



5 MINUTES WITH: **LISA McDENNON**

Ever since she founded her eponymous design firm just over two decades ago, Lisa McDennon has been defining California coastal design. She pulls inspiration from the sublime beauty of her Laguna Beach surroundings, using natural materials and elegant forms to create welcoming residential and commercial interiors. Nuance, her home and lifestyle boutique, is a top shopping destination in downtown Laguna, just blocks from the beach. In January 2017, she partnered with Hinkley on a signature line of lighting—a collection that was well received by the industry and continues to grow, with more than 30 new pieces debuting this fall.

My light-bulb moment:

When I was 10, I had to choose between soccer and figure skating. I chose skating and vividly remember my parents asking me why. I told them I wanted to be in the spotlight and not rely on others for my successes or failures!

I can't start my day until:

I start my day with a cappuccino and join my best friend at the beach for a morning workout. Along with caffeine and exercise, we watch the sunrise, spot dolphins, set goals, and solve world issues before 7 a.m. If I miss a workout, I'm out of sorts!

Success is:

When people ask me about the secret to success, I always say it's about loving the process, embracing the small victories, and understanding that every day offers a new opportunity to create something remarkable.

It's the little things that make the most significant difference, both in design and in life.



\$3,399; hinkley.com

My favorite piece in my lighting collection with Hinkley:

Okay, that is difficult—it's like choosing a favorite child! But if I must, I'm loving my latest collection, **Trigo**. The inspiration comes from my enduring love for pearls—they have been one of my favorite gemstones since childhood. Trigo evokes strands of glowing pearls, cascading softly yet making a dramatic and elegant statement. The varying sizes of the glass globes

create a visual rhythm and organic flow, echoing the natural imperfections and unique beauty of genuine pearls and paying homage to my coastal inspirations.

My dream collaboration:

My dream collaboration is the Lisa McDennon Collection for Hinkley Lighting. My biggest release is launching this fall. There are over 30 styles for both indoor and outdoor settings. I feel I am only getting started, though my first collection was launched seven years ago.

The most rewarding thing about creating a collection with Hinkley:

Taking an idea from concept to reality and seeing the collection appear in interior projects is gratifying. I am always encouraged to continue to explore and innovate.

\$48; nuance-home.com



My beauty must-have:

I live by **Herbivore Botanicals Super Nova** eye cream. It is a game-changer!

When I feel uninspired:

I spend hours poring over a huge stack of magazines for inspiration. Then I take time to organize my new ideas.

A piece at Nuance I'm really excited about:

I'm excited about our newest **personal fragrance collection**.

\$100; nuance-home.com



\$265; nuance-home.com

A gift I love to give:

Candles and **cashmere**.

You'll never see me without:

You will always see me with my sketchbook and my phone. I also have a selection of beverages to keep me going throughout the day—coffee, water (preferably with my homemade fresh lemon-mint mini ice cubes), and a protein shake.

An item that makes my job as a designer easier:

I use my iPad and pencil so I can mark up drawings and documents on the go and share them with my team in real-time.

Advice I wish I had five years ago:

A client recently told me they never stress anymore—no matter what happens, things will work out. (Best client, ever, right?!) When I'm feeling overwhelmed, I repeat this mantra. I work on being present and having positivity and faith that everything will be okay!

In five years, find me:

I will continue to expand my business, work internationally, and create design collections across multiple disciplines. Spending time traveling with family and finding inspiration wherever I journey is also a top priority. I'm also excited to watch my children grow into adults and participate in their life journeys.

Above all else:

Family comes first and always listen to your inner voice!