



HOMES

## Madeleine Castaing Used Color Frequently, Frenchie Sparingly

By Sarah Firshein | Oct 11, 2010, 11:05am EDT



Two weeks out from the release of *World of Madeleine Castaing*, a new Rizzoli tome [authored](#) by Emily Evans Eerdmans, the *Wall Street Journal* [takes a look](#) at the work of **French decorator Madeleine Castaing** and the themes that pervaded her work. Things learned: very few of Castaing's go-to furnishings were French in origin (she tended toward **English Regency, Gustavian and Swedish pieces**), her use of color directly influenced the work of English decorator David Hicks, and she embraced the long-lost art of whimsy and not overthinking things—and inspired her successors to do the same. "I put it there," 20th-century American decorator Sister Parrish once said of a "worthless giltwood curtain finial atop a lovely antique clock in her entrance hall," "because I had it." A Castaing influence, indeed.

Firshein, Sarah. Madeleine Castaing Used Color Frequently, Frenchie Sparingly. *Curbed*, October 11, 2010