

NOV/DEC 2018

FLOWER

HOUSE | GARDEN | LIFESTYLE

MAKE IT *merry*

**AMAZING
HOLIDAY HOMES**

*Fresh Ideas for
Christmas China*

**TASTEMAKERS'
FESTIVE
TRADITIONS**



**6 STEPS
TO A STYLISH
WREATH**

**EXCEPTIONAL
GIFT IDEAS**





Alexa Pulitzer

IT COULD HAVE BEEN NECKTIES. That's what Alexa Pulitzer thought she was destined to design, having been born to the New Orleans family who owned Wembley, then the largest tie company in the world. As a teen, Pulitzer spent summers in Italy, learning the business and studying textile design. But in America, her sophisticated concepts were being thrown in the trash can, so she began printing the discarded drawings on notepads and giving them as gifts. What began as castoffs has turned into a creative juggernaut. She now offers a wide array of papers graced by enchanting royal animals, bayou flora, and New Orleans street scenes. While anything from this artist will delight, we especially love her custom designs, which she approaches like a true collaboration, evoking the tenor and taste of her subject. A suite of custom stationery? Believe me, Dad will like it much better than a tie.



JUST FOR FUN

Fondest Christmas memory: When I was a child, my mother owned a needlepoint store in the French Quarter on Jackson Square called Quarter Stitch. I fondly remember the first time she hung my Christmas stocking that she had lovingly needlepointed for me on our mantel, and it was THE best gift ever.

Stationery by Alexa Pulitzer. For questions or inquiries regarding development and collaboration, visit alexapulitzer.com.

JUST FOR FUN

Holiday playlist: It is a family tradition to play "Ven a Mi Casa Esta Navidad." It's a very welcoming song—calm and perfect to put everyone in the mood of giving and being welcoming. And growing up, I used to do ballet, so just listening to the *Nutcracker* soundtrack always puts me in the holiday mood.



Mariana Barran Goodall:

HIBISCUS LINENS

HAND EMBROIDERY WAS SIMPLY part of Mariana Barran Goodall's upbringing in Monterrey, Mexico, where it was taught by the nuns in her school. When she arrived in Houston, Texas, in 2014, she was surprised at the lack of hand-stitched textiles, so she picked up her needle and thread again and started making special pieces as gifts. Goodall eventually opened a studio, Hibiscus Linens, named for the pitcher of hibiscus tea in her family's refrigerator that indicated guests were expected. Many of her products are designed especially for guests: napkins and delicate hand towels either elegantly monogrammed or adorned with delicate floral motifs and crochet borders. The pieces take many hours to create, and they speak to the beauty of bespoke detailing, which is why we believe they made such a meaningful gift. And they are meant to last—"to be heirlooms handed down," says Goodall.

Hand-embroidered hydrangea dinner napkins with crochet trim, \$1,800 for set of six, hibiscuslinens.com