

Laura Walker The Mix Master

Age: 39

Shop and design studio: Laura Walker Ltd.

Known for: translating eight years' experience as principal of a design partnership in Milan and London into an eponymous boutique that mixes Italian antiques and vintage furniture.

Recognized as: one of a team of designers for TBS' Movie and a Makeover.

Style: European aesthetic integrated into spaces that reflect their own sense of place and history. Source of inspiration: "My grandmother had all of her dresses for important dances made for her, and now I have several. She also got me started with my incredible purse collection, which I buy and sell when I'm in Italy and England."

Pet peeve: "Too many opinions. Trust yourself and your designer to help you achieve your haven." Favorite unexpected hangout: "The Living Treehouse at Zoo Atlanta. You can spend the night and wake up to the sounds of the animals."

Currently reading: "The House of Gucci by Sara Gay Forden."

Can be found dining at: "The Rustic Gourmet in the Zonolite Road business district, a quiet place with the best organic wine selection. The desserts are out of this world, and the corner banquette is my favorite spot for a romantic dinner."

Influences: "The Brits taught me the correct way to make a curtain. This accompanied with the modernity of Italian lighting and upholstery is a perfect combo."

Personal style: "It's all about the mix. I love tunics by Tory Burch. I wear pieces from the Italian design house Etro paired with T-shirts from Mossimo at Target, jeans and a vintage bag." Current obsession: "KWID wallpaper from F. Schumacher & Co., Murano chandeliers from C Lighting and Belgian truffle-honed granite."

112 Atlanta Peach Summer 2006