

lexing his creative muscles, influential Australian interior designer Greg Natale transposes his love of bold colours and pattern into his latest collection of homewares. Here, he shares who inspires him and how to effortlessly re-create his signature style.

In a nutshell, what's the Greg Natale story?

I'm a Sydney-born designer whose parents migrated here from Italy. After leaving school, I studied visual arts, architecture and interior design - I worked for a few practices around Sydney before opening my studio in 2001. In the early days, I earned a reputation for my

take on the New Regency aesthetic that was enjoying a resurgence in the US. From that I was able to evolve and develop my own aesthetic that took inspiration from late British designer David Hicks, fashion designers such as Halston, as well as the wonderful US interior and lifestyle designers Kelly Wearstler and Jonathan Adler.

What led to you to create your home range?

I saw it as a natural progression. I've lived and breathed interiors, homewares and soft furnishings for so long that I believe I know what works and why it works. I've also designed and developed this range to use

dramatic interiors, while texture is also an important part of my interior design work.

What's the most-prized piece in your home? My Keith Haring print is pretty special to me.

And the colours perfectly complement my beautiful, big Scott Petrie oil painting.

What is the number one thing people should consider when decorating a room?

Find your starting point for a room – something more than a favourite colour - such as a piece of art or furniture. When you start building layers in the room, return to that starting point and review how all the elements are coming together. Some basic guidelines include keeping big pieces such as a sofa in one block colour, not heavily patterned. This allows you to add accents of colour and pattern with cushions and throws.

Whose house would you love to decorate?

I would love to design for Madonna. She has a knack for breaking a trend, being ahead of the curve and pushing creative boundaries.