



OCTOBER 19, 2018

## T Suggests: Things Editors Like

### An Hymn to Gingham in New Orleans

Twelve different variations of gingham appear across the 71 rooms of the Hotel Peter & Paul, which had its soft opening earlier this month in the Marigny district of New Orleans. The custom fabrics, created by the 100-year-old Swiss textile manufacturer Filtex, come in dusty pine green, Venetian red, sunflower yellow and cornflower blue. Checks range in size from postage stamp to cocktail napkin, and cover billowing window drapes, upholstered scroll-leg chairs and the



curtains around oversize wrought-iron four-poster beds. The effect is surprisingly calming. For the overall aesthetic of many of the rooms, “we embraced a Swedish, Gustavian austerity,” says Ari Heckman, the co-founder and C.E.O. of the design firm ASH NYC, which is a partner in the project. The gingham is offset by white lime-wash walls, pale-wood floors and antique furniture sourced from both Europe and local New Orleans estate sales.



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The property is the third hotel by ASH NYC — following the Dean in Providence, R.I., and the Siren Hotel in Detroit — and is a joint venture with New Orleans resident Nathalie Jordi, a former travel journalist. When Jordi first invited Heckman and ASH NYC’s chief creative officer William Cooper, to New Orleans to scout for locations for a possible hotel, she showed them a vacant 19th-century Catholic church only “as an afterthought,” says Heckman. “She told us, ‘Don’t get your hopes up. The zoning would have to be changed.’ But, of course, that’s the one we fell in love with.” Now, after a four-year restoration project (and a successful zoning change), the hotel site — which includes the church as well as its neighboring rectory, convent and school — houses a restaurant and bar, a library (located on the stage of the school’s former auditorium) and a cafe (in what was once a small side chapel), in addition to guest lodgings. While the property is just a short walk from the city’s lively French Quarter, it “feels like you’ve been transported to a different world,” says Heckman. The rooms in the former rectory, in particular, pay homage to “medieval and ecclesiastical 17th- and 18th-century interiors,” Heckman says. In one bedroom, guests can sleep beneath an antique gold saint’s effigy. [hotelpeterand-paul.com](http://hotelpeterand-paul.com) — ALICE NEWELL-HANSON