

# AT HOME WITH... Paola Lenti

*Paola Lenti's name is synonymous with textile innovation in the design world. Formerly a graphic designer, her love for textiles led her to start her own company in 1994. Specialising in rugs and contemporary furniture for indoor and outdoor environments, it is now one of Italy's leading luxury brands and at the forefront of pathbreaking research in textile.*

## MY WORK

**I LOVE WORKING WITH TEXTILES...** for the fact that from a simple yarn you can end up with different fabrics and cords and braids. You can literally create a whole world based on the same yarn.

**I BELIEVE THAT...** people have to feel at home, protected, reassured. Thus the pieces my company produces are never protagonists. They are discreetly elegant with the main aim being to offer inviting atmospheres.

**I DRAW INSPIRATION FROM...** anything and get ideas from anywhere.

**FOR ME, THE DESIGN PROCESS...** is an alchemy of forms, aesthetics, materials, colours; no one factor is predominating.

**THE ESSENCE OF MY DESIGNS...** is balance.

**AS FOR COLOUR PALETTES...** I like all colours but have a preference for blue and green hues. Patterns also have a very important place in my design scheme.

**I WOULD DESCRIBE MYSELF AS...** a hard working woman. Even in my early years of designing, I did not idolise anyone. I had my own ideas and tried hard to implement them.

**THE FIRST PIECE I EVER DESIGNED...** was

a felt rug called Prato.

**I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT...** experimenting and innovating with textiles is the future.

## MY HOME

**I SPEND MY SPARE TIME...** with my husband.

**WHEN I NEED TO RELAX...** I read or simply lie still, doing nothing.

**I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT...** my husband and my job. My family is also very important to me.

**I WOULD VISIT AGAIN AND AGAIN...** the Cappella Sistina in the Vatican City, Rome.

## MY LIFE

**MY HOME STYLE IS...** very simple with a few pieces designed by my father.

**WHAT I LOVE ABOUT MY HOUSE...** is the fact that I really feel at home.

**I WOULD NEVER HAVE...** something useless in my house. I have not shopped for my house in a long, long time though.

**FOOD OFTEN MADE AT HOME...** is pasta. It's quick, it's healthy and you can prepare a lot of different sauces.

**FOR UNEXPECTED GUESTS...** I would cook pasta! Pasta is something that we never have dearth of in Italy!



FROM ABOVE Paola designs herself but also brings in other renowned designers to create pieces for the collections; Ami chair for outdoor use; Crochet rug in rope yarn by Patricia Urquiola & Eliana Gerotto; Mellow modular sofa with cushions in cold injected polyurethane foam; on display at the Milan Fair was the Cabanne modular structure designed by Bestetti Associati and enhanced with Paola's new signature weather resistant materials.



Paola Lenti products are available at Vis-à-vis and Pallate. Visit [paolalenti.com](http://paolalenti.com) for product details.