

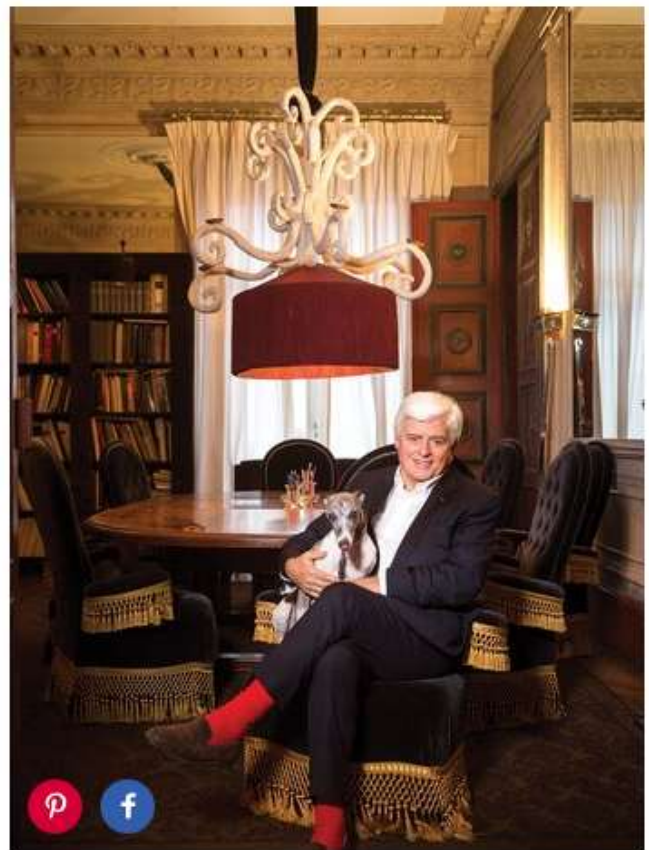
VOICES

A Day in Paris with Jacques Garcia

Here's how the French architect and interior designer keeps busy

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An apartment on Paris's Left Bank and a day job outfitting some of the world's finest hotels and restaurants: It's a life many would dream of. For French AD100 architect and designer (and Chevalier of the Legion of Honour) Jacques Garcia, it's reality. When Garcia isn't busy outfitting some of Paris's most treasured buildings—he's decorated the interiors of the Tour Montparnasse, the Royal Monceau hotel, and the iconic Fouquet's—he's hard at work restoring his Château du Champ de Bataille in Normandy or jet-setting to any number of international projects (past work abroad includes Marrakech's La Mamounia hotel and Wolfgang Puck's Cut at the Four Seasons New York Downtown). This year, Garcia is hard at work on his first full residential building in New York: the d'Orsay on 14th Street. *AD* caught up with the designer for a day in his busy life as he juggles a full plate of high-profile projects and a passion for antiques and interiors.



Jacques Garcia with his Whippet, Tadzio.



Photo: Eric Sander



A rendering of an interior at Garcia's forthcoming d'Orsay in New York.

Rendering: Courtesy of The Neighborhood

8:00 A.M. Wake up. Tadzio, my six-year-old Whippet, is my official alarm clock.

8:30 A.M. I live on the Left Bank of Paris, and I walk every morning to my office on the rue de Rivoli, in front of the Jardin des Tuileries. I pass by every morning the shop windows of the antique stores of the Carré Rive Gauche, which is a real pleasure for the eyes.

9:00 A.M. I arrive at my office and have the first meeting with my collaborators. My assistant, Antoine Panzani, briefs me on the “menu” of my day.

9:30 A.M.–10:00 A.M. I review the different catalogues from the auction houses, which are sent to my office for my different clients and for myself!



Garcia with Alvis Orsini.

Photo: Courtesy of Jacques Garcia

10:00 A.M. I like having work sessions in the morning; I feel more productive at that time of the day. I meet with Alvis Orsini, who is the project manager on our first full residential building, the d'Orsay in New York City, located at 211 West 14th Street. We go over the concept design for the building. We're both very excited about it.

10:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. We have presently over 20 projects around the world—a mix between hospitality and residential projects—and I work very closely with my collaborators who are in charge of the projects. They come to see me in my office very often for some aesthetic validations and I hop from one project to another all morning.



1:00 P.M. Quick lunch, generally in my office's neighborhood. (La Corte Italian restaurant at 320 rue du Faubourg St Honoré is a favorite.)

2:00 P.M. After lunch I answer interviews from different media around the world.

3:00 P.M. When I am in Paris, I take the opportunity to go on-site of the different projects we work on.



A Jacques Garcia living room.

William Waldron

5:00 P.M. Back at the office. It enables me to review the advancement on the topics I worked on in the morning with my project managers.

7:00 P.M. Back home for the only daily luxury I allow myself: a massage!

9:00 P.M. Vernissage or dinner with friends in my neighborhood of St Germain des Pres.

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