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ON THE COVER: A custom sisal rug and orange accents distinguish David Mitchell's handsome study. Photo © Angie Seckinger.

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EDITOR'S MESSAGE



Toasting Michael Roberson in her lovely dining room (above); and chilling with our “Hot Talent” on the rooftop of Franklin Court (left)—future home of the Washington Design Center.

FAR LEFT © MICHAEL VENTURA; LEFT © MORGAN HOWARTH

Many interior designers I know seem to have a sixth sense. Beyond playing with color, scale and light, they orchestrate details so adeptly that, in the end, they make a space positively sing.

Designers' homes, in particular, reveal their owners' talent. As you'll see from the four designers whose houses we spotlight in this special issue, they embark on their own home-improvement projects with frequency and an open mind. “I always have to have a project of my own underway,” confided David Mitchell during the photo shoot for our cover story on page 116. While some ideas (stone ledges in his living room) are more successful than others (painted-wood floors in his kitchen—don't ask), these experiments and lessons learned serve designers well when they are on the clock for a client.

I, for one, admire the pluck with which designers approach their own projects. Michael Roberson, whose home we share on page 144, didn't hesitate when it was time to renovate because she knew exactly what she wanted after living in her Arlington home for decades. “My idea of a little while is 15 minutes,” jokes the designer. “For my husband, it's 15 years.”

Just as sure on their feet are the five up-and-coming designers we profile in our annual “Hot Talent” feature. You'll understand why these pros are making waves on

the local design scene when you see their work, starting on page 68.

We thought it most fitting to photograph this “new guard” of designers in Franklin Court on 14th Street, NW—soon-to-be home of the Washington Design Center. This summer, more than 20 Design Center showrooms will move from their former, windowless location into one of the city's most dynamic and rapidly evolving neighborhoods. In the new, accessible, light-filled Design Center building, special programs and events will welcome consumers to explore the showrooms and learn about design. We will continue to cover what's on the horizon for our design community as it begins this exciting new chapter.

I hope you enjoy this special Designers issue, which also recaps the 2014 DC Design House on page 156. Twenty-seven local teams worked their magic in this Forest Hills gem—yet another testament to the power of interior design.

Sharon Jaffe Dan, Editor in Chief
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San Francisco landscape architect **Andrea Cochran** (left) and her firm were cited for a portfolio focused on sustainability and designs such as the Alpha Omega Winery in Napa Valley (pictured here).

The 2014 National Design Awards recognize excellence and innovation

DESIGN MINDS

The Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum recently announced the winners of its prestigious 2014 National Design Awards. Winners in a variety of disciplines were selected by jury for the level of excellence, innovation and public impact of their work.

Almost all of the awardees hail from New York and California. The Architecture Design award went to LA-based Brooks + Scarpa, a firm noted for its cutting-edge work as well as for designing the first affordable housing project in the country to be LEED-Gold certified.

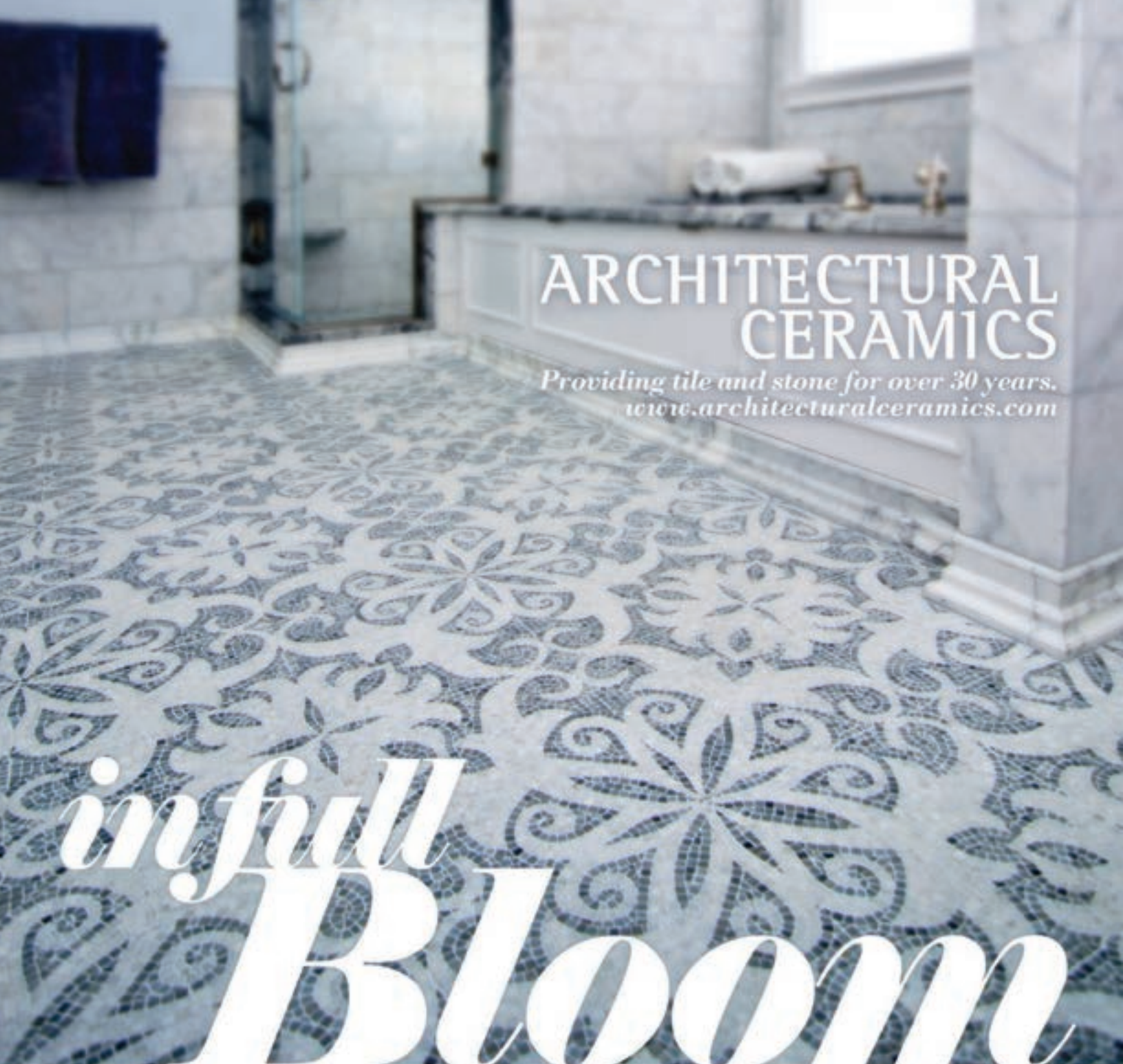
The New York firm Roman and Williams Buildings and Interiors, founded in 1998 by Hollywood set designers Robin Standefer and Stephen Alesch, won the Interior Design award. An über-cool, industrial edge characterizes the company's portfolio, which ranges from New York's Ace Hotel to a newsroom and set for "Huffington Post Live." The Landscape Architecture award went to San Francisco-based Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture, which focuses on sustainability in projects ranging from single-family homes to schools, affordable housing, public parks and institutions. New York-based Narciso Rodriguez won the Fashion Design award for his "modern-classic" apparel, while Etsy won the Corporate & Institutional Achievement award for building a marketplace that supports one million creative businesses.

During National Design Week from October 4 to 12, a series of special events will take place in New York and Washington, including an awards gala in New York on October 9. For more information, visit cooperhewitt.org. —*Sharon Jaffe Dan*



Robin Standefer and Stephen Alesch (right) and their firm, Roman and Williams Buildings and Interiors, won the Interior Design award for projects with an industrial edge, such as the mess hall in Facebook's headquarters (above).





