



ROXANNE HUGHES PACKHAM

Roxanne Packham Design, Incorporated

If there is a design gene, Roxanne Hughes Packham, ASID, has it. Good taste and creativity run in her family, and the vivacious 39-year-old grew up among talented thinkers and successful entrepreneurs. Roxanne's maternal grandfather was Allan Adler. The "Silversmith to the Stars" counted as clients the likes of Paul Newman; today, his patterns are collector's items and are carried by Ralph Lauren. His work is on permanent display at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Huntington Library in Pasadena and the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. Her maternal great-grandfather, Porter Blanchard, a sixth generation silversmith, was equally talented and is one of the most renowned silversmiths of the Arts and Crafts era. His work is also on display at LACMA and The Huntington Library. Together with her business-minded father, a successful shopping center developer, they inspired her as a child and continue to motivate the interior designer today.



ABOVE:

Every detail is important. A favorite quote is embroidered on the pillow—a unique touch. The drapery fringe is from Scalamandré.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE:

This gorgeous French Country kitchen, replete with Walker Zanger tile and a cherished painting of the homeowners' first home in Puerto de Santa Maria, Spain, has a contemporary bent. Construction by Schaub Pacific. Cabinetry by California Designers Choice.

Photograph by Mark Lohman



Roxanne remembers nights spent at her grandparents' home while attending the University of Southern California, where the burgeoning designer dreamed up jazzy dresses for friends and sorority sisters. Her grandfather's design advice on the projects she completed then and later at the Los Angeles Fashion Institute proved life-changing. "He told me: 'Good designers know when to stop,' and 'Don't goop it up.' It's some of the best advice I've ever gotten," she says. And, of course, they are tenets of her work today.

With clothing and jewelry on her mind, the native Californian's dream of becoming a designer began to take shape in Paris, France, where she attended the Paris Fashion Institute and the Sorbonne and often found herself in the audience at couture shows at the House of Dior, Yves St. Laurent and Louis Ferraud. But conversations with one of her design mentors, Joan White, led her down the path of interior design. She liked the idea of making something that would last longer than a couple of dresses. Since "home" and all that the word inspires is central to her life, she finds immense satisfaction in creating interesting homes where her clients will live, love and create lifetimes of memories.



ABOVE LEFT:

The French Country kitchen's gorgeous hand carving was custom designed by Roxanne. All hardware is antique from France; the pavers are from a French farmhouse. Construction by Mark Varnum.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

ABOVE RIGHT:

Brick warms up the space, yet provides a transitional backdrop for all seasons, while the clients' favorite Bible verse provides custom inspiration for the family each day.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE LEFT:

A cozy place to have orange juice and read the paper, this breakfast nook has an antique French pastry table and buffet made with doors brought back from a trip to France.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE RIGHT:

At once cheerful and sophisticated, this Southern Plantation dining room was designed for clients who love to entertain and show true Southern hospitality. Built by homeowner Dave White.

Photograph by Mark Lohman





Clients can count on seeing Roxanne's European influence in her designs. A self-described Francophile, she lived not only in France but also Spain, which gave her eye for detail and one-of-a-kind pieces with a history and flavor with which new things have a difficult time competing. Antiques and vintage accessories are important parts of the rooms and schemes throughout most of her homes, whether for Federal-style manse or Southwestern mountain ranch. She loves exquisite fabrics and custom-made furniture and invests a great deal of time and energy finding just the right pieces for each job, sourcing antiques dealers around the world rather than catalogs or the large gift markets. It's not inexpensive to have a designer, and she will not give her clients anything run of the mill.

Equally important to Roxanne as creating a beautiful home for her clients is making the design process enjoyable for them. What should be a joyous and exciting time in a person's life is too often stressful and difficult, but Roxanne's aim is to give her clients a design journey that is positive, uplifting and life-affirming. She takes pride in being not only a designer, but also her clients' greatest ally, looking out for their best

RIGHT:

The master suite entrance has a custom chest, books hand-wrapped in leather and an antique Native American beaded bag. The custom frame with fringe and railroad-tie nail-heads makes a fabulous conversation piece.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE LEFT:

Simply stunning, the breakfast nook of a lodge-style home has a custom chandelier, custom table base and antique serving pieces from Germany. Jeff Masters Construction, Mammoth Lakes.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE RIGHT:

Details such as custom branding on the leather placemats, window treatments and matching "branding" embroidered on towels and blankets and painted on books create unique, visual impact.

Photograph by Mark Lohman





interests every step of the way, from authenticity and detail to cost. And she has a stable of highly skilled subcontractors (like the beader who worked on the costumes for *Pirates of the Caribbean* movies) who are honest, ethical, reliable and know how to stay on budget and schedule.

The designer takes on only as many jobs as she can personally design herself – that means just three to five large projects start to finish each year. Limiting her business in this way allows her to attend every detail herself, spending months locating the exact right pieces and doing the best



possible job. Not that it necessarily takes a long time. She is a very decisive person: She knows what is right when she sees it. For Roxanne, design is instinctive.

Not to mention a family tradition – exactly what Roxanne hopes to impart in every home she designs. “I want to set the stage for others to pass their heritage down through the generations. My mission is to use design to give people a backdrop to instill their legacies around the table, be it formal dining room or outdoor picnic.”



Interior design is not the only way Roxanne shares her talents. Privately, she loves teaching her daughter and her friends about fashion design and her son about art and architecture. She has also written a book, "Shopping in Spain and Portugal," and her work is featured in numerous books on kitchen and bath design as well as in many magazines, including "California Homes."

ABOVE:

Designed with her sister, designer Michele Hughes, and mother Linda Hughes, a designer in her own right, the family room of their mountain home features custom iron work and lighting. Architecture by Carl Schneider, CSA, of Santa Barbara.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE LEFT:

The dining room boasts a chandelier with the clients' initials hidden in the ironwork and large glass that beautifully catching sunlight on a gorgeous day. The custom-made silver is by the designer's grandfather's firm, Allan Adler Inc.

Photograph by Mark Lohman

FACING PAGE RIGHT:

Built by Jeff Masters construction, this Santa Fe-inspired home features a split latilla ceiling, a custom chandelier, contemporary chairs and a table with an antique wheel from the East Coast used as the base.

Photograph by Mark Lohman