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# Suzanne Tucker Home

## A Design Icon Rolls Out Her New Fabric Collection

BY KENDRA BOUTELL

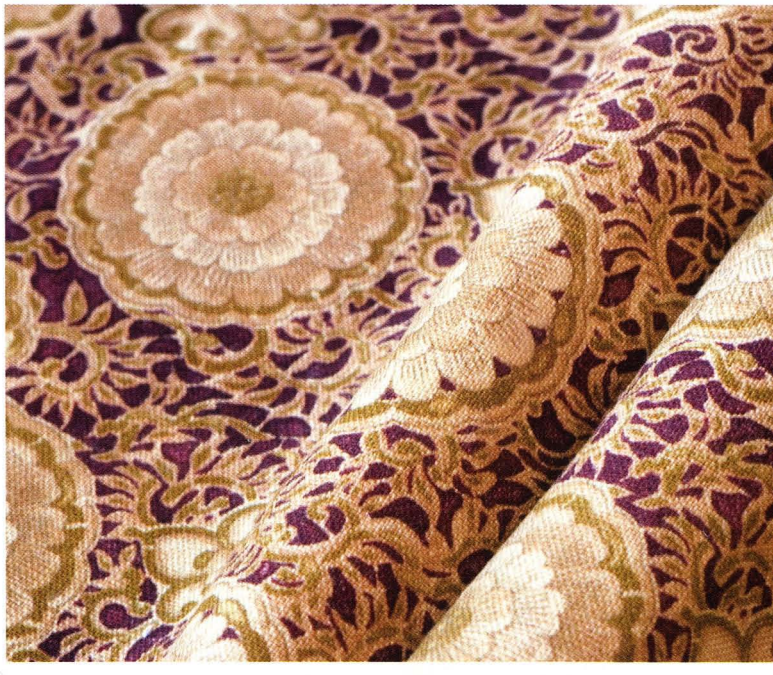
LEFT Exotic silk *Brighton Bizarre* from Suzanne Tucker Home. RIGHT Enthusiastic Tucker, who not only enjoys using beautiful textiles in her interior design work, but also wearing them.

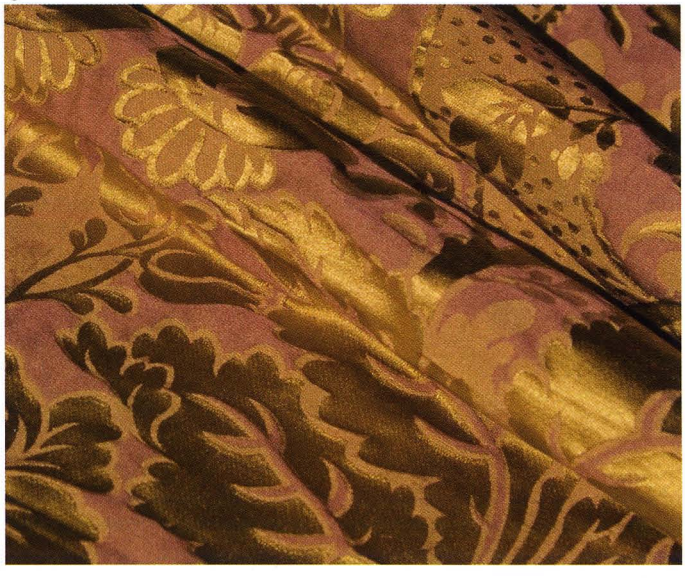
*Renowned San Francisco designer Suzanne Tucker* of Tucker & Marks has had a passion for fabrics since she was in college. "At UCLA my emphasis in design was textiles," she says. After a nearly thirty year career as an interior designer she has returned to her roots by creating a sumptuous fabric line, Suzanne Tucker Home. The textiles were inspired by her private collection of rare eighteenth and nineteenth century fabrics from Britain, Europe and Asia. "I've been collecting antique textiles for many years out of love and appreciation of the art. It's been an obvious segue to reproduce them."

Following her mentor Michael Taylor's preference for natural fabrics, she chose silks, linens, cottons and cashmeres. Consisting of twenty one elegant patterns and solids, the line includes velvets, damasks, matelassés, embroideries and prints from period documents. The color palette draws on Tucker's extensive travels and experience of other cultures. With hues that range from warm espresso, cinnabar, paprika, poppy and coral to cooler shades of eggplant, citrine, olive, peridot, and celery, the fabrics can work in both traditional and contemporary interiors.

Included in the collection is the silk weave Brighton Bizarre, named for the Royal Pavilion in Brighton, England. Another English influenced textile is Monique, a cotton floral document print from the eighteenth century. The foliate patterned Aurora in woven silk

Tucker took personal interest in every aspect of Suzanne Tucker Home including the fabrics' names. As a child she loved the fairy tale of Princess Aurora in Sleeping Beauty. When she found a beautiful foliate patterned silk, she decided to name it *Aurora* after *La Belle au Bois dormant* or the Beauty in the Sleeping Forest.





has a more Continental feel; its eighteenth century prototype was a silk cut velvet. A purchase from local antique textiles dealer, Kathleen Taylor of the Lotus Collection, resulted in Kiku. The stylized chrysanthemum print on cotton was taken from a nineteenth century Japanese futon cover.

Tucker drew on her experience with Taylor when producing her collection. "Early in my design career I got spoiled doing custom woven, custom dyed and custom printed fabrics. I thought everyone did that," she says. "A custom approach gives a textile rarity, and that in turn makes an interior one of a kind and special." To source her unique fabrics, Tucker collaborated with mills in seven countries. Using a combination of Old World artisans and New World tech, she has brought her vision to the marketplace.

Suzanne Tucker Home debuts in San Francisco at Shears & Window during Design San Francisco Feb 3-5, 2010. Tucker is again returning to her roots with this choice: During his lifetime Michael Taylor marketed his own furniture line at this distinguished showroom. Following San Francisco, the fabric collection will be introduced in Los Angeles during Westweek 2010 at Thomas Lavin. Future locations both national and international are anticipated along with an expansion of the line to include furnishings and accessories. CH