk Furniture, that we custom create for design clients and trade partners.

Can you talk a bit about the in-house line, Marble Lotus Originals? The signature MLO products focus mainly on decor and art pieces in marble, brass and wood materials, and traditional Indian techniques like inlay, wood carving and mineral-based painting. We work with artisans to get inspiration for our designs and then make modifications as necessary to fit the context of the modern American home.

Anything new and noteworthy?

We are in the process of launching our own homegrown wallpaper collection that is inspired by our many sourcing trips to India. And while Marble Lotus offers free design services to customers interested in using all our products to put together their home, for more personalized interior solutions, I started an independent design studio. Studio Mirae focuses on luxury interiors that reflect our clients’ heritage and personalities.



TALKING SHOP PHOTOS: ONLEYPHOTOS.
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