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MY STYLISH LIFE

Kate Young

While the stylist behind some of Hollywood's most incredible women certainly has Prada in her closet, her off-duty Brooklyn home retains a relaxed, family-friendly vibe, combining soothing minimalist style with cozy traditional touches and playful shots of color

Photography by Danilo Scarpati Words by Tilly Macalister-Smith



OLD AND NEW

Above: "This is one of two vintage paintings from an antique store in upstate New York." Right: Kate describes her home as "minimal Shaker and a little bit traditional", but she also likes to add contemporary splashes of color, like her pink window-seat cushion and a green Andrew Zimmerman on the wall

Dress by Attico, \$1,209; skirt by Attico, \$1,855, at Net-A-Porter.com; ring, Kate's own

Hair: Joe Martino at The Wall Group. Makeup: Quinn Murphy at The Wall Group.



What do you imagine the closet of a red-carpet stylist to the world's most glamorous actresses to look like? Overflowing with tulle gowns and fantasy dresses? Not exactly. Hidden behind a makeshift curtain in the corner of Kate Young's TV room in her Brooklyn townhouse is a self-assembled Ikea wardrobe stocked with her husband's shirts, alongside a few of her own black jumpers and jeans. Balenciaga black cashmere jumpers nonetheless, but still, not a sequin in sight.

Kate Young is known for dressing some of the world's most incredible women. She counts a raft of award-winning actresses as clients, including Natalie Portman, Margot Robbie, Dakota Johnson, Selena Gomez, Rachel Weisz and Sienna Miller. You may not know Young, but you will know her work. Remember Michelle Williams in that yellow Vera Wang gown at the 2006 Oscars? That was Young. And, more recently, Natalie Portman in her regal black velvet Dior gown at this year's Time's Up Golden Globes. Young, again.

Stepping into Young's Brooklyn home, which she describes as "minimal Shaker and a little bit traditional", the correlations between her work as a stylist (for the red carpet, brands, and fashion shows including Rosetta Getty and Cushnie et Ochs) and her home are clear. Everything Young touches has a pleasing unfussiness and no-nonsense approach. For one, she's as punctilious about the color on her walls as on a premier gown. Every room in the house is painted a different hue of Farrow & Ball; dark green in the upstairs bedroom, black-brown in the kitchen. "I don't wear a lot of color but I love color, so I tend to exercise that in the house." Elsewhere, there are shots of color in the custom-made long pink cushion in her window seat, a grass-green sculptural art work by Andrew Zimmerman and a painting of her sons by Sebastian Blanck. >



Top: Kate's minimalist living room includes a Cecil Touchon above the fireplace, a chair by Enzo Mari and a stool from the Sawkill Lumber Company
Above: Kate's treasured Elsa Peretti for Tiffany & Co. terracotta pieces
Right: the bookshelves in Kate's bedroom are the perfect spot for a Sebastian Blanck oil painting of her two sons (right)



the art of style

Young, her husband of 13 years, Keith, who owns a record label, and their two boys, Leif, 7, and Stellan, 9, moved in to the townhouse in Brooklyn's Clinton Hill three years ago – a Landmarked property which an architectural historian friend dated to the Civil War period (1861–1865). For the renovations, they didn't work with a dedicated interior designer, instead Young called on her architect friend Graydon Yearick. "He's an amazing person to bounce ideas off. I love doing houses more than anything in the world," she beams.

Situated on the street corner, the house is flooded with light from all sides. It's calm and immaculate, but feels welcoming and lived in – shelves are lined with books and Keith's vinyl records. "We have nothing hi-tech," she flags. "I don't think that your house has a good vibe until you have a party in it," she adds. "We had a party the day we moved in." The ground-floor living room, with its sumptuous velvet sofa, opens into the kitchen area where the couple often entertain, although she's intentionally kept the rooms divided. "The living room in our previous loft apartment was a huge ballroom with 23ft windows. We kept moving the furniture around trying to make it cozy, so here we wanted something more structured, with rooms that were more purposeful. Besides, with two boys, we have bikes and helmets and skateboards! Having rooms allows us to hide that."

