

DISCOVERIES



Southern Comfort

In her rambling Nashville home, British model and musician *Karen Elson* devises a room of her own

HAIR BY ALEXX CASEBOLT;
MAKEUP BY JANELLE WOOD

KAREN ELSON IN HER NEW BOUDOIR, AGAINST WALLPAPER—FEATURING FELLOW REDHEADS!—DESIGNED BY ILLUSTRATOR COSTANZA THEODOLI-BRASCHI. A 1950S FRENCH OSTRICH-EGG LAMP, SCARLET POPPIES, AND A JO MALONE LONDON INCENSE & EMBERS CANDLE SIT ATOP THE VINTAGE VANITY.

DISCOVERIES *at home with*

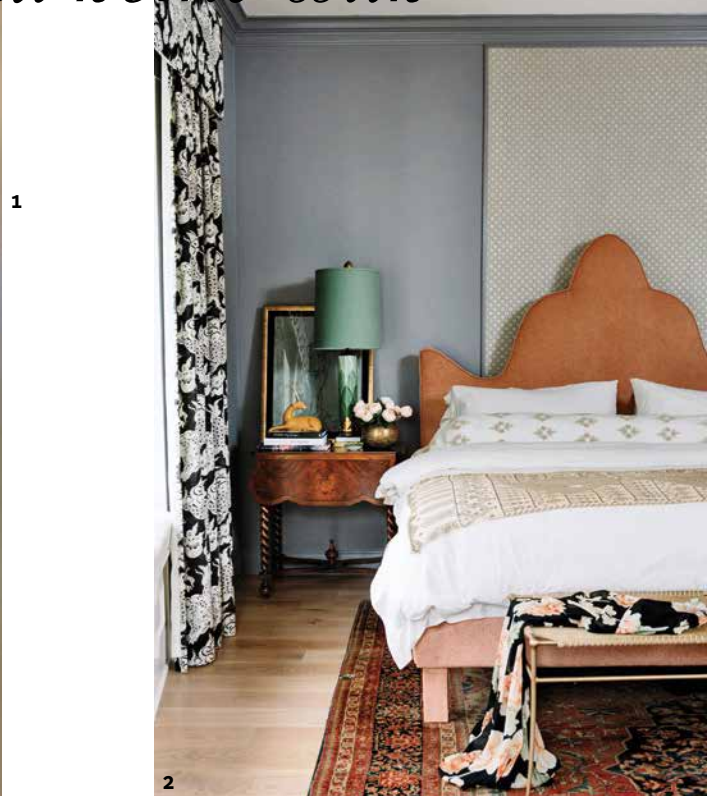


needed that place where I could drink endless cups of tea,” says model and musician Karen Elson of the newest addition to her Nashville home—an elegant boudoir. Born from her love for an irreverent wallpaper by illustrator Costanza Theodoli-Braschi (“it wasn’t exactly appropriate for the sitting room,” she says with a laugh), Elson’s latest decorating project turned an underutilized home office into a spot of solitude. “Now it’s the most glamorous room in the house,” she says of the space, realized with the help of designer friends Louisa Pierce and Emily Ward of Pierce & Ward.

The dressing room, along with her bedroom and bath, serves as Elson’s sanctuary. “Silence is important for my creative process,” she explains (her second album drops this month). “Once my kids have gone to school, I’ll come home and write in peace and quiet.” Her favorite stationery, songwriting notebooks, and a few flickering Jo Malone London candles (Elson is a brand ambassador for the British fragrance house) are kept at arm’s reach.

Pierce and Ward scoured Tennessee antiques shops, careful to maintain the English cottage feel of Elson’s rambling 1940s home. They found a tufted velvet chair and a 1920s drop-leaf table at nearby Gaslamp Antiques and mixed them with pieces dear to Elson, like a dazzling Italian chandelier she snapped up on eBay. “My task was always to make it an English country house in Nashville without having everything shipped from England,” Elson says.

As for the color scheme, it’s fitting that the fiery redhead went with flattering sage walls. “I’m just innately attracted to shades of green,” she says. “In fact, the one thing I think the boudoir is missing is a chartreuse seat.” —HANNAH MARTIN



1. A BONE-INLAID MOROCCAN STOOL LENDS GLOBAL FLAIR TO ELSON’S VANITY AREA.
2. HAND-PAINTED 1950S FRENCH LAMPS FLANK THE BED.
3. ENCAUSTIC CEMENT TILE ADDS A GEOMETRIC PUNCH TO THE LUXURIOUS BATH.