

New York's other color code – The Crosby Street Hotel

Once and a while a hotel comes along that somehow manages to subtly yet assiduously form part of a certain zeitgeist, a certain feeling of right now. Most hotels dream of this, most hotels strive every-so-hard for this but never really achieve that little bit of magic. What creates this specific allure is a duo, a husband and wife team that curate, own and beautify the Firmdale Hotels: Kit Kemp and her husband Tim Kemp.

The Crosby Street Hotel in New York is that sanctum in a midst of a terrible touristy Soho. And I guess if Anna Wintour and David Bowie come around all the time it cannot be too terrible. The style is layered and eclectic with a mad English twist and some playful childish dots added in for good measure. But what is most significant is the ease that it all exudes: nothing trite, nothing forced just a natural feeling of anchorage comes over guests and patrons at this busy Manhattan hotel.

The elements that attract guests, seekers of a new world and the discerning luxury travelers that house themselves at Crosby is not only the chicken coop on the rooftop with some scruffy wild-haired roosters and the film club that screens some of Hollywood's bests after dinner on a Sunday night. But mostly it is the bar that functions as a real hotel bar as they were always intended to be. Inviting and friendly, warm and cozy in winter and refreshing and open-aired in summer the Crosby Bar feels pacified enough to read the Times on a Sunday and to have drinks with all the right people in your life on a Thursday night, oh and of course ideal for that work dinner that you need to be at.

Kit Kemp, a Londoner at heart, has so marvelously broken through the usual dark colors and industrial temptations of New York hotels and managed to throw together a color haven and a happy haven at that. Her positive energy and creative nectar flows and inspires guests and patrons alike. No wonder I am so jubilant about the Crosby Street Hotel.



This entry was posted on Tuesday, March 19th, 2013 at 8:49 am.

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