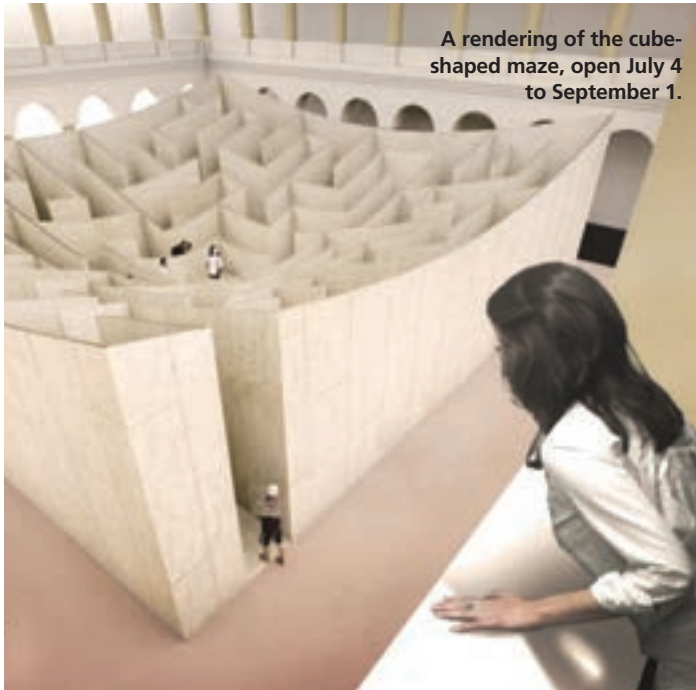
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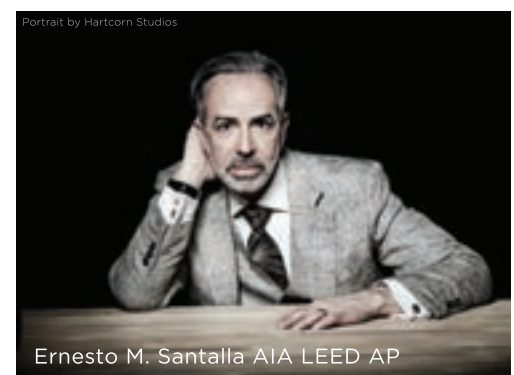
SHOW ME THE WAY

The BIG Maze at the National Building Museum welcomes explorers of all ages

A visit to the National Building Museum this summer might require a bit more path finding than usual—if you dare to enter the BIG Maze, that is. The Danish architecture firm BIG-Bjarke Ingels Group partnered with the museum to construct its first large-scale building installation in 26 years: a maze that spans 3,721 square feet and reaches up to 18 feet tall. When the Baltic birch plywood structure opens to the public in the museum’s Great Hall on July 4th, visitors of all ages will be able to explore its complex passageways at ground level—or enjoy a bird’s-eye view of the action from the second- and third-floor balconies.

Towering walls conceal the inner workings of the cube-shaped maze, which measures 61 feet wide on each side. Inside, the walls decrease in height as travelers near the center, revealing the logic behind the design. “The concept is simple. As you travel deeper into a maze, your path typically becomes more convoluted,” says architect Bjarke Ingels of his design. “What if we invert this scenario and create a maze that brings clarity and visual understanding upon reaching the heart of the labyrinth?” At the center of the maze, a “grand reveal” will provide a 360-degree understanding of the pathway in and out.

In addition to the BIG Maze, a number of other special events will take place as part of the National Building Museum’s Summer Block Party. Highlights include special tours of the maze as it’s being constructed on June 27, June 30 and July 1; late-night hours; and pop-up cookouts on the museum’s West Lawn, catered by Hill Country Barbecue, every Thursday to Saturday until Labor Day. The BIG Maze remains open until September 1. For more information, visit nbm.org. —Alex Stoller



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Photography by Geoffrey Hodgdon

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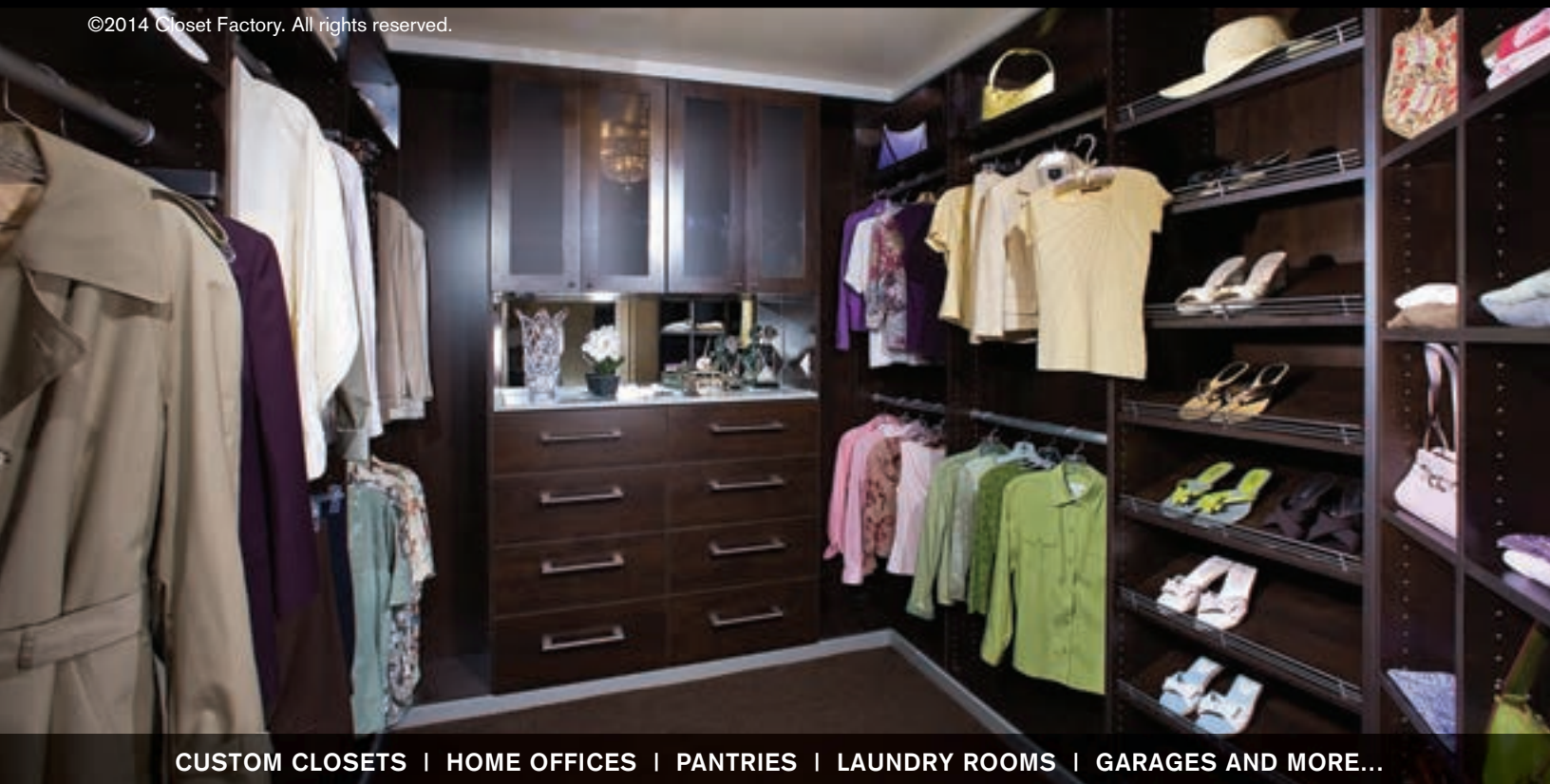
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Photos by Tom Olcott

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FOOD



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▲ RAISING THE BAR



Republic in Takoma Park is serving up seasonal cocktails and a special happy hour bar menu, available weeknights from 3 to 7 pm. The new drinks contain homemade bitter-lemon syrup, including the Bitter Presbyterian (left)—spiked with sour mash whiskey, Domaine de Canton, lime juice and mint. The bar menu features oysters, mussels, sandwiches and jerk-spiced sweet potato chips. 6939 Laurel Avenue; 301-270-3000. republictakoma.com



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PHOTOS © GREG POWERS



▲ GARDEN PARTY

Jardenea, the restaurant at the revamped Melrose Georgetown Hotel, has garnered attention for chef Nate Lindsay, whose new menu spotlights fresh seasonal ingredients. Standouts: rosemary-skewered Maine scallops and jumbo asparagus risotto. 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; 202-955-6400. melrosehoteldc.com



