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# MY ICON

## ROSELIND WILSON, ROSELIND WILSON DESIGN, REVEALS HER DESIGN ICON

Ros established Roselind Wilson Design in 2010. With a strong background in marketing and armed with a business management degree and interior design diploma, Ros started working in the industry in South Africa 12 years ago. Now running her own successful design practice in London, with projects completed in the UK and South Africa, Ros thrives on balancing the art of design with the intricacies of running a busy studio.

### WHO IS YOUR DESIGN ICON?

Andrée Putman the global interior and product designer. Andrée had a strong desire for independence. She envied those who were free and emancipated from convention and strove to embody these characteristics. Lacking a traditional entry into the world of design, Andrée carved a fiercely unique style for herself. Andrée Putman is a designer but more importantly, a woman to be admired and respected, certainly for me, for all of these character traits. The reverence for basic, paired back design formed the foundation of a powerful style. I look to Andrée Putman not as a designer whose work and style I wish to mimic, but rather as a woman from whom I can learn, admire and respect in her visionary approach to life and design, allowing truth, simplicity and application of unbiased materials to develop refined and eponymous spaces.

### WHAT IS ANDRÉE MOST FAMOUS FOR?

From Paris to New York, Dublin to Hong Kong, Putman was noted for her minimalist, elegant interiors and esteemed contribution to the world of interior and product design. She was responsible for the rediscovery and revival of 1930s Modernist furnishings from the likes of individuals such as Eileen Gray, and Pierre Chareau, and is also noted for creating boutiques for renowned fashion designers such as Karl Lagerfeld, Thierry Mugler and Yves Saint Laurent. Putman is probably most famous her work on the first major boutique hotel, Morgans, in New York in the early 80s.

### HOW HAS ANDRÉE'S WORK BEEN RECEIVED BY THE DESIGN COMMUNITY?

Andrée was greatly respected in her field, despite having no formal training in interior design or architecture. She was greatly sought after, and has been responsible for a range of projects around the world, from hotels such as the Im Wasserturm in Cologne and the Sheraton at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport, to private residences, stores, film sets, museums and even the interior of Concorde for Air France in 1993. Passionate, independent and influential, Putman's simple and modern approach was, and still is, widely admired, resulting in her being deemed the "Grand Dame of Modernism".

### WHY HAVE YOU CHOSEN ANDRÉE AS YOUR 'ICON'?

I respect her individuality, her strength of character and ability to be unjudged by any one or any thing. She was truly her own person.

### WHICH PROJECTS FROM YOUR OWN PORTFOLIO DEMONSTRATE A NOD TO ANDRÉE PUTMAN'S WORK?

I do not base my works on Andrée Putman's style but I rather draw inspiration from the person she was, to allow myself to exhibit style and individuality in my own work.

### IF YOU COULD BE REMEMBERED FOR ONE ELEMENT OF YOUR DESIGN, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Individuality and meaningful design.

