

Verve

—
AUCKLAND'S
FAVOURITE
LIFESTYLE
MAGAZINE
—
PRICELESS
ISSUE 167
—
AUGUST 2020

—
FASHION
BEAUTY
HEALTH
HOME
DESIGN/ARTS
FOOD/WINE
TRAVEL
SOCIETY
SWERVE



Bringing —
Food to Life
— *A Beautiful Union*
From Bauhaus to Our House

A Beautiful Union

WORDS—VICKI HOLDER



They locked eyes across the dinner table at an international waterskiing championship event in Portugal.

Kiwi traveller Andrew Terris was smitten by the beautiful Spanish businesswoman Maria Bamio. After a whirlwind romance, they married, holding wedding receptions in both countries, then Andrew moved to live on the Iberian Peninsula that is Maria's home.

But neither wanted to turn their back on New Zealand. "Both our countries have beautiful products that deserve to be shared. So we decided to build a bridge between Spain and the Antipodes," explains Andrew.

They established that link through Aroha Iberica, a two-way business exchange that imports and represents luxury products with provenance. In Australia and New Zealand, they represent Bovi and Graccioza linen and Selmark Lingerie which are all made in Portugal and Spain with multi-generational pedigrees.

In Spain and Portugal, the couple represent Marisco Vineyards and King Salmon, among others.

While they were in New Zealand, they met Maryjane Heather (MJ) from furniture manufacturer and designer Rose + Heather at a promotional evening.

Says MJ: "As much as I loved the romance of the story about how they came together as a couple, I also loved the product. Just the touch of the 100% pure long staple cotton and linen — it feels so beautiful. There was nothing like it in New Zealand. Having that crisp, clean linen look with the delicate lace is unusual.

"It's a classically inspired idea but the designs are absolutely contemporary, which makes it the perfect complement to Rose + Heather furniture.

"The timing couldn't have been better as we were moving to our light, bright new location up the road at 366 Great North Road, with its strong focus on individual bedroom settings. The fact that we no longer had the dusty workshop behind the showroom meant we were in a better position to dress our beds in a beautiful new product."



Aroha Iberica

arohaiberica.com

Rose + Heather

roseandheather.com

366 Great North Rd, Auckland



MJ selected just four styles that look great with Rose + Heather beds and which she believes will appeal to her clients. But she can source other product through Andrew and Maria if people are looking for something different.

The flagship linen product from Bovi available at Rose + Heather is the Vintage range in beautiful Portuguese linen with an embroidered edge in flax, white or grey. Other favourites are the Sylvia (beautifully embroidered cotton sateen), Milan (in relaxed stonewashed linen) and Lineia (a touch of linen with the classic style of cotton). These are complemented by beautiful coverlets and bedspreads.

Most duvets sets have five pieces with pillow cases, Euro shams and the duvet. Luxurious cotton sateen and cotton percale are available and all are manufactured in an eco-friendly dye process.

MJ also liked the synchronicity of the idea that Bovi is a third generation family owned company with an artisan background, just like Rose + Heather.

Andrew explains: "Famous for their high quality cotton and both contemporary and classical linen, the third generation family is based at the centre of the weaving dying and embroidery mills in Guimaraes in Portugal, which has a long history of textile manufacture, dating back to the 1700s."

It's about 90 minutes from where Andrew and Maria live, and they visit often.

He continues: "Our Graccioza bath linen range has a similar pedigree from a third generation Portuguese family-owned company. These unique and stylish towels are pre-washed and feature bias binding to give a nice neat edge. The Egoist range is often used by owners of European superyachts because of its fade resistant, anti-bacterial qualities."

He says New Zealand has previously been poorly served by suppliers of bath linen and those who come across Graccioza and touch it usually buy it because they know they can't find such quality here.

Aroha Iberica, through its New Zealand company, market the product made to New Zealand and Australian sizing. It is only available through high-end homeware stores like Rose + Heather and selected interior designers.

Bespoke beds meet luxury crafted linen — a marriage made in heaven for a perfect night's sleep.

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MJ, Rose + Heather