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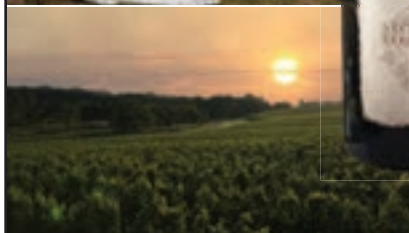


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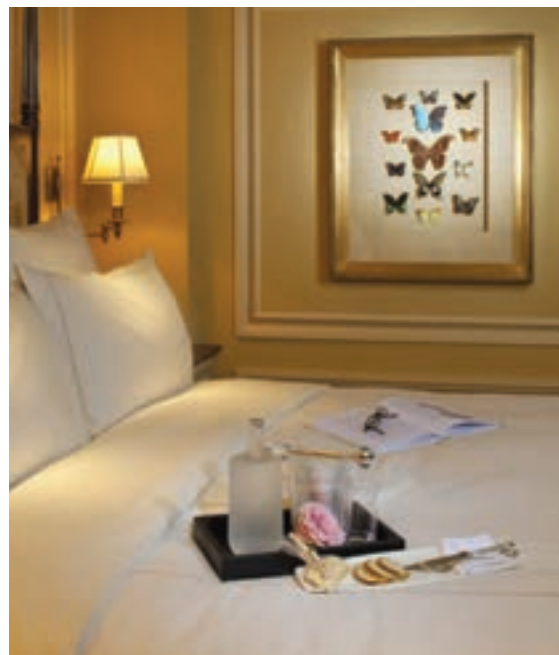


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▼ CAPITAL GETAWAY

The third President would no doubt approve of the way his namesake hotel welcomes visitors. Throughout 2014, The Jefferson, Washington, DC treats guests in its specialty suites to a bottle of wine that reflects the suite's theme. For example, guests in the Butterfly Suite (below) receive a bottle of Domaine des Baumard, Clos du Papillon Savennière. Suites from \$749. jeffersondc.com



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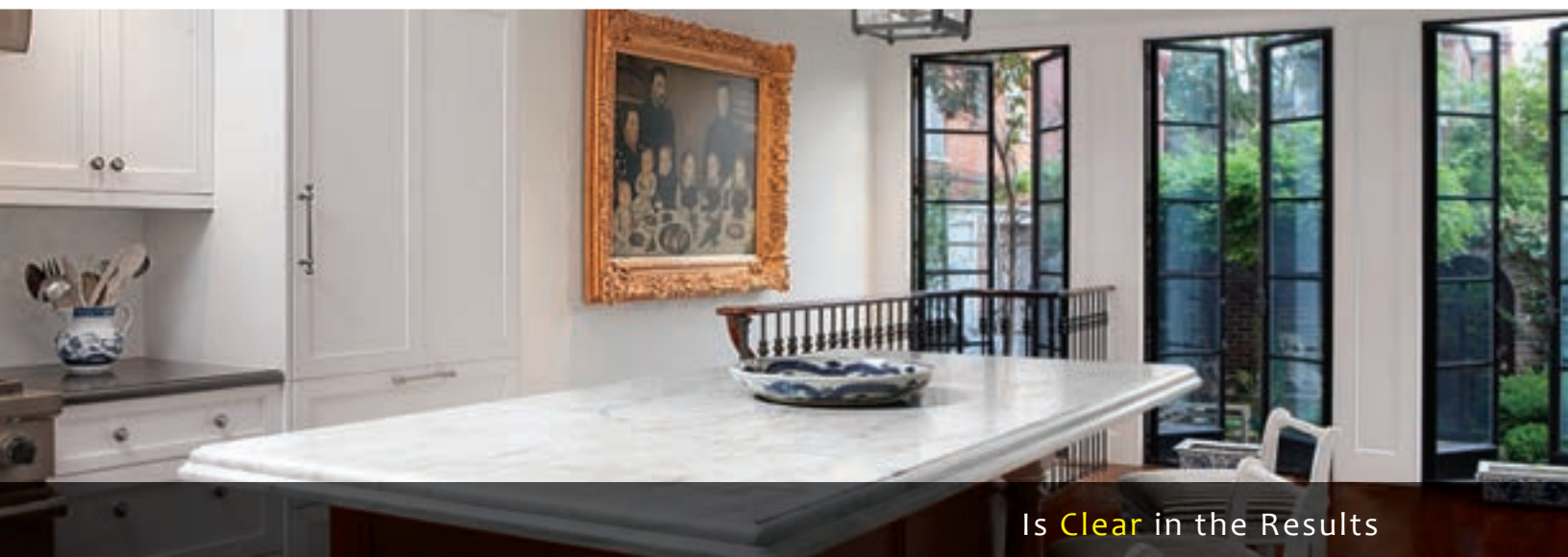


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DATEBOOK

Exhibits and design events in Maryland, DC and Virginia

BY ALEX STOLLER

The First Woman Graphic Novelist: Helena Bochoráková-Dittrichová

Through November 14

nmwa.org

An exhibition at the NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WOMEN IN THE ARTS focuses on Czechoslovakian graphic artist and novelist Helena Bochoráková-Dittrichová (1894-1980).

Her 1929 novel, *Z mého dětství* (*From My Childhood*), is known as the first novel without words created by a woman. The show features five of her published works and an unpublished book containing 52 original prints.

Face Value: Portraiture In The Age Of Abstraction

Through January 11 • npg.si.edu

This exhibition at the



Clockwise from top: Antique military binoculars will be on view at the Baltimore Summer Antiques Show; a print by Helena Bochoráková-Dittrichová; and an oil by Barkley Leonard Hendricks at the National Portrait Gallery.

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY features the work of mid-20th century American artists such as Alice Neel, Alex Katz and Andy Warhol, who worked to reinvent the art of portraiture during a time when figure painting was no longer considered a mainstream talent. The collection features more than 50 paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures created from 1945 to 1975.



For Whom It Stands: The Flag and The American People

Through February 28, 2015

rflewismuseum.org

In conjunction with the 200th anniversary of the Star-Spangled Banner, an exhibit at Baltimore's REGINALD F. LEWIS MUSEUM OF MARYLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY examines the history and meaning of the American flag

and the diverse populations that revere it. More than 100 works of art and artifacts demonstrate the breadth and diversity of experiences that revolve around the popular icon.

The Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize 2014 Finalists

June 21 to August 17

thewalters.org

This exhibition at THE WALTERS ART MUSEUM will showcase the work of the 2014 Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize finalists. The featured artists will compete for top awards and a \$25,000 fellowship.

Artscape

July 18 through July 20

artscape.org

Artscape, the nation's largest free art festival, takes place in BALTIMORE. The event features more than 150 fine artists, fashion designers and crafters. Visual art exhibits held on and off site display sculptures, art cars and pho-



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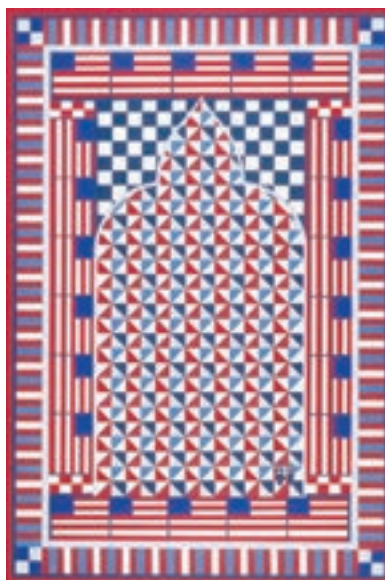


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"Prayer Rug for America" by Arab-American Helen Zughaib is one of more than 100 works of art, documents and artifacts that examine the meaning of the iconic U.S. flag in "For Whom it Stands" at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum Of Maryland African American History in Baltimore.



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tography. Live performances, an assortment of food stalls and hands-on demonstrations also highlight the event.

