

FEATURED INTERVIEW



Lázaro Rosa-Violán
Contemporain Studio

LÁZARO ROSA-VIOLÁN STUDIO

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CONTEMPORAIN STUDIO

The Lázaro Rosa-Violán Contemporain Studio is based in Barcelona and has emerged as one of the global leaders in restaurant, hotel and retail design. Some of the world's leading restaurants have been created by the eye of Lázaro, such Boca Grande in Barcelona, Iberica in London and El Mercado in Bogotá. With 40 hotel projects under his belt, Lázaro has some exciting new projects unveiling in 2014. This year Lázaro was honored by Architectural Digest Spain as the Top Interior Designer in Europe.

You have designed numerous hotels, restaurants & shops in Barcelona & the Costa Brava, has there been one project which you are particularly proud of and why is this?

I love the Boca Grande in Barcelona. I have always enjoyed eating at restaurants around the world, but I wanted a place where I can eat in the stairwell and dance in the bathrooms. I finally have it!

What would you say is the main inspiration for your work?

My travels. Wherever I am in the world I am completely enthralled by the visuals around me, always finding ways to incorporate the details or feelings of that moment into my work.



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You live in the Eixample area of Barcelona, how inspiring are the everyday sights of the Catalan capital for you?

Barcelona continues to inspire me everyday. I love the pharmacies, the Gothic Quarter, Hospital St Pau, just the abundance of stimulating visuals that encompass the city.

Why did you choose Barcelona as your base?

I am Catalan, although I never lived in Catalunya as a child. But when I had to choose where to start my business, I felt that Barcelona was the perfect city filled with artists and designers wanting to do something new. I love the daily life and I especially take inspiration from the light.

You studied fine art but then chose interior design as a career, how did that come about?

It just happened one day when my brother, Ignacio who lives in Ibiza, called me about a restaurant to design in Formentera. At the time I was living in the countryside in the North of England, painting, and decided to take 3 months to work on this. Afterwards, having enjoyed the process I couldn't believe that I could make it a career...and that is how it began!

Your own 'home-studio' has been featured in numerous publications, can you sum up how you created this beautiful space and what you wanted to achieve?

I love the Barcelona Art Nouveau time period and the original space was an old printing factory from then. I love to keep the original essence of all of my spaces but incorporate my favourite pieces of art, furniture, lighting and even the music to create a new space.