

Interview questions for Bolig Magazine
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Can you give me your three most important tips/ideas for good decorating (the answers don't have to be long)?

First, I believe it is always important to have a 'concept' before beginning design . I like the concept to be one word. For the design of the loft space, I used the word "cityscape".

Second, I follow a few quotes that point in one direction-simplicity. The first is "when in doubt, leave without". The second is "too much of a good thing ruins a good thing". Finally, I am a big believer in Mies van der Rohe's quote " less is more". Curiously enough, these quotes seem to apply to all aspects of my life.

Third, I try to keep the color palette throughout the design limited to a few colors. In contradiction to the chaos of the outer world and coldness of many urban spaces, I prefer residential spaces to be warm and nurturing. I generally use a lot of white to amplify natural light and the warm glow of light fixtures at night. I use warm wood surfaces to reflect light and create a golden candle light glow on the white surface plains. And finally, I use sparingly the timeless color of red for accents. Also, books are always great as accent colors.

If you could live somewhere else than in New York, where should that be?

If I had to live somewhere other than New York, I would choose any major city in the world that has a good mix of international residents. Diversity and a global mentality is the way of the future.

Who is your favorite designer and why?

My favorite designer changes with time and maturity. In college my favorite designers were Mies van der Rohe and Le Corbusier.

Currently, my favorite designer is Zaha Hadid. Ms. Hadid has nurtured a design language that is uniquely her own. I feel her design work is very representational of this generation-fast, moving, and fluid (ever changing). Ms. Hadid seems to be an expert at merging the rational world (linear and predictable), with the irrational world (curvilinear and unpredictable). Furthermore, I admire that Ms. Hadid is explosively creative and does not limit her work to just architecture. Her designs in areas such as furniture, light fixtures, and kitchen counters are truly extraordinary. Ms. Hadid's work harks back to the days of Frank Lloyd Wright, where everything within sight was subject to scrutiny and ultimately design refinement.