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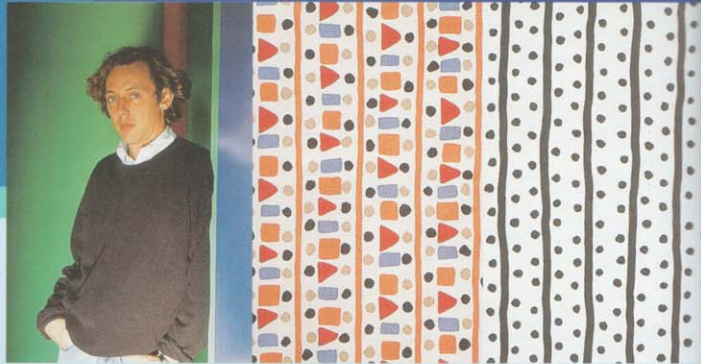
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LARRY LASLO: THE GLAMOUR BOY OF DESIGN

DESIGN NEWS

ANDREA MCDANIELS

FORMER THEATER SET DESIGNER
GREGORY EVANS GIVES HIS TEXTILES AN
ETHNIC LOOK WITH FREEHAND FORMS



ALL THE HOME'S A STAGE

Los Angeles—Gregory Evans came to design with the idea of creating a theatrical backdrop for his clients' lives. It was a view born out of his artistic background. The Los Angeles fabric artist worked for seven years with famed artist David Hockney creating stage sets for the opera and ballet. Then one day it occurred to him that he could do the same thing for the interiors of houses. "Drama could be in homes," he remembers thinking. "After

all, it's where our life dramas are played out every day."

In 1990, Evans introduced his hand-painted designs on natural linen and cotton cloths. His freehand geometric shapes and wild strokes dance on the material in muted earth tones with a style that reflects his interest in African art, ethnic shapes and colors.

In his most recent designs, he draws 55

patterns in red, black, blue, gold, green and olive on cloths of ribbed cotton, hemp and Belgian linen. The different materials and colors create slightly different effects that allow the designer a lot of freedom.

The Gregory Evans collection is available through David Sutherland in Los Angeles and Ellen Ford LTD in New York.

WWW.GREGORYEVANS.COM • 323.951.1207

FROM DANCE TO DESIGN

Kaja Gam choreographs interior spaces with her troupe of craftspeople

New York — Kaja Gam has an unusual career track for an interior designer. An anatomy student in Copenhagen, she studied theater in New York and became the choreographer of her own dance troupe, then did a stint as supervisor of bank programmers before finding her calling as a contemporary muralist.

Today, the Denmark-native is the owner of a restoration and design company, Kaja Gam Design Inc., that has artistically altered the homes of socialites Betsy Von Furstenberg



Photo: Ken Skalski

and Eileen Guggenheim, and designers Joey Horton, Penny Drue Baird and Tony Lambert.

In her most recent project,

Gam and her team turned the ceiling of a young tycoon's Central Park apartment into an Art Deco skyline. *Gotham City*

depicts New York City from a superhero's eye view, complete with the Batmobile and other humorous details such as a zeppelin and King Kong.

Gam, who expresses a fondness for Art Deco, says she channels her eclectic artistic experience into her work. "My background in theater and art intermix and supplement each other. When I was a dancer I did most of my own sets, construction and design. I tend to bring a little bit more than what a pure craftsman would bring to it."

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