

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS, DESIGN

# Designer Friday: Jean Philippe-Nuel

APRIL 26, 2019 BY ANDREW JOSEPH

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Luxury, to French architect and designer Jean Philippe-Nuel, is an art. For the past twenty years, as founder and principal designer for some of the world's highest-end five-star hotels and resorts, he has mastered the skill of combining elements and aesthetics of a city and bringing them together in an unparalleled way. Nuel's work spans across continents and, quite literally, oceans. One of the designer's latest projects was a ship for Ponant Cruises, which set sail with glamorous, futuristic interiors fashioned by Nuel and his team. Born into a family where design was a common thread, Nuel found himself called to architecture from an early age, and combines visual mastery with worldly experience. His work over the past two decades is all but guaranteed to impress anyone from the everyday visitor to the world's most elite travelers. Join me this Friday in a discussion with the legendary hotel hocho!



A suite in the La Clef Champs-Élysées hotel which makes use of baroque molding and gold accents for a night of Parisian beauty sleep.



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The front desk at the La Clef Champs-Élysées Paris sets a gold standard.

**Andrew Joseph – What’s your wakeup ritual?**

*Jean Philippe-Nuel – 1st To go back to sleep  
2nd To wake up nevertheless  
3rd 20 minutes of meditation*

**Andrew – How do you maintain a work/life balance?**

*Jean – There is no balance, the proof is that I have currently 3 days of vacation and I am answering your questions! The advantage is that I am on an island with a stunning view above the Mediterranean sea. I hope that it will be inspiring.*

**Andrew – What’s your favorite time of day?**

*Jean – Night, only if I can see the stars.*

**Andrew – Who do you want to write your obituary?**

*Jean – I’m going to start to care about it in order to not to be caught off guard!*

**Andrew – Secret talent?**

*Jean – I am still wondering..*

**Andrew – The most adventurous thing you’ve done in your life?**

*Jean – Exploring by night a forbidden part of the Parisian catacombs and then crawling surrounding by skeletons and finally getting lost and finding my way back before morning.*



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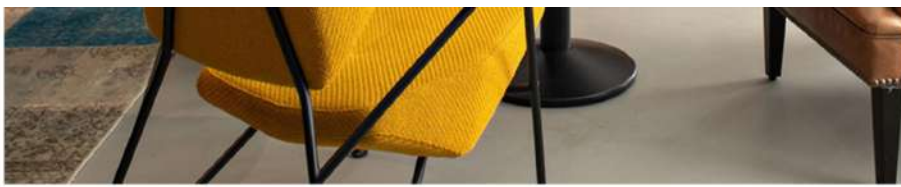
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Fit for an artisan, a Nuel-designed room at Le Bellevue adds fresh pops of color to a brand-new building.

**Andrew – Favorite bad movie?**

Jean – *The Party* by Blake Edwards.

**Andrew – If you had one more hour in the day what would you do with it?**

Jean – *One hour dedicated to what I did not have time to do: read or re-read a classic of French literature, painting, sailing... or maybe do nothing.*

**Andrew – Best advice you'd give your teenage self?**

Jean – *Advices usually consolidate my choices :*

*Do not listen too much to advice*

*Live the maximum of your dreams to catch some of them*

**Andrew – How do you define beauty?**

Jean – *Beauty is for me something feminine and synonymous of elegance (both physical and moral) associated with intelligence.*



A Ponant Cruises spa day, brought to you by Jean-Philippe Nuel.



**About Jean-Philippe Nuel |** Jean-Philippe Nuel first created his studio in Paris 20 years ago. Largely acclaimed for his talent to create original atmospheres for high-end luxury hotels, his name is now synonymous with 4-and 5-stars hotels worldwide. With a roster of clients gathering the biggest hotel groups such as Marriott, Hilton, Accor, Starwood, Ascott and Intercontinental, Nuel has proven over the years his ability to bring his own signature and personality to an industry that often has too many standards. Though he is an architect by training, success in his career has not

been a matter of chance. He was born in the east of France into a family in which two of his uncles were architects and his parents passionate about decoration and design.

Today, Nuel's vision is to provide a unique experience for each guest and turn each and every moment

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spent in a hotel as a singular moment to remember, no matter what the hotel. These decisions eventually led him to work with some of the most sought-after projects in France: Le 5 Codet, a haven hidden behind the Invalides Dome in Paris; Molitor, an Art Deco swimming pool turned into a social club and hotel; the Law Court in Nantes, turned into a highly successful 4-star resort; Le Grand Hôtel Dieu, a historical hotel in Lyon, and many more. In addition to hotels, the design brand has worked on office interiors, product designs and especially, numerous flagships in Japan, using their twenty years of experience to create solid concepts that elevate a projects new design. In every historical building he has worked on, he has captured the essence of its legacy through the creation of inspiring and elevated hotels, with a particular sensitivity to what the building meant for the city and its relationship to people.

With real knowledge in hospitality design, his goal since working in the United States has been to respectfully bring a unique vision that blends the cultural peculiarities of the U.S. with the attitude of a European cosmopolitan. A touch of sass entwined in the development of elegance is the common thread of the work that, by various collaborations with numerous large hotel groups such as Marriott, Hilton, and Starwood, Nuel was able to bring to fruition. His architectural style is unveiled in all its simplicity, deprived of any artifice and truly his own signature.

**About Andrew Joseph** | Andrew Joseph's passion for design and rich journalistic history led to the launch of his boutique PR firm in 2012. Prior to enjoying the successes of Andrew Joseph PR, Andrew honed his editorial skills at Vanity Fair and Allure. This experience, as well as the strong network of contacts developed over the years in public relations, brings a valuable edge to his new role as contributing editor. Let the musing begin.

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