

*The Dubai-based artist-cum-designer and carpet aficionado walks us through an ordinary day around the clock*



Cecilia Setterdahl, founder of Carpets CC by Cecilia Setterdahl



A green chair on Dessert Garden carpet



View of Scandinavian Summer carpet

**7:00AM** I wake up and go down for breakfast (always coffee, a cheese sandwich and half of a grapefruit). I read Gulf News and Financial Times carefully everyday. I love to read and leaf through the real paper pages. **8:00AM** I prepare myself for the day. I take my bike and go for my two-hour Spanish lesson, or yoga if it's Monday. I'll be at home stretching if it's not a Monday - our home is in Jumeirah Islands and our office is in Platinum Tower JLT, so great for the environment and additional exercise. **11:15AM** I'm at the office after a short bicycle ride. **11:15AM – 12:30PM** I meet my team and check emails and take some short calls. **12:30PM – 1:00PM** Time for lunch and coffee outside the office. I choose a place that I can walk to! I enjoy sitting outside when possible in and around JLT. **1:00PM** I have a meeting with an interior designer to customise a carpet. We will change the colour and the size so that it will suit the customer. **2:00PM** I make a call to Denmark to check if my artwork for Art Money has arrived for an April exhibition in Paris. **2:30PM** I'm sketching for a new rug collection and looking at the pom box for suitable colours. I plan to have at least one collection per year and each one takes several months. **3:30PM** Normally I spend 20-30 minutes on social media and add a new Instagram picture. **4:00PM** I'm checking out a new carpet that just arrived at the office and then I'm back to the drawing board to sketch artwork that might



Left: Leopold Hand-Knotted 100% New Zealand wool, 240x170cm, AED16,000. Below: Cherry Tree Blue, Hand-Knotted 100% New Zealand wool, 240x170cm AED16,320



Cecilia Setterdahl at work

become a rug in the future. **5:00PM** Now I'm back home doing my Spanish homework. I love to spend a late afternoon taking care of my Bonsai in the garden before the sun goes down. **6:30PM** I have a very light bite, normally a small salad, followed by a walk with my dog. **7:30PM** I have an evening with the Swedish community, book club or Swedish Business Council. **9:30PM** Back home, I see the news on CNN, read a bit and think about what the program is for the next day before bedtime at **10:30PM**



Art Money Candy Tree carpet



IMAGES COURTESY OF CECILIA SETTERDAHL