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The Americas:  
TOP ARCHITECTS  
and DESIGNERS



Lake Island

# LENKA SOARES

[www.lenkasoares.com](http://www.lenkasoares.com)

Lenka Soares is a Rio de Janeiro born Brazilian designer who is now firmly a New Yorker, having lived there for the past 22 years. She remains close to her roots, however, and draws inspiration from travelling around the world on an almost monthly basis.

Lenka moved to the USA 26 years ago when she studied at FIT, eventually graduating in Fine Arts in San Diego. Lenka works primarily with Brazilian clients who keep a base in New York but considers herself a world citizen, as well as a true New Yorker.

"I started my own firm because I wanted to have greater freedom to be able to create different concept designs and to travel. Being independent is much easier. We work harder but freedom is priceless"

"Mixing "low and high" is my passion in design, while always trying to accommodate the lifestyle of the client to the mood board.

I don't follow any specific period, I just try to present what I believe is beautiful. Working on different projects, from a farm in Rio de Janeiro to a colorful house in Westport, CT, to commercial spaces.... all with different mood boards, clients and energies is so amazing"

Lenka believes that the energy in every space is a composite of memories, travels, mementoes purchased in the course of a lifetime... and that it is of the utmost importance a home doesn't look soul-less, or like coming out of a catalogue.

Having a degree in architecture gives an interior designer a definitive edge for obvious reasons: the two disciplines are complementary, even if they have a different focus.

"When you study architecture you have a more defined sense of space but both architects and designers share the same goal, connecting and integrating to accomplish the client's goal"

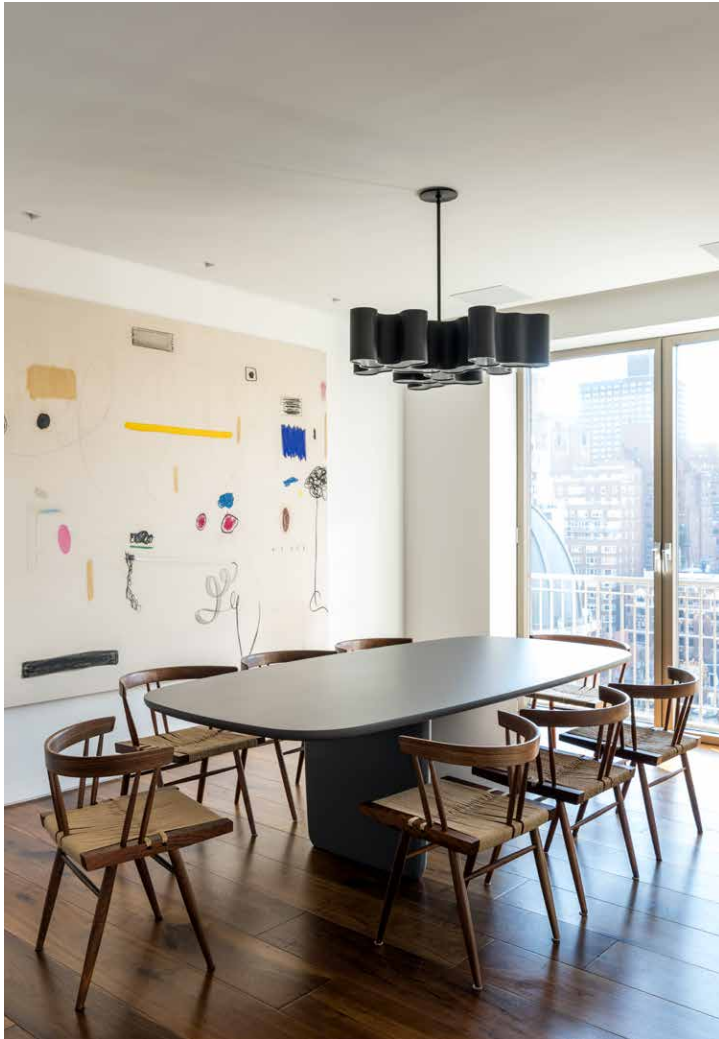






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Lenka firmly believes that "we must constantly learn, being aware of what is trendy, yet never lose our essence". She draws inspiration from regular trips to the Amazon jungle where she detoxes from urban life, as well as from visiting the Angkor Wat temples of Cambodia, the Museum of Islamic art in Doha, Japan and Marrakech.

"I love different architecture and design, with their diverse cultures behind them. Always being able to see the architecture combined with the interior design is important in order to learn how to manage space in different situations"

Lenka's aesthetic is firmly contemporary; classic rather than ostentatious, with whimsical elements here and there. In her work she tries to transform her client's style into what she believes is beautiful and what "goes well together".



"I don't follow a specific design concept. Rather, I try to put together what the clients expect based on their lifestyle and taste"

"Today the priority is not to have an ostentatious home, but a more comfortable and easy to maintain one. The goal is to transform the client's "dream" into reality"

#### Featured Project

"The apartment in Upper East Side that is very classic yet incorporating modern elements. It was designed for a young Brazilian family and shows that modern design can be mixed with vintage furniture and an amazing artwork collection"

#### Dream Project

"I have been going to Marrakech 3-4 times a year lately and am always amazed by the beauty of Moroccan architecture and craftsmanship."

I love to stay in beautiful riads such as Tarabel. It is simply magical to enter a little tiny door and find yourself in a jewel in the middle of the medina.

My dream is to get a commission to redesign an old and destroyed riad from scratch"