

By Cathy Whitlock

SIMPLICITY WITH SOUL

TINA RAMCHANDANI'S
MINDFUL MODERNISM



Top: Manhattan interior designer Tina Ramchandani specializes in refined and relaxed interiors that incorporate the lifestyles of her clients.

Left: The designer takes her cues from the outdoors for this welcoming porch at her client's Midvale, New Jersey residence.

Inspiration presents itself in a variety of unexpected ways. It can be a day at the museum, a great piece of art, a beautiful hotel lobby in Bombay, or something as simple as the color of a leaf. In some cases, the tutelage of a mentor can be the ultimate muse.

For a budding interior designer, a front-row seat to the workings of an iconic mentor is invaluable. Such was the case of Manhattan-based interior designer Tina Ramchandani, who spent five years working for international designer Vicente Wolf. "From the moment I met with him, I knew it was a great fit, and I was blown away with his style and how he approaches a room," she says. "I learned how to handle different client personalities and juggle projects."

Wolf, whose primary inspiration culminates from his travels, is known for his restrained, elegant aesthetic interiors with a unique global perspective. "I love how he approaches the world," she notes. "He travels for two months out of every year and comes back so refreshed and invigorated."



Today she heads up her namesake firm Tina Ramchandani Creative (TRC), and pays that mentorship forward to young designers. Concentrating mostly on residential interiors, Tina specializes in a signature concept called *Soulful Minimalism™* which integrates her clients' sophisticated lifestyles. "The term to me means warm modern interiors that capture the core of my clients living in the space that is clean, refined, but also relaxed. It's a space where you are surrounded by the things that matter so you can focus on the people that matter."



Clockwise from top left:
"The compromise of the aesthetic was 'country modern' and the country can be seen in this bed from Eloquence and the wooden art," says the designer, while modern touches are infused with the articulating lights from Artemide, nightstands and accessories.

Ann Sacks tile and Visual Comfort/Circa lighting complement the custom nine-foot master bathroom vanity.

A charming giraffe photograph and modern egg style chair give the nursery a playful, modern feel.

Twin beds and a modern multi-color stripe rug anchor a guest room.

A handsome desk from Mr. Brown London and Kravet wallcovering were used for the "his and hers" home office nook.