Plein Air-Easton Art Festival

July 12 through 20
pleinaireaston.com

In its 10th year, Plein Air Easton is one of the largest juried *plein air* painting competitions in the nation. *Plein air* artists paint from life rather than in the studio. Participants will paint in and around EASTON, MARYLAND, throughout the week. The finished works will be displayed in the town's Academy Art Museum.

Mark Tribe's Plein Air Series

July 19 to September 28
corcoran.org

In his exhibit at the CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART, photographer Mark Tribe works to alter viewer perceptions by presenting the world from a bird's-eye view. His collection features a variety of computer-generated aerial photographs that, without visible horizon lines, make the landscapes appear endless.

Beach And Bay Tour

July 23 to 24
beachandbaycottageatour.com

This year marks the 22nd Annual Beach & Bay Cottage Tour on the Delaware shore from NORTH BETHANY TO FENWICK ISLAND. Ten homes that vary in size, architecture and decorating style will be open for tours.

Baltimore Summer Antiques Show

August 21 through 24
baltimoresummerantiques.com

The 34th Annual Baltimore Summer Antiques Show at the INNER HARBOR will feature more than 200,000 individual items ranging from jewelry to furniture for purchase. The event also includes a rare book fair and lectures by dealers and industry professionals.

Perspectives: Chiharu Shiota

August 30 through June 7
asia.si.edu

Japanese performance artist Chiharu Shiota's monumental installation at the ARTHUR M. SACKLER GALLERY pays tribute to memories of lost individuals through an accumulation of discarded shoes and notes collected by the artist. ❖



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The Big EASY

Designer Kathryn Ivey
gives a Capitol Hill home
a New Orleans-style
makeover

BY CHARLOTTE SAFAVI

PHOTOGRAPHY BY HELEN NORMAN





The scrolled wrought-iron console in the foyer (this page) is reminiscent of a New Orleans garden gate. In the living room, a Hickory Chair sofa and two Lee Industries armchairs surround a glass-and-bronze coffee table (opposite, top). By painting the built-in shelving blue (opposite, bottom), Ivey transformed the room's neutral backdrop.

PORTFOLIO



When the Lukken family bought their four-bedroom Capitol Hill row house in 2011, they knew an extensive renovation lay in their not-too-distant future. A sociable couple with three kids under the age of ten, they wanted the home to reflect their taste and align with their lifestyle.

"The house was nicely appointed but somewhat dated, with a darker palette—lots of maroons, beiges and forest greens. It also had very formal moldings and fixtures," recalls DC-based interior designer Kathryn Ivey, who was hired by the owners to revamp their house in 2013. "It was the home of a sophisticated older woman versus one for an active young family of five."

Though the Colonial-style row house was built only ten years ago, its exterior blends

seamlessly with the area's period homes. However, with polished wood floors and shiny brass fixtures, the interiors smacked of new construction. A plan evolved that would lend the new home a sense of history and timeless character. "My client is originally from Louisiana," says Ivey. "She loves the rustic yet elegant New Orleans style, with its weathered finishes, rich natural materials and Old World sensibility. I wanted to bring these timeless elements into the home and better connect it to its historic neighborhood."

Working with Claire McLane of Residential Concepts and builder Ryan Keith of Redux Garden + Home, Ivey finalized plans for a first-floor remodel that would open up the layout and improve circulation between the foyer, living room, dining room and kitchen.

To achieve this, a superfluous wall separating the kitchen and dining room came down, as did ornate double columns dividing the living and dining rooms. "We wanted to preserve the openness," explains Ivey, "but maintain differentiation between these two spaces, so we bricked the

drywall supports and created a brick arch."

The interior brickwork imparted instant character, adding a desired "forever there" component to the home. Ivey created spatial definition in the now-open floor plan while continuing to add details that would "age" the house. She paved the foyer with coarse Tennessee bluestone, and replaced builder-grade mahogany floors throughout with custom-planked old-growth hickory from Vermont in a foot-worn finish. She also installed a tongue-in-groove painted wood ceiling in the refurbished kitchen.

"The kitchen was completely gutted and redone," says Ivey. "Opening it up really lent itself both to relaxed entertaining at home and hectic everyday life with the kids."

A sliding barn door (above, left) leads down to the basement, imparting a rustic touch. Wallpaper defines the dining area wall (above, right), where a built-in desk doubles as a bar when the couple is entertaining. A new bricked-in arch (opposite) makes a powerful yet subtle statement, as does the wood chandelier above the dining table.

INTERIOR DESIGN: Kathryn Ivey, Kathryn Ivey Interiors, Washington, DC. RENOVATION DESIGN: Claire McLane, Residential Concepts, Chevy Chase, Maryland. RENOVATION CONTRACTOR: Ryan Keith, Redux Garden + Home, Washington, DC.







Two wrought-iron lanterns provide New Orleans-style lighting above the island, which is topped in Absolute Granite with a user-friendly leather finish. This is where the kids grab quick meals and food prep takes place. A farmhouse apron sink, marble perimeter counters and paneled, Shaker-style cabinets with aged brass hardware add further definition.

"All the finishes in this home are really important," says Ivey. "They are textural yet refined, with all the warmth of natural materials."

She took a similar approach to the clean-lined, traditional furnishings. French-inspired bentwood chairs with X-backs and caned seats pull up to a distressed-wood oval dining table, while seating in the living area includes a pair of powder-blue slip-covered armchairs and an oatmeal-hued linen sofa. Aged brass, rubbed bronze and

"I wanted to bring timeless elements into the home and better connect it to its historic neighborhood."

—KATHRYN IVEY

wrought iron are used throughout as metal accents. Adult sophistication pairs with family comfort in each nook.

"We painted almost everything soft white," says Ivey of the largely neutral canvas, "but we also wanted a light and airy historical color palette for select accents."

Timeless hues such as sage green, caramel tan and Colonial blue quietly enhance the neutrals in the form of small accessories and throw pillows, as well as in carpets and artwork. Punches of black on the ebonized stair rail and painted front door add dramatic flair.

Ivey made her boldest color statement in the living area, where she painted the fireplace mantel light tan and the matching built-in bookshelves a muted blue.

"The decision to add the infusion of color to these architectural features was definitely more European," says the designer, who has spent time in Provence. "In America, we tend to color the walls and keep the trim white or stained. I did the exact opposite. It's a different expression of color. And it was another way to bring that French influence into the home."

Other inspired details include the Moravian star fixture, casting points of light in the foyer; needlepoint-embroidered pillows, layering in texture; and pale Roman shades, with their playful pompom trim, filtering sunlight and adding warmth.

"The house speaks to that New Orleans style of living," says Ivey of the home's irresistible charm. "The homeowners are a fun couple who love to entertain. Now, they can comfortably interact with their guests and keep track of their young family." ♦

Charlotte Safavi is an Alexandria, Virginia, writer. Photographer Helen Norman is based in White Hall, Maryland. For before photos, see homeanddesign.com.

A built-in sideboard with glass-fronted cabinets (opposite) delineates the kitchen and dining area. A farmhouse apron sink and Shaker-style cabinets (above, left) lend the home period style. A corner breakfast nook (above, right) hosts easy family meals.

A Different Kind of Family Portrait



The Flynn Family

acrylic on canvas

size 42 in. x 54 in.



John

Patty

The Perfect Anniversary Gift



Brendon



Joseph



John Jr. with Trigger



John's Parents



Padraic



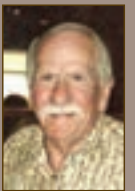
Mondo Burger



Belle



Patty's Parents



John and Patty Flynn met David Cochran at an art show in Old Town Alexandria and they were fascinated with the way this portrait artist captures his subjects in a casual yet realistic manner. They were intrigued that the artist consults with his clients to gather information about their lives in order to depict a personalized background for each portrait. They knew this approach would work well for their good-natured family of four boys.

John called David for information and learned that in creating a portrait of a family, he uses the clients' photographs as his resources (NO sittings!). Dave scoured a stack of family photos and sketched an idea. John and Patty loved the concept he came up with and confirmed the commission.

