

EDITORS' PICKS / FEBRUARY 27, 2018

## 5 MINUTES WITH UMA STEWART




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THUMBNAIL VIEW 

Textile and interior designer **Uma Stewart** has a vast background. She's the previous owner of the NJ-based design showroom, Furbish, she was an editor at a women's fashion magazine, and she's traveled the world. These elements all carry into her interior design work and her vibrant textile line, **Uma Stewart Textiles**. Her aesthetic is cultured and current — a perfect combination! We're taking #5MinutesWith Uma to learn how she makes it all happen:

### MY LIGHTBULB MOMENT:

I'm sorry to say it took getting hit by a car (I was not hurt at all) to finally see the light and realize I was supposed to be working in the design field!

### I CAN'T START MY DAY UNTIL:

I have a cup of chai and see my son's ever smiling face! He'll usually say something funny to get me to laugh too.

### SUCCESS IS:

Feeling like your life is a true representation of who you are and all your potential. It is work to make this happen, but a worthwhile use of time and effort.

### YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME WITHOUT:

A slouchy black leather handbag. I need plenty of room to carry things (notebook, laptop, snacks!). I often forget my phone, but never my bag!

### MY DREAM COLLABORATION:

To design a boutique hotel with my textile designs and custom furniture that we have started to develop for our design clients.

### THE ONLY PLACE BETTER THAN NEW JERSEY:

Haha. That is so funny. New Jersey is not nearly as bad as people think. I live in a particularly lovely spot backing out to a mountain reservation, where you can also catch awesome views of NYC (which is only 30 minutes away by train).

Still, my family and I LOVE Montauk in the summer and Vermont in the winter, and I'd probably classify them as way better when we want to really relax. We also adore London and India. Those are our top favorites — we could go again and again.

### WHEN I FEEL UNINSPIRED:

I need to travel. Specifically, staying in boutique hotels across the world is always a constant source of inspiration for me. There is so much we can bring back to luxury interiors for our clients, and a lot to translate into the designer textile line.

### ADVICE I WISH I HAD 5 YEARS AGO:

Everything will always be OK. We find our way through the challenges, reinvent when needed. We just need to know what we want and what we need, and always be willing to solve problems.

### IN 5 YEARS FIND ME:

In the hospitality space. Travel is such a passion of mine and I long to create spaces that speak to specific localities, and define better experiences for people. I also want to expand the products we make to help define international style for those of us who identify with many different places.

### ABOVE ALL ELSE:

Family, friends, beauty, and comfort. What else is there?!



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