

AD

*The  
Textile*

*Issue*



*With  
Monika*

*Correa*

# Crafted in Kolkata

**AD pulls a leaf out of de Gournay's latest fabrics, hand-embroidered in Kolkata by master artisans using techniques that date back to the 18th century.**

**A** hundred years from now, de Gournay's wallpapers and fabrics could easily be auctioned off as antiques. The luxury British brand, known for its custom, hand-painted collections has long been hailed as the "haute decor of wallpaper", but its mark of fine craftsmanship isn't limited to walls alone.

De Gournay's hand-embroidered fabrics hold a mirror to its ethos of artisanship. "Everything de Gournay creates is by hand and our fabrics are no exception. All pieces are brought to life in-house by a highly skilled team of embroiderers and craftspeople based in Kolkata, who employ specialist techniques dating back to the 18th century. Depending on the design and density of the embroidery, lead times for a single panel stretch can vary from 60 to 100 hours," says director Hannah Cecil Gurney, whose father, Claud Cecil Gurney founded the artisanal brand in 1986. "With limitless bespoke capabilities, our fabrics are often used to complement our hand-painted wallpapers," adds Hannah.

Deco Palms, de Gournay's latest embroidered fabric capsule (*pictured*), is a hat-tip to the enchanted forest and Neverland-like panoramas of its wall-covering counterparts. Characterized by resplendent palm trees on plush velvets, each piece is a love letter to a bygone summer. "We often look to contemporary and historical references, but we have recently been inspired by the era of the Ballets Russes and its emphasis on costume, artwork, and scenography," reflects Hannah.

For Hannah, the canvas is constantly evolving. "Window treatments and soft furnishings go hand in hand with wall coverings in helping us realize the perfect interiors for our clients," she says, adding, "A complete cocoon is intrinsic to the de Gournay experience." ▲



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