David included many personal images he knew would be meaningful to this family—school logos, a guitar, an old red pick-up truck, and depictions of some memorable meals eaten together on family trips here in the U.S. and abroad. They decided to have David include both sets of parents in the background, along with their beloved dog Belle and cat Tigger. John works on Capitol Hill, so an image of the Capitol is included, along with the insignia of the Coast Guard, where he proudly served for nearly 25 years.

This 42' x 54" acrylic painting now hangs in the family room, setting a warm and inviting mood.

Giclée prints were made of this painting and given to various family members

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FASHION *Statement*

The host of TLC's "Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta" opens the doors to his longtime Alexandria home

BY JULIE SANDERS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB NAROD





A dapper Monte Durham poses before a circa-1870s linen fold chest in the dining room (these pages). A prized collection of Delft china hangs behind him. The room also features a mahogany table from the 1930s, reproduction Federal-era chairs and a French crystal chandelier.

PRIVATE TOUR



Monte Durham greets visitors with what can only be described as Southern hospitality. The West Virginia native is recognized wherever he goes for his high-profile role on the pre-nuptial reality show, yet his feet stand firmly on the ground—as well as in the beloved Belle Haven home he's shared with his longtime partner, Jakob Evans, for the last 20 years.

The 70-year-old house, a graceful, welcoming center-hall Colonial, perfectly reflects Durham's personality and style. It's traditional, brimming with 19th-century antiques yet punctuated by whimsical personal touches in the form of artwork and family heirlooms. It's also a labor of love: Over the years, Durham has put in much of the work on it himself. In fact, it only recently underwent a professional renovation, of which Durham and Evans are justly proud.

Home & Design visited the couple while

the remodel—which encompassed the kitchen, a new breakfast room and adjoining breezeway and a basement office—was still wrapping up. Durham is an avid collector of Jackie Kennedy memorabilia (an interest gleaned from his mother, whose fascination began during the glamorous Kennedy era), and a tour of the house features a room showcasing a gallery of photos and an exact replica of the First Lady's wedding dress. He also collects antique china; sometimes these interests overlap,

as in an array of stemware on display in the kitchen, originally ordered by Jackie Kennedy for the White House and scooped up from an online source by Durham.

The living room, dining room and TV room—once a 1940s-era jalousie-windowed porch off the dining room—have undergone mainly cosmetic alterations at the hands of their owner, who particularly likes painting rooms himself. “Doing my own painting is the most inexpensive and quickest way to change a room,” he

The 70-year-old home (left) conveys a sense of grandeur through a series of pillars in front. The living room (above) boasts a pair of sofas from Colony House, a rosewood piano, circa 1890, and custom silk drapes from Calico Corners.



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The newly revamped kitchen (right) combines a beveled-marble subway tile backsplash and gray-painted cabinetry. A wall of cabinets (above, left) with a mirrored back displays glassware, and a sideboard is paired with a whimsical encaustic painting of cows by John Fletcher (above, right).

explains. “And I figure if I do it myself I can change it. It allows freedom without conversation—I don’t have to convince anyone of anything!”

Durham recently painted the dining room a warm gray that provides the perfect background for a collection of blue-and-white Delftware. The space is furnished with antiques, including a grandfather clock bought in San Diego, sideboards and a china cabinet. Crate & Barrel draperies have been trimmed with fringe to give them a more formal air. “I tend to go very formal,” Durham observes. “I like damask and silk.” In the cheerful yellow parlor, formality and warmth unite



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With its expansive picture window, the breakfast room addition (below, left) offers brilliant springtime views of a crab apple tree in the backyard. In one corner, a chest from Home Goods is paired with folk art—a playful portrait of a rooster (below, right). Durham and Evans (right) enjoy their backyard with their Welsh terrier, Nellie Belle.

with heavy silk drapes, stately camel-backed sofas and a grand piano.

The renovated kitchen synthesizes the traditional aesthetic found in the rest of the house with a more modern, updated look, conveyed partly by a fresh lemon-grass hue on the walls and gray-painted cabinetry. A beveled subway-tile backsplash in Carrara marble matches the island countertop, creating a timeless look.

The kitchen opens out to a breakfast room with a vaulted barn ceiling and a window seat that overlooks the backyard—now home to a breezeway and patio. To house outdoor plants, Durham spray-painted large planters from the gro-

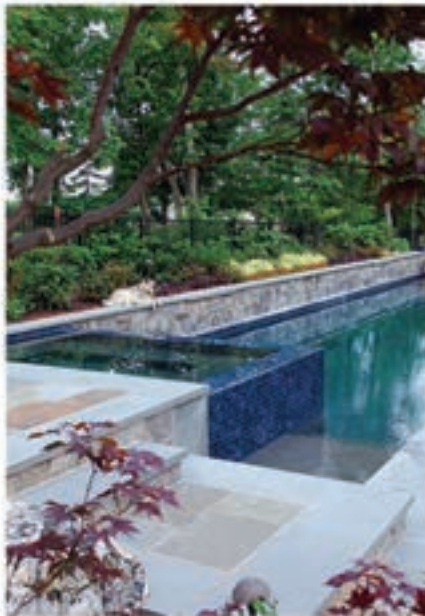


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“Doing my own painting is the most inexpensive and quickest way to change a room.”—MONTE DURHAM

cery store. “We want to think about how much money we spend on certain things,” he comments. “A pot for outside, I’m going to think about. But for upholstery, I make the investment.”

While Durham clearly has an affinity for interiors, fashion has always been his first love. He began his career as a personal shopper in DC, where he found that “women wanted someone who could tailor their clothes and do their hair,” he recalls. “I said, ‘I can’t sew but I bet I can do hair.’ So I got a hair degree in London, then came back and went to work as artistic director for Elizabeth Arden for 12 years.”

After styling hair for a bridal show in Tysons Corner, he discovered his niche. “I

got booked with 12 weddings immediately,” he says. “I was listed as most preferred for hair and makeup in *Washingtonian* in 2000. So I said, ‘I think I better run with this!’”

Durham met Lori Allen, his TV co-host, when he did hair and makeup for her daughter’s wedding, which was broadcast on WE TV. Allen, who owns a bridal shop in Atlanta, had been approached by The Learning Channel about hosting a spinoff of the New York-based reality show, “Say Yes to the Dress,” in Atlanta. She brought in Durham, and the rest is history.

These days, a diverse career keeps Durham very busy. In between trips to Atlanta for filming, he’s launched a haircare line, Monte Durham (available through salonstudio.com), and is considering designing his own line of tuxedos. He reports on fashion for CNN with Brooke Baldwin, and covered the Royal Wedding for TLC in 2011. He frequently visits his family in West Virginia, where he plans to open a

Durham’s upstairs office (above, left and right) is a paean to Jackie Kennedy, with an exact replica of her wedding dress (boasting 50 yards of silk taffeta like the original); a gallery of photographs and memorabilia; and an original Kennedy rocking chair.

hairdressing school outside Charleston in the fall.

Durham and Evans, a retired government worker, married in October 2013 when the ban on same-sex unions was lifted in DC (their wedding festivities made the newspapers). The couple shares their home with Nellie Belle, a cosseted 12-year-old Welsh terrier who can be found asleep on any of their plush, overstuffed sofas.

“We are lucky we all live in a time when we can do this,” Durham says, referring to their life together. “I’ve had a very interesting journey. I’ve been blessed.” ♦

Photographer Bob Narod is based in Herndon, Virginia.



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HOT TALENT

Five up-and-coming
professionals bring a new
perspective to the local
design scene

PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL VENTURA

This annual feature spotlights a handful of gifted designers just making their mark in the region. Photographed in the future home of the Washington Design Center (in space that will become the Schumacher showroom) they are (left to right) Shawna Underwood, Lisa Puchalla, Christopher Boutlier, Christine Philp and Rachel James.



LISA PUCHALLA

After years of doling out decorating advice without pay, Lisa Puchalla, mother of three, decided it was time to turn her passion into a calling. She took courses at the Corcoran School of Design and hung her shingle in 2007. Her Chevy Chase firm, Lily Mae Design (named for her two daughters) has been thriving ever since. “I grew up here so I have a big network of people who know me,” she explains. “Most of my clients are referrals.”

