

BRITISH DECORATOR ALIDAD PUTS A NEW SPIN ON CLASSIC STRIPES WITH HIS MOORISH-INFLUENCED FABRICS BY PAUL O'DONNELL

espite Britain's contemporary design boom, history-not to mention tradition-looms over every project. With his first fabric collection, for Pierre Frey, interior designer Alidad attacks the gap between old and new, layering color and figure in his dazzling Hispano-Mauresque stripes, like the accretion of styles in an ancient manor. Inspired by the Moors of Spain, Persian-born Alidad artfully entwines floral and geometric patterns and puts a new spin on traditional vertical stripes by turning them horizontal and varying their widths freely. The 90-degree turn also unpins them from their period. "On the wall it looks like it has been there for a hundred years," says Alidad, "but the horizontal gives it a modern twist." For us, the real pleasure of the collection, displayed here in Frey's Paris window, lies not in its historicity or technique. A confirmed sensualist, Alidad awakens classic gentleman's club style by hitting every lush, impassioned note in his red and gold palette.

All fabrics are from the Mauresque Collection by Alidad for Pierre Frey. On floor: MEZQUITA in Vert Emeraude. Wall covering and insets on antique armchair and pillows: ALHAMBRA in Rubis. On antique slipper chairs: SEVILLA in Troene, inset with ALHAMBRA in Vert Emeraude. On armchair and Pierre Frey Maxime sofa: SEVILLA in Grenat. On mahogany screen by Alidad: GRANADA. Nineteenth-century English PRINTS, \$650 each, Sylvain Levy-Alban, Paris. 011-331-426-125-42. COFFEE TABLE, Vaughan. COFFEE CUPS, Sylvain Levy-Alban. Small MAHOGANY TABLE, left, by Alidad. Studded **VELVET TABLE** with stone top, far corner, by Alidad. GLASS LAMP, Vaughan. ROUND TABLE, right, by Alidad. □

