



“I'M VERY CLEAR; I DON'T WAVER. I'VE TAKEN AWAY EVERYTHING THAT'S IFFY. I LOVE EVERYTHING THAT'S HERE.”

by visual distraction. “I’m very clear; I don’t waver,” she says. “I’ve taken away everything that’s iffy. I love everything that’s here.”

Even Jackson describes her approach as “severe.” But if you look closely, it’s clear that hers is a severity softened by considerable warmth. Unlike 1990s iterations of minimalism that often resulted in cold, clinical rooms, Jackson’s version is animated by gentle breaths of life. Belgian linen upholstery skims ebonized wood floors, antiques from French monasteries show centuries of human care and wear, and the few sculptural objects form poignant silhouettes against the blank white and gray walls. “All the furniture has integrity,” says Jackson. “There’s strength in quiet.”

Lending extra gravitas are carefully selected works of art, from a Richard Serra oil stick drawing in the living room to a 1920s Iranian rug displayed as a wall hanging in the entry hall. “Art can make or break any interior design,” says Jackson. The right piece “gives a room dimension, makes it sing,” but a bad choice can ruin it.

Discerning between such options is a challenge she relishes, both for clients (her list includes Vera Wang, Tory Burch, and Renée Zellweger) and in her role as creative director of Lucca & Co., a design showroom and retail space in New York City. “I’m obsessive about the process,” she says.

But once a project is finished, her obsessiveness does not spill over into fretting about how a space is used. Nowhere is this more clear than at the Southampton house during raucous annual birthday parties for both of her kids. “It’s bedlam,” says Jackson. “It’s not like I’m thrilled about the wear and tear, but I like the life that comes with it.” Indeed, by clearing away inanimate clutter, she’s created enough open space—and breathing room—for that life to flourish. □



On the terrace, a built-in banquette and long dining table invite leisurely afternoons outside. Oak table, Bloom. Cushions upholstered in a Sunbrella fabric, Design House of the Hamptons. OPPOSITE: Chaises, Paola Lenti. Umbrellas, Hildreth's Home Goods.