Puchalla’s goal is to integrate her clients’ lifestyles and personalities into timeless spaces. “I can tell just by walking into a house what people are going to want to do,” she comments. “I bring all the parts together based on the information I get from talking to clients and observing them.” She tries to make the process fun and collaborative with a laid-back approach and “the understanding that these are people’s homes—not mine.

“I want the spaces to last,” she continues, “and for clients to be happy in them for the next 20 years.”

INTERIOR DESIGN: Lisa Puchalla, Lily Mae Design, Chevy Chase, Maryland. PHOTOGRAPHY: Angie Seckinger. TEXT: Julie Sanders.





Lisa Puchalla redesigned a 1920s home in Chevy Chase with crisp, traditional furnishings to reflect its period style. 1. New draperies, a sunburst mirror and a Niermann Weeks chandelier enhance the owners' vintage dining room set. 2. Furniture from Brown Jordan enlivens the front porch, where the color scheme echoes the home's exterior palette. 3. Entirely redesigned by Puchalla, the new kitchen includes traditional, white-painted cabinetry, a backsplash of marble subway tile, granite countertops and plenty of workspace; a Circa light fixture hangs above the island. 4. A vignette in the master bedroom reveals Roman shades in Cowtan & Tout fabric, leather barrel chairs from Random Harvest and a sculptural lamp from Urban Country.



CHRISTOPHER BOUTLIER

After earning a finance degree and working briefly in the corporate world, Christopher Boutlier was ready for a change. So he took a year off to renovate his condo. “I started with the bathroom, which turned out to be a nightmare,” he recalls. The frustrated homeowner enrolled in a drafting class so he could sketch out ideas for his contractor—and the rest is history.

“I loved it,” says Boutlier. “By the end of the semester, I had enrolled in GW’s interior design school.” During the three-year MFA program, he landed an internship with one of his professors, DC-based designer Lisa Adams, which led to a full-time job. “Lisa is an amazing person and taught me a lot,” he says.

Now principal of his own firm, Boutlier distills what he calls “the tools of design” and applies them to each client’s unique requirements. “I’m constantly challenged to move outside my comfort zone,” he explains, “but in the end, it’s so worth it. There’s a real sense of accomplishment when a project is done and the owners are happy.”

INTERIOR DESIGN: Christopher Boutlier, Boutlier Design, Washington, DC.
PHOTOGRAPHY: Stacy Zarin Goldberg. TEXT: Sharon Jaffe Dan.





1. In the kitchen of a Shaw row house, Boutlier painted existing cherry cabinets in Benjamin Moore's Storm to reflect the home's updated palette. 2. Collaborating with Brian Keefer of Concord Construction, he designed a wall of hot-rolled steel cabinets that lend the dining room a "raw, industrial" look. 3. In the master bedroom of a Logan Circle condo, Boutlier honed in on a serene, monochromatic color scheme, then warmed the space with rust accents and a painting from Susan Calloway Fine Arts. 4. A custom bed of his own design, with a headboard upholstered in a luxurious but durable Donghia linen, complements the custom nightstands and chest, which are made of cerused oak with leather pulls.



CHRISTINE PHILP

After earning a master's degree in interior design at Marymount University, Christine Philp hit a "pivotal moment" in her career when she landed a job with acclaimed Washington designer Thomas Pheasant. Philp spent five years learning the ropes of the business under Pheasant's wing (no pun intended)—an experience she values to this day.

"Being able to work around Tom taught me that you can find inspiration in anything," she explains. "But along with the creative side, I learned that interior design is not just about furniture and fabrics. Execution and project management are also very important. So much goes on behind the scenes to make a project excellent."

At the helm of her own firm since 2011, Philp says her highest priority is to encourage clients to find their own vision. "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," she explains. "My job is to help clients figure that out. I try to see the world through their eyes and once I understand what's important to them, we can make those things a reality."

.....
INTERIOR DESIGN: Christine Philp, Palindrome Design, Alexandria, Virginia. PHOTOGRAPHY: John Cole. TEXT: Sharon Jaffe Dan.





Christine Philp designed a Craftsman-style home for an Alexandria couple with two young daughters. 1. The family room features durable, kid-friendly fabrics and furniture without sharp edges, including a faux-leather ottoman; the rug is by Rosecore. 2. Philp finished the romantic master bedroom with John Robshaw draperies, mahogany nightstands and custom bedding. 3. One of the nurseries is papered in a cream stripe with lavender leaves; the ottoman is upholstered in an animal print and the Canterbury Bassinet, covered in washed white linen, was handmade in Maine by Lulla Smith. 4. Created to grow with its resident, the other nursery pairs a Bellini chair and ottoman with Thibaut wallpaper.



RACHEL JAMES

Rachel James's decorating career took a different turn in 2006 when she first appeared as a featured guest designer on HGTV's popular show "Kidspace," which focused on children's room makeovers. Before launching her own firm in 2003, James worked as a guidance counselor for students in all grade levels—a background the producers loved.

"My training on the show really got me into design," says James. "The staff and I did virtually everything, from painting murals on the walls to sewing custom window treatments to construction. It was like being on the front lines."

She has since continued to apply her skills and further build her boutique interior design firm, taking on a wide variety of jobs over the years. James, who holds a minor in art history, is equally content—and comfortable—doing contemporary, transitional or traditional projects. And her laid-back attitude immediately makes clients feel at ease. As she says, "I'm more interested in helping clients develop the very best of their own look, rather than putting my stamp on their style."

INTERIOR DESIGN: Rachel James, Rachel James Interiors, Vienna, Virginia.
PHOTOGRAPHY: Tony Giammarino. TEXT: Charlotte Safavi.





James transformed a builder-grade condominium into a hip bachelor's pad full of custom furnishings. "I wanted to create an energetic, industrial space for entertaining," says the designer, who opened up the floor plan and added orange accents throughout. 1. A sectional grounds a corner of the living room, where a sliding barn door separates it from the office/guest room. 2. A deck, with views of Arlington, functions as an al fresco dining room; a rolling cart comes in handy for parties. 3. A bar was created in an alcove near the dining area, with a glass table and chairs upholstered in ultrasuede. 4. Top-down, bottom-up Hunter Douglas blinds offer privacy in the cozy, yet practical bedroom.



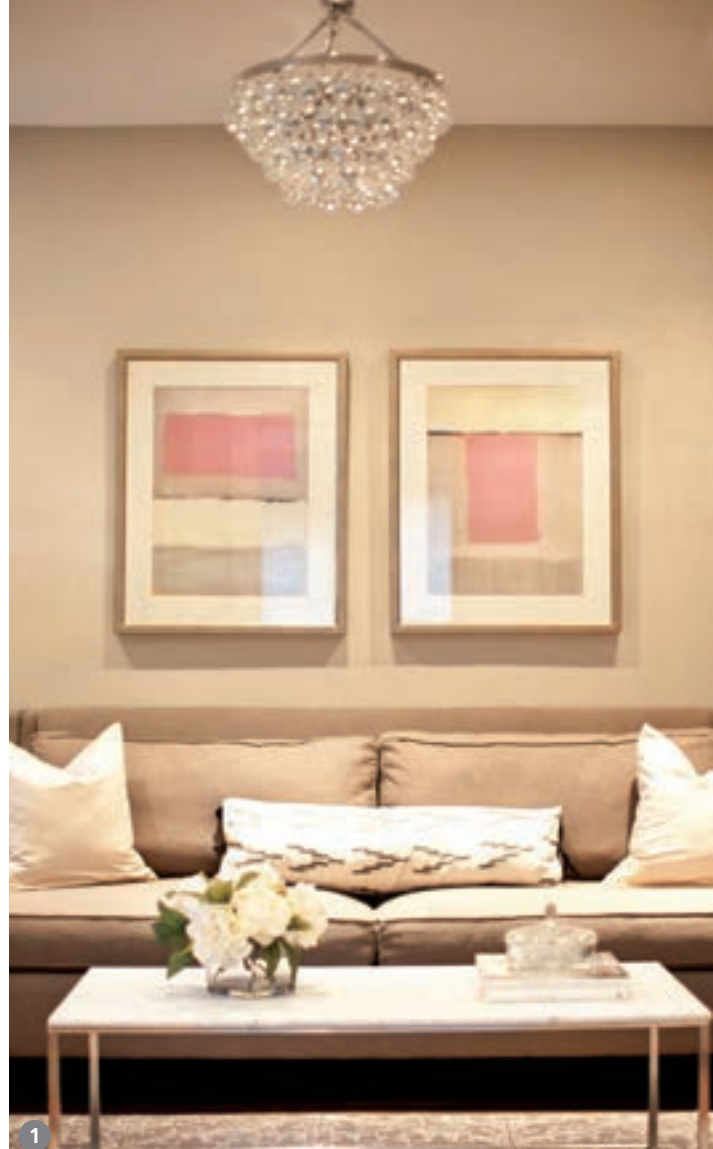
SHAWNA UNDERWOOD

"I enjoy working with clients to make spaces feel like home," says Shawna Underwood, principal of Shawna Underwood Interior Design. "I want to make their vision into reality."

