



FASHIONABLE DESIGN

LENNY KRAVITZ puts a retro twist on over-the-top grandeur

“There was always a lot to see and be inspired by, growing up in New York in the '70s,” says

Lenny Kravitz, who made his interior design debut a decade ago, when he started his own firm. “People had a lot of flair.” Taking inspiration from the likes of Miles Davis and Gordon Parks, the rocker turned Renaissance man creates interiors with soulful elegance:



The Garden Room at Paramount Bay, Miami

Zebra prints, Togo quilted sofas, and plush deep-pile carpets exude dramatic opulence, while black-and-white Walker Evans photographs vie with vibrant Warhols and gold Pedro Friedeberg Hand chairs.

“It’s definitely got to be maximum vibe,” he explains. “Sexy and warm—sophisticated yet still approachable.” Splitting his time between a town house in Paris’s 16th Arrondissement, a customized Airstream trailer and recording studio in the Bahamas, and an organic farm in Brazil, Kravitz has designed penthouse suites at the SLS Hotel in Miami and crystal chandeliers for Swarovski—as well as collaborated on Mademoiselle chairs for Kartell, with his design mentor Philippe Starck. He can often be found



The living room in Kravitz's Paris home

trawling the flea markets in Paris for antiques or hunting for quirky modern pieces at Todd Merrill’s shop in New York, though he says that ultimately, the driving force behind his aesthetic is a sense of comfort and ease. “A lot of design looks great in pictures, but when you go hang out in it, it’s not functional. I learned that very early on. So I try to create spaces that are just so comfortable and laid-back that you never want to leave.” **Lindsay Talbot**

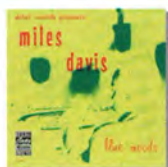


A suite at the SLS Hotel in South Beach

LENNY KRAVITZ'S MUST-HAVES



Schimmel grand piano
“I like bold textures and quirky materials like Lucite.”



Miles Davis
“I learned a lot from him—he was a friend. He had impeccable style.”



Gabriella Crespi table
“I have one of her coffee tables in my living room in Paris.”



Crystal chandelier
“Lighting has always been very important to me.”



Elda chair
“Joe Colombo’s Elda chair is a classic and a favorite.”



Art
“I love photography by Gordon Parks.”

PHOTOGRAPHY: JEFFREY MAYER; INTERIORS: CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: DAVID SULLIVAN; BOONE SPEED; SLS HOTEL SOUTH BEACH; STILL LIFE, FROM LEFT: COURTESY/EURO PIANOS/NAPEL; FANTASY RECORDS/UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP; GABRIELLA CRESPI; BACCARAT; AND WRIGHT; GORDON PARKS/TIME & LIFE PICTURES/GETTY IMAGES