

INFLUENTIAL WOMEN OF DESIGN | PACIFIC NORTHWEST



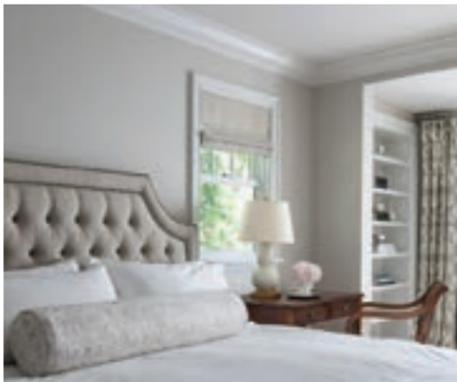
MARIANNE SIMON DESIGN

206.268.0362 | mariannesimondesign.com | @mariannesimon



For the truly creative, it seems no one inventive pursuit is enough to satisfy. That certainly appears to be the case for Marianne Simon, who, in addition to being a beloved interior designer, loves to cook and bake. Even so, she always wanted to be a designer and hit the ground more than running when the time came. "I have never worked for another firm," she says.

"I absorbed everything I read and connected with other designers via my former blog back in the early 2000s." Today, she is the founding principal of her namesake firm, Marianne Simon Design, and still talks shop with that same group of colleagues. Asked what energizes her to continue creating spaces clients call "timeless, classic and high-end," Simon says, "I truly love what I do and that gets me out of bed every morning. I'm grateful to be working on so many incredible projects with some of the best people."



"Watching the **hard work unfold** for clients who have placed their trust in me—it is very rewarding."

WOMEN WHO WORKED IT

Two female icons of the design trade influence Simon in all she does. She elaborates on why they drive her.

- **Elsie de Wolfe** was known for transforming dark and heavy interiors into intimate and light-filled spaces. The Colony Club is a prime example that put her on the map. One of her strengths was that she had a mind of her own and followed it. That is exactly the determination and confidence you need to succeed in this business!
- **Sister Parish** opened her firm during the height of the Great Depression at the age of 23. She went on to decorate The White House for the Kennedys and spend six decades in the field. She epitomizes the rise of women in the design profession.



Above Encased with custom millwork, this entry also features an antique chest and original artwork. **Top** Inspired by homes in the Hamptons, this pool deck is bright and chic. **Far left** An antique writing desk, custom upholstery and drapery in soft neutrals lend this serene bedroom warmth and texture. **Left** This study and piano room includes a writing desk and seating area in which to relax.

Photography Above & Far left by John Granen; Top & Left by Miranda Estes



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