

## TREND SCOOP

Aparna admires Finnish designer Alvar Aalto's Children's Stool. 'I think he sculpted the perfect curve.'

Aparna covets this Samsonite suitcase her father has owned since she was a young girl.

# aparna ramani

*This Jozi interior designer has a sense of style that is at once whimsical and discerning*

Text **Graham Wood, Tiisetso Skosana** Photographs **Elsa Young, Mia Pearlman**

As an interior designer at Silvio Rech and Lesley Carstens Architects and Interiors (SRLC), Aparna Ramani has worked on projects ranging from inner-city refurbishments to exclusive lodges. She's dealt with local and traditional craft, as well as high-tech design. Consequently, her taste for design is one that embodies 'the best of what can happen when traditional skills and a contemporary aesthetic meet'. Some of Aparna's favourite pieces were inherited from her parents. She derives inspiration from the approach of classic Scandinavian designers, such as Alvar Aalto and Eero Saarinen, to modernism, as well as Lesley's 'intuitive way with natural fabrics'. She adds, 'I love the texture, rawness and weight of linen.' Aparna approaches design with a collector's mentality, searching for ties to history as well as aesthetic appeal, natural inspiration and the occasional whimsical touch, always negotiating the tension between 'design as a necessity and as a want'. ☎ **011-468-1525, adventarch@mweb.co.za**

Aparna enjoys reading Deyan Sudjic's *The Language of Things* (left); she says of her printed cotton sheet from India: 'I love that such a traditional printing process was used and, without aiming to be, the result is so contemporary.'

This understated reinvention of the anglepoise lamp by Kenneth Grange is 'an iconic piece of design technology', says Aparna; she finds Mia Pearlman's cut paper installations haunting. 'Tornado' (far right) is her favourite piece.

A shell ring (above) reminds her that 'nature makes perfectly'; Aparna intends to use this old steel gurney as a table.

A beloved collection of her mother's old spectacles.