



Dierks Bentley Tells Us How He Designed a Writers' Room with a Recording Studio at Nashville's Hutton Hotel

In this exclusive interview, Dierks Bentley explains how he worked with Studio 11 Design's Kellie Sirna when creating the space, which is available to rent

Before embarking on a nearly sold out 40-city stadium tour, country crooner Dierks Bentley tried his hand at interior design. The newcomer to the world of decor was tapped as a "guest designer" for Nashville's Hutton Hotel, which recently debuted a series of Writers' Rooms dreamt up by creatives like Bentley and OneRepublic's Ryan Tedder.

The 13-time Grammy Award nominee sat down with Studio 11 Design's Kellie Sirna to collaborate on a space inspired by his native Phoenix and his childhood adobe home, which means there's no shortage of Saltillo tile, layered Navajo area rugs, and even a vintage Ouija board decorating the room's interior. "I really wanted to be able to create a vibe that allows writers to step out of their norm and get lost in the space," Bentley says during an exclusive chat with *Architectural Digest*. "There can be a lot of outside distractions when you're writing close to home, so hopefully the room takes you somewhere else."



Another look inside Bentley's writers' room in the Hutton Hotel.

In addition to the technical bells and whistles necessary to craft your own chart-topping hit, there's a generous collection of Martin guitars at guests' disposal as well. It includes one from Bentley's own collection, signed by a fellow music legend. "I've been playing a Martin D-28 for years because my heroes did, and it's one of the most well respected guitar brands across all genres," he says. "My pinkie finger wore a hole through the top of the guitar, so it looks a little like Willie Nelson's guitar named Trigger." Luckily, given Bentley's superstardom, he was able to have Nelson himself sign his name right next to the worn-in hole.

The hotel itself is a hub for musical masterminds from around the world, frequently welcoming platinum-minted names across all genres who flock to Nashville for the musical community that's become synonymous with the city. The only catch is that recording space has quickly become hot commodity. "During the initial walk-through at Hutton Hotel, there was a musician staying in the penthouse suite, and every day he had to leave his family to go write in a different location and then record in another location," Studio 11's Sirna tells AD. "We wanted to make Hutton Hotel a home away from home where an artist can bring his family or friends and create music all in one place."

Starting this month, the Bentley-designed Writer's Room will become available for \$350 per day, but not before he breaks it in himself. "I am actually using the room to record vocals on my new album right now," he reveals. "Between having my own space to write and record and now my new bar on lower Broadway in downtown Nashville, I'm totally dialed in. Some days I go from home to the Writers' Room to the bar and then back home!"
