

the  
**TEXTILE**  
**EYE**

INSIGHTS FOR INSPIRED DESIGNERS

**PARIS IN SPRING**

*Movements from Maison et Objet & Paris Déco Off*

**SAVOIR-FAIRE**

*Profiles of Exceptional French Brands and Makers*

*Plus*

**YVES SAINT-LAURENT**

*The Paris Exhibitions*



Interview

## ELLIOTT BARNES

ELLIOTT BARNES INTERIORS, EST. 2004, PARIS, FRANCE

After graduating with a degree in Architecture and Urban Planning, American-born interior designer Elliott Barnes relocated to Paris to work under the charge of renowned designer Andrée Putman. Today, Elliott Barnes Interiors creates luxurious spaces for private residences, hotels, and spas in both France and abroad. The result: effortlessly minimalist interiors that mingle the interplay of light with an understated, sophisticated sensibility.

For Spring of 2022, Barnes collaborated with Tai Ping rugs on a twin project: the design of a new Paris showroom near the Rue de Mail, and a rug collection entitled *Overview*. The collection of six hand-tufted rugs was inspired by Barnes' childhood landscapes of Los Angeles with bold colors and fanciful organic shapes evoking a nostalgic and slightly psychedelic world.

### Describe your work and aesthetic. What do you make and how?

Interior design for exceptional projects. The aesthetic of the work has been described as textured minimalism.

### How does working in France influence your goods?

The French design industry provides access to the best artisans in the world. The artisans permit the development of a handcrafted, tailored feel to spaces



Elliott Barnes



A Private Residence in Paris Designed by Barnes



A Private Loft in Paris Designed by Barnes



Elliott Barnes for Delisle Paris

and furniture. The result is an overall haute couture feeling.

### Tell us about your design process.

Each project begins with an almost microscopic detail search of the client's history. Once identified, those details then serve as the basis for the creation of a unique and subtle narrative that guides the development of spaces, forms, and textures.

### How would you describe your design ethos?

My work is highly detailed and referential. That is, each material chosen and each finish, work in concert to support an overall story that is discovered moment by moment. The work is subdued and calm. In a certain fashion the Falstaffian phrase "discretion is the better part of valor" could be applied to my design positioning.

### What is it like to be an American designer living and working in Paris? In what ways has your work changed or evolved with location?

I've been in Paris for so long! That said, though I learned my craft here, the one thing that has stayed with me is the "architects' eye", which was developed during my degree years at Cornell in the mid-1980's.

### Tell us about your perspective on textiles. How did this play into your collaboration with Tai Ping?

The world of textiles with respect to rugs is quite specific and limitless. Thus, as a designer I always maintain a certain level of naiveté in my collaborations with expert artisans such as Tai Ping. The idea is to bring an idea to the table that allows them to express the beauty of their trade.



Mulholland I by Elliott Barnes for Tai Ping



WeHo 1 by Elliott Barnes for Tai Ping



Mulholland II by Elliott Barnes for Tai Ping

the TENTILE EYE

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Mulholland II by Elliott Barnes for Tai Ping