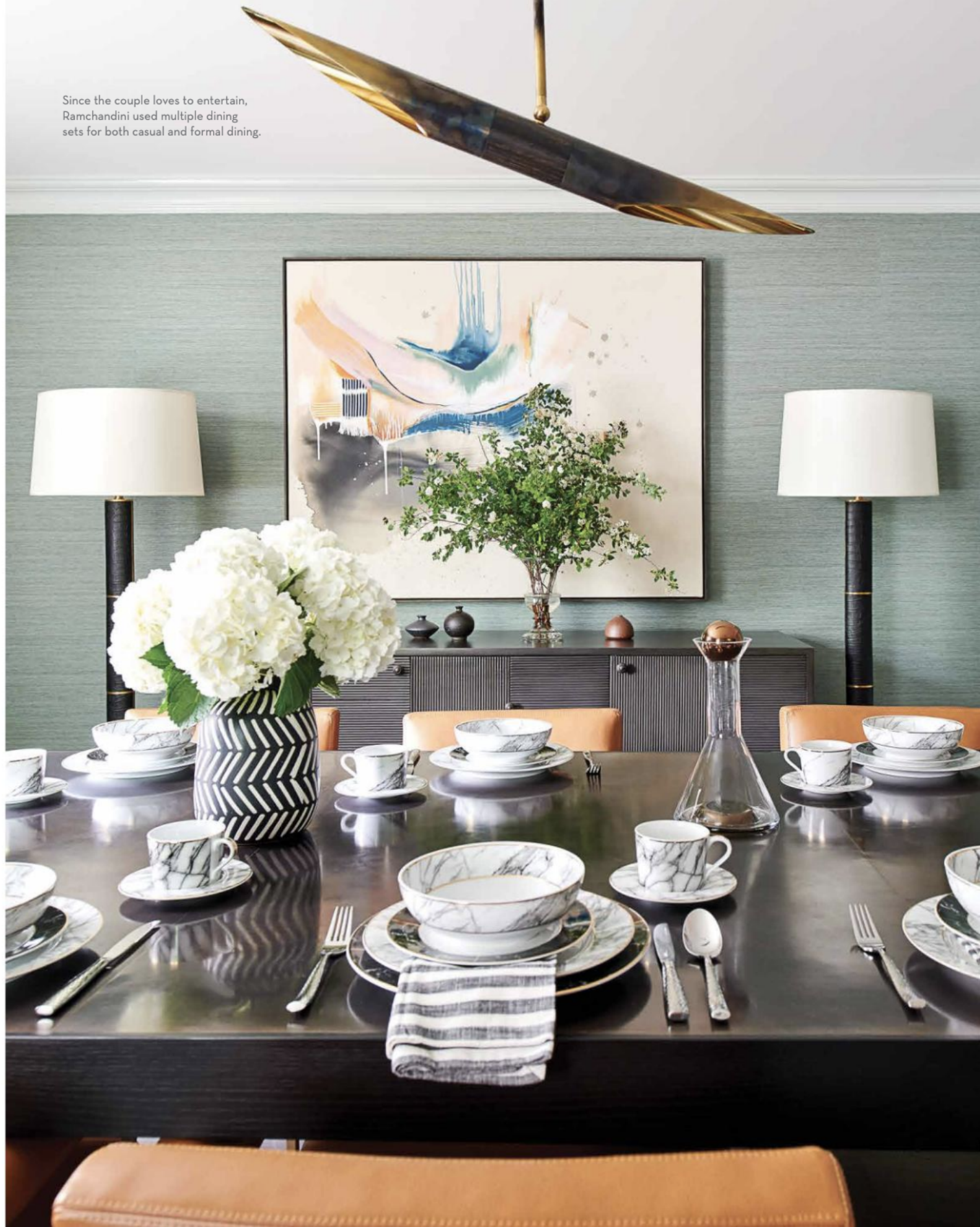


Named a "2018 Next Wave" designer by House Beautiful, her full-service firm designs residences all over Manhattan, New Jersey, and the Hamptons as well as Los Angeles and Florida (including four time-intensive show houses).

Her most recent project for a young couple who traded in their midtown Manhattan apartment for a home in Midvale, New Jersey, reflects her sensibilities as a soulful minimalist. "They bought a 'builder house' that was very symmetrical and square and did not have a lot of personality," she details. "Since the wife was pregnant with her first child, they needed more space. The husband wanted a home with a place to cook and a chef's kitchen outdoors and a more relaxed lifestyle."

Since time was of the essence due to the impending birth, Ramchandani immediately renovated four of the six bathrooms and decorated the spaces from floor to ceiling. Taking her cues from the outdoors, she says, "The outside of

Since the couple loves to entertain, Ramchandani used multiple dining sets for both casual and formal dining.



the house is green, and we did different shades of blues and greens in every room, so it felt like a cohesive house. He wanted modern, and she wanted country and 'homey,' so the palette gave the house a basic uniformity." The couple moved their existing furniture to the basement and started fresh in all of the rooms, which meant sourcing all new modern furnishings (except for a vintage bar cart from the online antiques site Istdibs).

Like her mentor, Ramchandani often experiences a case of wanderlust. In years past, she traveled a great deal to India to visit family and friends.

Top: The living room is a well thought out mix of neutral furnishings and modern touches, reflecting the core of the designer's trademark soulful minimalism.

Bottom: A vintage bar cart from Istdibs is one of the few antiques in the house.



Travel is my inspiration,

and not just in my work but in my life as it keeps me focused, grateful, and aware of the big picture. We get caught up running from one thing to the next and I love to see how others live and how they take on issues and stressors. it's also great for design."

While Tina's future travel plans are on hold, she continues to draw inspiration from her previous trips.

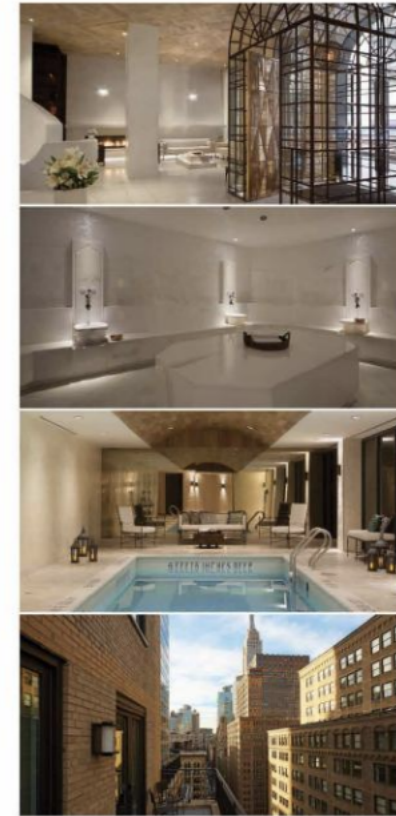
As for the aforementioned hotel lobby in Bombay, the space was the springboard for her career. "I walked into the hotel one day and saw this beautiful space with windows floor to ceiling and different layers of seating with an ocean view," she details. "I had this amazing feeling of being uplifted. I thought whatever this is; it's what I want in my life."

Top: A variety of blue and white patterns and solid white furnishings form the color scheme for the terrace.

Bottom: Since the exterior of the house is green, the designer used varying shades of blues and greens in every room for a cohesive look.



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