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SECTION**

SANCTUARY

FEBRUARY 2021

Bernie de Le Cuona

MY LIFE IN TEN...

THE TEXTILES EXPERT ON THE PEOPLE, PLACES AND PIECES THAT INSPIRE HER

1. A textile designer I admire is Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh, wife of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Her designs were in advance of their time.
2. The design rule I advocate for decorating is to live with what feels right to you. Never be a slave to fashion or someone else's look.
3. At the moment my favourite fabric is Pure 7 from my Pure organic linens. The design of this weave began with the bark of a tree.
4. A luxury I can't live without are my Apple AirPods. I listen to stories, music and podcasts on them every day.
5. Willer in Kensington is an interiors gallery selling the most perfectly realised selection of furniture, objects, lighting and tableware. The throws by Claudy Jongstra are irresistible.
6. A young South African industrial designer I've noted is Charles Haupt. I've bought his bronze Num Num dining table with a base that refers to the thorns on the tree.
7. A book I've recently read from cover to cover is *Contemporary Design Africa* by Tapiwa Matsinde. It presents the work of designers and craftspeople in a new light.
8. I'm very attached to a table lamp I've had for 30 years. It's the Pausania by Ettore Sottsass and was the first expensive design object I bought as a young adult.
9. The garden I love most is Constantia, a huge garden in Cape Town backed by Table Mountain. It's all about woods and exotic plants that look like they should be extinct!
10. For memorable holidays I visit Sausage Tree Safari Camp in Zambia. 📸



(From top) Bernie de Le Cuona; Claudy Jongstra throw, Willer; de Le Cuona's Pure 7 organic linen; *Contemporary Design Africa* by Tapiwa Matsinde (£19.95, Thames & Hudson); Sausage Tree Safari Camp; Pausania table lamp, Artemide



FEATURE CELIA RUFÉY