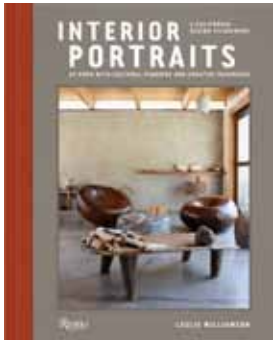


Top shelf

Your other favourite reads.



Interior Portraits by Leslie Williamson, published by Rizzoli, \$119.

Photographer Leslie Williamson is a homebody who loves nothing more than staying put in her own little world. But even the most resolute hermit's gotta eat, so for the past decade she's brought home the bacon by journeying near and far to photograph other people's havens. For this, her third book, she embarked on a "California design pilgrimage", creating a love letter to her home state. The people she dropped in on are all true trailblazers who have pursued their passions in who-cares-what-they-think style. One of the standouts among the standouts is textile artist Kay Sekimachi and her 1895 duplex, for the extraordinary objects inside it, many of them reflecting the inspiration she draws from nature. One corner of the kitchen is decorated with an exquisite hornets' nest, which a friend sent her in the mail.



TOP RIGHT & ABOVE LEFT Kay Sekimachi's creative cocoon, which she shared with her late husband, woodturner Bob Stocksdale. **ABOVE RIGHT** Inside sculptor Alma Allen's desert dwelling near Joshua Tree National Park.



IN BRIEF

Insiders & Company, published by Gestalten, \$100.

Got a thing for quality craftsmanship? Here you'll meet like-minded people from all over the world – makers and designers who're bringing the best of the good old days into the now. Step into homes, workshops and even a quarry to see traditions revived and tech taking artistry to the highest tier.



Wander Love by Aubrey Daquinag, published by Hardie Grant, \$40.

She's based in Sydney, but Aubrey's done what many dream of and turned the world into her office, travelling solo and blogging about it at theloveassembly.com. Her debut book suggests how you can do it too, with life-is-what-you-make-it lessons on how to get away and how to play it when you're there.

Words: Philippa Prentice. Interior Portraits distributed by Bateman; photography: Leslie Williamson