THE WORLD OF INTERIORS

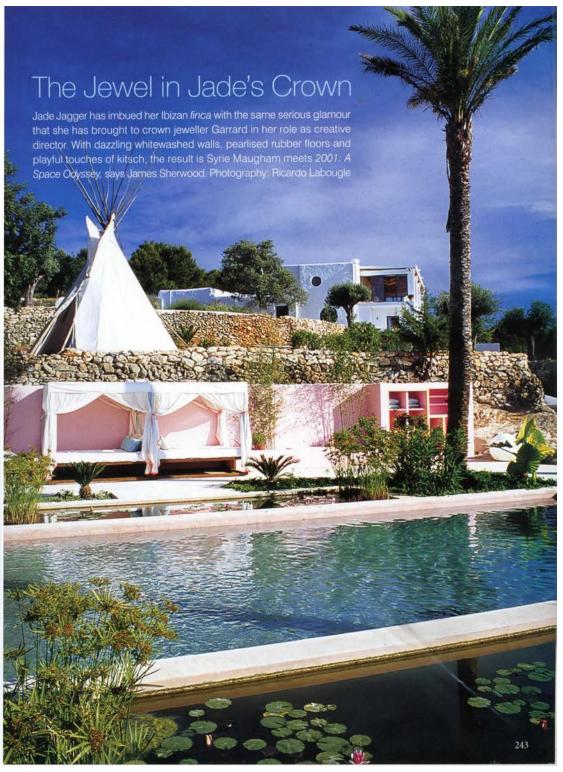




























Jack Jagger, creative director of crown jeweller Garrard, inspires admiration, envy and malice in equal measure. Her father, Sir Mick, is rock royalty and her mother, Bianca, was the queen of Studio 54, so Jade was never destined to be a wallflower. People wish to believe her life is one long cocktail party. They imagine her lounging by a Hockney-blue swimming pool at her villa on the north coast of Ibiza while a court of hip-hop DJs, fashion queens and aristocrats dance attendance. The reality is slightly more prosaic.

Jagger's 'villa' is a 300-year-old whitewashed finca set in a hilly Balearic landscape with misty-blue views of the Mediterranean. A newly built Palm Springs Modern-style pavilion houses Jagger's atelier, an 'adult playroom' and guest bedrooms. A third house on the estate has recently been sold to a close friend.

'I am actually a country girl at heart', she says, adding with a smirk, 'although according to my dad, Ibiza is quite suburban. I need to make more noise and hear less noise, if you know what I mean. I find it very hard to focus in London and need the silence and seclusion. There's a sense of humility about the farmhouse that I like. It is a simple structure and doesn't need fuss or clutter.' To demonstrate her country-girl credentials, Jagger shows me her gleaming white Aga, on which she cooks nightly for her children, Amba and Assisi. She positively melts at photographs of her beloved dogs.

For a girl who brought bling to Garrard and served as muse to haute-hippy fashion designer Matthew Williamson, Jagger's farmhouse is surprisingly spare. 'I keep hearing "She's so boho" or "She's so colourful", but actually I'm obsessed with white, says Jagger. 'White dog, white clothes, white house.' Everything, from the dining-room chairs to the blinds and sitting-room sofa cushions, is upholstered in white. The purity works particularly well in the sitting room, where the fireplace is surrounded by a looking-glass wall surmounted by a Murano mirror. The effect is Syrie Maugham meets 2001: A Space Odyssey.

'I am obsessed by cutting circles in the walls,' says Jagger, pointing to a vast porthole between what she calls the Japanese bathing room and her bedroom. It is echoed by a circular fur futon in the centre of the bathing room. 'I believe this room was a hayloft and it was open to the elements,' says Jagger. 'But I glassed it in because my furniture used to fly off the first-floor terrace like a scene from *The Wizard of Oz.*' A Cubist wooden bath and shower stand in the corner, and bathers have a 180-degree panorama of the seascape. But for the fur futon and a papal canopy dripping with golden tassels – 'bought from a crazy guy, Vincente, in a second-hand store called Ganesha in Ibiza' – the Japanese bathing room is relatively empty.

What Jagger calls the backbone of the architecture is designed by her great friend Tom Bartlett of Waldo Works, who also refurbished Garrard's Albemarle Street flagship store. In a three-year collaboration, Bartlett and Jagger have remained true to the spartan, rustic character of the farmhouse while introducing Maughamesque glamour and Sixties futuristic touches. Original wooden beams have been retained but painted with whitewash while the floors have been laid with space-age pearlised rubber.

Though Jagger calls herself a closet purist, her style isn't austere. There are touches of kitsch such as gold plastic skulls in her atelier, wall-mounted sacred-cow heads from India in the kitchen and a beaded curtain, decorated with a lurid depiction of Christ, leading from bedroom to bathroom. As a nod to the Seventies disco vibe that she loves, Jagger has suspended a disco ball the size of Venus between two palm trees flanking her swimming pool. 'They remind me of my childhood,' she says.

When Mick and Bianca separated in 1979, Bianca took Jade to live in the ruthlessly chic Manhattan townhouse belonging to fashion designer Halston for two years. Steve Rubell, owner of Studio 54, was her playmate. Day trips were made to Andy Warhol's Factory, where a nine-year-old Jade would paint on Uncle Andy's screen prints. Halston's best friend, Liza Minnelli, was a regular house guest and Bianca once infamously celebrated her birthday at Studio 54 by riding onto the dance floor on a white horse led by a naked man sprayed gold. Jagger's eye was informed by this wonderland. Glamour is in her DNA.

The music studio next to the atelier in the modern villa 'goes back to my upbringing and the Factory,' says Jagger. 'I love to surround myself with creative people with everyone pooling together. We have two decks, TVs and a big stereo. It's an adult playroom.' There's a great element of play in the farmhouse grounds too, including an American Indian tepee.

Though the modern villa has an azure infinity pool built into the terrace, the main pool is rendered in pink, giving the water the look of Monet's lily pond. 'I didn't want one of those ghastly radioactive blue pools,' she says, widening her eyes in a manerism that echoes her mother. Not coincidentally, two rectangular lily ponds on either side of the pool echo its proportion. A pair of four-posters have been lined up nearby, and serve as palanquins for semi-recumbent guests.

On the terrace above sits the white tepee Jagger improbably purchased in Wales. Inside is a rabbit-fur-swathed double bed, side tables and a Persian carpet. It serves as an amusing alternative to the guest bedroom. 'Mad for gardening' (which she does in old Versace opening-night dresses), Jagger has overseen the landscaping of 'controlled but seemingly wild' palm trees, cacti, lavender, hibiscus, jasmine and gardenias. A newly built terrace with windows open to the elements, lit at night by filigree Moroccan lanterns, offers views of the seascape like framed canvases.

It's the contemporary quirks – the pearlised rubber floor, the floating disco ball, the Kubrick circular cut-outs – that define Jagger's farmhouse. 'My builder thought I was loco when he saw the flooring,' she says with a wry smile. 'But I am not stuck in the past personally. When you are creating what is modern today, it will be classic tomorrow'

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