Underwood is well equipped for the task, with a master's degree in interior design from George Washington University and a lifetime interest in decorating. She takes a thoughtful approach, relishing the process of unearthing new materials for projects and incorporating old and new architectural details.

"I believe in blending old and new, incorporating high and low," she says. "I advise buying quality pieces as investments, and inexpensive ones to keep spaces relaxed and comfortable." For example, Underwood recently redesigned the living and dining rooms of a new house, integrating older, existing furnishings with fresh, modern items. "The client was thrilled," Underwood recalls. "The reward was interpreting her vision into a new design." ♦

INTERIOR DESIGN: Shawna Underwood, Shawna Underwood Interior Design, Washington, DC. PHOTOGRAPHY: Edward Underwood. TEXT: Julie Sanders.





2



4



5

Shawna Underwood describes her aesthetic as "traditional modern," a look that was reflected in a recent Northwest DC project. 1. An elegant yet comfortable living room mixes an existing sofa with a coffee table from All Modern and art from Home Goods. 2. In a nursery, a classic Eames rocker shares space with a daybed and rug from Crate & Barrel and a vintage table Underwood spray-painted metallic gray. 3. A table from West Elm and chairs from Crate & Barrel create a breakfast nook. 4. The existing kitchen, with its traditional cabinetry, is embellished by modern lighting and new countertops. 5. An Arhaus dining room table is paired with Lucite Ghost chairs by Kartell and an upholstered chair from Restoration Hardware.

MEET THE DESIGNERS

DAHLIA MAHMOOD



①



At Dahlia Design, LLC, every detail is clearly articulated and every concept beautifully executed. We combine classic architecture with transitional elements to create simple yet glamorous interiors.



②

DAHLIA DESIGN, LLC • 866-236-0439 • dahliadesign.net

Dahlia Design was founded in Washington, DC, in 1995 as a residential design firm. Since then, it has grown to include commercial projects, product design and large-scale event design. Headed by principal Dahlia Mahmood, the team engages deeply with every aspect of a project, from interiors and kitchen and bath design to architecture and landscaping. The firm's dedication to excellence and quality has built a trust among high-profile clients nationally and internationally, while its immaculate designs embody sophistication and innovation, reflected by a top-notch staff of craftsmen and designers.



1. SITTING ROOM

A formal sitting room conveys a timeless quality through the use of elegant furniture and sumptuous finishes against a classic gold-and-cream backdrop.

2. KITCHEN

Dahlia selected custom cabinetry, comfortable yet chic furniture and luxurious finishes to create a sophisticated kitchen—winner of a 2013 NKBA award.

PHOTOS © ALAN GOLDSTEIN



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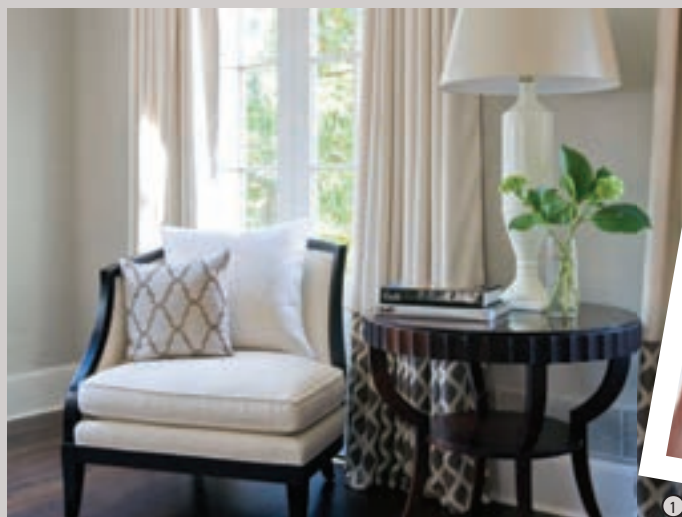
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DC 571-239-9999

www.dahliadesign.net

MEET THE DESIGNERS

KRISTIN PEAKE



The ability to listen closely and understand how clients live allows Kristin Peake Interiors, LLC, to transform their wishes into unique, custom-tailored designs.

It starts with a conversation. You share your ideas and wish lists: a formal dining area for entertaining as few as two or as many as thirty; a family room to suit both a toddler and a teenager; a beach house with stunning views for much-needed weekend escapes. From there, it's a creative journey of collaboration between you and the contractors and architects. Headed by principal Kristin Peake, Kristin Peake Interiors will tend to every detail of your project, from initial conception to final installation, in order to turn your ideas and wish lists into reality.

■
1. DETAIL

Saturated with natural light, an Art Deco-style club chair offers the perfect spot to unwind.

2. LIVING ROOM

Kristin Peake Interiors, LLC, captures the beauty and elegance of a Chevy Chase living room through the use of bold geometric patterns and textures in a neutral, monochromatic palette.



PHOTOS © GEOFFREY HODGDON

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WWW.KRISTINPEAKEINTERIORS.COM

MEET THE DESIGNERS

ALICE BUSCH, ALLIED MEMBER ASID



Whether warm and sultry or vibrant and lively, we get to know our clients' wants and desires, then create spaces that they inevitably fall in love with.



GFDI is an award-winning and distinguished boutique firm located in the region of the nation's capital. Company founder Alice Busch runs the celebrated firm alongside her business partner, Lucas Trunnell—who also happens to be her son. An experienced design team, they integrate European panache with a contemporary sensibility in high-end residential designs that rely on their expertise in architectural detailing, pre-construction and interior design. The principals at GFDI create distinguished and timeless designs to suit the tastes of even the most discerning clientele.

1. MASTER BEDROOM

A subtle yet elegant palette of blues and greys makes this master bedroom a soothing respite away from the hubbub of daily life.

2. FAMILY ROOM

In a family room, a palette of warm gold, brown and blue creates a welcoming vibe for everyday life, while also conveying style and sophistication when the family wants to entertain.

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MEET THE DESIGNERS

SKIP SROKA, CID, ASID



We accomplish great design by listening to our clients, producing beautiful specifications and following up on the work.



PHOTOS © TIMOTHY BELL

SROKA DESIGN INCORPORATED • 202-734-3920 • srokadesign.com

Sroka Design prides itself on collaborating with clients, architects, builders and landscape designers. The firm's goal is to tailor each interior to the client. With 27 years of experience, numerous awards and coverage in a host of publications, principal Skip Sroka and his team have the resources to make dreams come true. Building and renovating a home can be daunting, but Sroka Design shoulders the work and helps clients navigate the process—all while making it a fun experience. As Sroka explains it, "We remove the worry and get the job done."