Upstairs, is her "TV room" – although her boys, who attend a Steiner school have never watched TV. Ever. She's something of a country girl at heart, having grown up on a farm in Pennsylvania. That was before she got into fashion, working up the ranks at American *Vogue* as a market editor, before going freelance in 1997.

Her calmness is born from meticulous organization. She pulls out a folder and shows me the planning for one actress's European press



Sweater, \$865, and pants, \$1,100, both by Victoria Beckham; ring, Kate's own



Kate's New York

HANG-OUT

We like to meet friends at *Sant Ambroeus* for martinis and a gossip. santambroeus.com

RESTAURANTS

Roman's is the Fort Greene restaurant. The menu changes every day and they have profoundly good cocktails. romansnyc.com

I go to *Golda* every day after the school run. The eggplant and tomato breakfast dish with oil poached egg is insane. goldakitchen.com

STORES

Makié make Japanese children's clothes, and really amazing frumpy clothes for adults! makieclothier.com

Matter is the most incredible design store – they have a great eye for new talent. mattermatters.com

GALLERIES

The *Sears-Peyton Gallery*. Its owner, Gaines Peyton is a close friend and has truly exquisite taste. searspeyton.com

I buy a lot of art from *Nickey Kehoe*, even though it's primarily a furniture store. nickeykehoe.com



Top: "The spare room is painted in a dark green Farrow & Ball shade, and the lamp is Adam Otlewski" Above: "I bought this picture frame when I had a vintage jewelry shop in Tribeca. I don't know who is in the photos, I just liked it!"





The television room has Ligne Roset sofas and a glass fish bowl by Elsa Peretti for Tiffany and Co.



Shirt by Calvin Klein Jeans, \$138; pants by Calvin Klein Jeans, \$168

tour: "I have printouts of every outfit on me, so if she texts asking for advice, I know exactly what she has and I can say, 'Switch the shoes to these.'" Speaking of which, Young's shoe closet consists of rungs of Prada party platforms and boyish, chic flats by Rosetta Getty and The Row. "These are Vuitton, these are Vuitton, these are Vuitton!" she laughs pointing out favorites. "These are Hermès slingbacks that I wore when I was an assistant at *Vogue*; aren't they amazing?!"

Starting at 6am with a sauna (they have one on the top floor), most days she makes the boys packed lunches and walks them to school. Then she'll go to Pilates or a Gyrotonic class, if she's not heading into Soho to her studio for appointments and fittings. "If a client has a contract with a designer, we start fittings the day right after the show." She'll pick up the kids at 5:30pm every day.

On weekends and in the summer, the family escapes to their house upstate in Hudson - where she even grows vegetables. "In June and July, I live up there. I usually come back one night a week for fittings, but I try to make it balanced. For the kids, it's always been this way, I've always worked around film festivals and fashion week, it's just the rhythm of our family."

Young believes that the house really reflects both her and her husband's tastes, though they make compromises. "Keith likes things more earthy - like a table by the sofa to put his coffee on. I like things to be a little more minimal." Ultimately, Young has styled herself a sanctuary, the perfect home for her high-low life. ■



HOME COMFORTS

"My bedroom is my favorite room in the house, it's so cozy. On a day like today, if the boys didn't have school, we'd all just pile into bed and chill"

Kate's SS18 wish list



Shirt by Jacquemus, \$525, at Net-A-Porter.com; ring by Messika, \$1,640; earrings by Leigh Miller, \$300, at Net-A-Porter.com



Jeans by Y/Project, \$495, at Net-A-Porter.com

Scan & Shop
Kate's laidback style with the NET-A-PORTER APP



Shoes by Balenciaga, \$795, at Net-A-Porter.com