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interiors + design®





Interior designer Kelly Schandel, principal of thinkpure in Santa Monica, takes a meditative time-out in her studio. *Opposite:* Schandel selected streamlined contemporary furnishings and accessories to complement the architecture of this mid-century modern home in Bel Air.

Kelly Schandel is clear about one thing: Beauty lies in imperfection. “The principle is known as *wabi-sabi* in Japan,” she says, “and it really resonates with me.” In fact, the Santa Monica-based interior designer uses *wabi-sabi* to counterbalance the sleek, uncomplicated projects her firm, thinkpure, is known for. Perhaps it’s because her path didn’t travel in a straight line; she came to interior design only after toying with business, sizing up PR and trying on fashion. “But I was always interested in interiors,” she says. “As a child, I used to rearrange the furniture in my room all the time. It was a creative outlet for me.” Schandel’s ideals—light, space, warmth and simplicity—all come together in her modern, minimal aesthetic. “Fashion and interior design absolutely intersect,” she says. “I learned a lot about texture, proportion and color from that industry. But, in the fashion world, everything’s about trends, and what’s the newest, greatest thing. I create timeless—not trendy—spaces.” *thinkpure.com*; 310.828.1112

Marianne Guedin
Black Tea candle, \$45;
marianneguedin.com



SEEKING CLARITY

KELLY SCHANDEL



Top Shops:

Matin, a purveyor of art, furniture and jewelry in Culver City, and Vanessa Bruno in Los Angeles.

Prized Possession:

A vintage Rolex Datejust. I bought it to treat myself after my business took off.

Design Icons:

Vincent van Duysen, a Belgian architect whose work is minimal and very sensual, and fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent.

Current Obsession:

I cannot be without Marianne Guedin’s Black Tea candles; the scent is very subtle, and they come in these beautiful, reusable thick glass votives. I buy them at Botany, a great florist in the Brentwood Country Mart.

Next Big Buy:

A layered canvas painting by German artist Udo Nöger.

Current Project:

Decorating a house in Pacific Palisades designed by architect Warren Wagner of W3 Architects in Venice, California. It’s the epitome of green—it has its own well for water and generates its own electricity.