

PORTEr



Decorative pastel glassware, such as Helle Mardahl's cocktail coupes, can create contrast when placed against bold materials such as onyx and marble



Candy colors take center stage in artist and designer Helle Mardahl's studio in Copenhagen

Look for balance to create warmth and elegance

“With their soft muted hues, pastel tones bring an understated elegance to interior design,” says Laura Torregrossa, founder of Marbera, an interior-design company that specializes in precious natural stones. “When designing a space featuring marble and onyx furniture, pastel colors can bring harmonious balance. They highlight the boldness and natural beauty of these materials without overpowering them. The soothing backdrop of pastels allows the intricate veining and brilliance of marble and onyx to take center stage. This interplay between soft pastels and dramatic stones creates a sense of balance and visual interest in the space.”

Torregrossa continues, “In addition to serving as wall colors to highlight accent furniture pieces, pastels can also be used in various decorative elements such as textiles, art and accessories. For example, pastel-hued throw pillows, rugs or curtains can add warmth and texture to the room, softening the robust nature of stone furniture. Also, pastel-colored marble or onyx can make for a unique, eye-catching statement piece. The idea is to blend pastel shades with the strong characteristics of marble and onyx in a way that brings out the best of both worlds. This combination can create a striking visual balance and add a layer of sophistication to the overall design.”