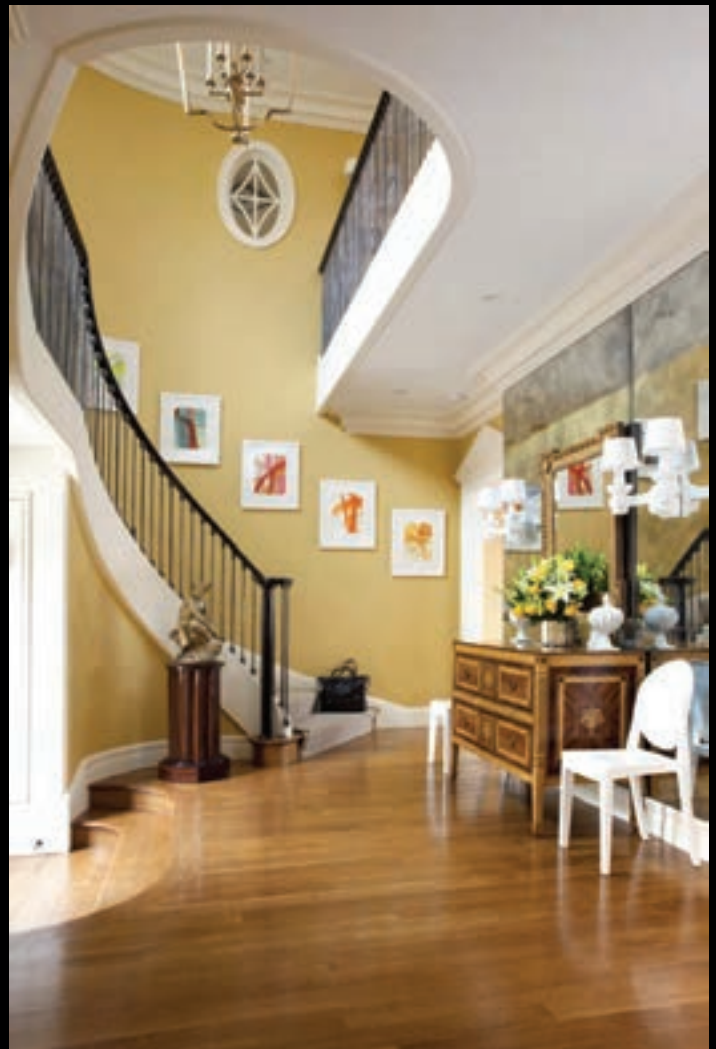
1. DINING ROOM

A new construction project features a custom table, silver-studded silk valances and elegant reflections in glassware, mirror and chandelier.

2. LIVING ROOM

In a whole-house renovation, Sroka added a firebox surround to provide a focal point for the fireplace and to increase its scale in the room.

SKIP SROKA, CID, ASID



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MEET THE DESIGNERS

KAREN GERMOND



We believe an individual's style is as unique as their fingerprint. Our role is to discover your unique "fingerprint" and use that to elevate your space into something extraordinary.



PHOTOS © HELEN NORMAN

KMD Interiors is a full-service interior design studio specializing in new construction residential projects. Principal Karen Germond collaborates with builders, architects and homeowners to simplify the design process. The firm's attention to detail, deadlines and budget combined with on-site support sets it apart. "Our clients typically are in the midst of lifestyle changes—empty nesting, retiring, upsizing or downsizing or designing a vacation home," says Germond. "We help them transition and design a new space, solving the unique challenges of moving from one home to another."

1. FAMILY ROOM

A careful balance between rustic, natural elements and streamlined contemporary accents makes a family room inviting and comfortable.

2. KITCHEN

The dark-wood island balances the creamy white-painted cabinetry in this kitchen, embellished with glass-front cabinet doors and Bianco Romano granite that create reflection and contrast.

KMD INTERIORS • Leesburg, Virginia • 571-257-2467 • kmdinteriors.com



Creating spaces for a *life well-lived*



Karen Germond
Owner & Principal Designer



KMD
INTERIORS

Karen Germond

571-257-2467

www.KMDInteriors.com

MEET THE DESIGNERS

SYNTHA HARRIS-WENDEL, AIDP, IDS, IFDA



StoryBook Rooms creates luxurious, timeless and livable environments that are infused with traditional warmth and original ideas.

Syntha Harris-Wendel is the award-winning designer and founder of StoryBook Rooms (SBR), a residential interior design firm based in Potomac, Maryland. SBR tailors its designs to the needs and desires of each individual client. The firm's approach is to connect people with place in a beautiful home environment that personally reflects its occupants. Comfort and function are essential components, with practical details carefully considered and orchestrated. Every project is a true collaboration between client and designer, with tastes and budget kept firmly in mind.

1. BEACH BEDROOM

Distressed wood, aqua hues and seashell details capture the essence of the sea in the master bedroom of a North Carolina beach house.

2. MASTER BEDROOM

Soft blues and creams complement dark- and light-washed woods in a traditional master bedroom. Gold and crystal accents add an elegant feel.



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TOP © JAMIE PUNZI; BOTTOM © MORGAN HOWARTH



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SYNTHA HARRIS-WENDEL

AIDP Professional, IDS

MEET THE DESIGNERS

SUSAN GULICK, ASID



A passion for color, art, confident clean lines.
The wonderfully livable homes of Susan Gulick.



BOTTOM © JUDY DAVIS

There's a reassuring signature to homes designed by Susan Gulick. From new residences to houses imbued with years of history, Gulick's projects all reveal the vision of a gifted designer who understands the power of easy-going elegance—and brings it to life with exceptional materials, craftsmanship and insightful understanding of her clients' needs. "I love a look that's clean," Gulick says. "A retreat for soothing relaxation. But I'm also a realist. Life is about whirlwind schedules and all kinds of lifestyles. Homes must work. Aesthetics must also yield to practicality."

1. MEDIA ROOM

From the simple elegance of a hand-painted ceiling to the brilliant hues of a hand-knotted rug, each selection embodies the livable aesthetic of Susan Gulick Interiors.

2. LIVING ROOM

Luxurious materials and furniture create a space for gathering. The organic pattern on the draperies enhances the room's height, while original artwork adds interest and balance.

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MEET THE DESIGNERS

BARBARA HAWTHORN



Good taste is about quality, value and knowledge—
with a nod to the classics and an eye to what is fresh and “today.”



PHOTOS © KENNETH M. WYNER

BARBARA HAWTHORN INTERIORS, LTD. • 703-241-5588 • barbarahawthorninteriors.com

Barbara Hawthorn has 30 years of experience doing award-winning, residential and commercial interior design, project management and urban planning. Her timeless designs mix modern, comfortable furnishings with fine art, antiques and innovative lighting. Her firm's designs have been featured on HGTV and in national and regional media. Hawthorn was named 2011-2012 Woman of the Year by the National Association of Professional Women and serves in the Women's Leadership Group for The Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington. She also works with charities dedicated to children's literacy and the arts.

1. FOYER

Custom architectural details and a bold chandelier scaled to the grandeur of the space create an entry that's classic, inviting and “today.”

2. FAMILY ROOM

State-of-the-art Lutron shades, unique art and accessories complement an impeccable furniture plan in a comfortable space for entertaining in style.

BARBARA HAWTHORN

Interiors LTD.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY KENNETH WYNER



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MEET THE DESIGNERS

ANDREA HOUCK, IFDA



①

Andrea Houck, founder of A. Houck Designs, creates beautiful, livable spaces you will love.



②

A. Houck Designs, Inc. • 703-237-2111 • ahouckdesigns.com

Creating a beautiful and functional home environment is a personal journey, and Andrea Houck is honored to guide that process for clients. From conception to completion, the client's style and lifestyle inform her designs. With her innate sense of color, scale, balance and rhythm, Houck can envision a finished space before beginning work and puts her clients at ease with detailed presentations and a careful process. "I ensure up front that we all share the same vision," says Houck, who has been "creating spaces you will love" for more than 14 years.



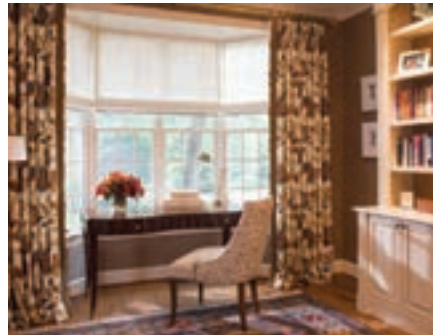
1. DINING ROOM

Pops of Radiant Orchid, Pantone's Color of the Year, add of-the-moment appeal, while classic furnishings lend timeless style to a sophisticated dining room.

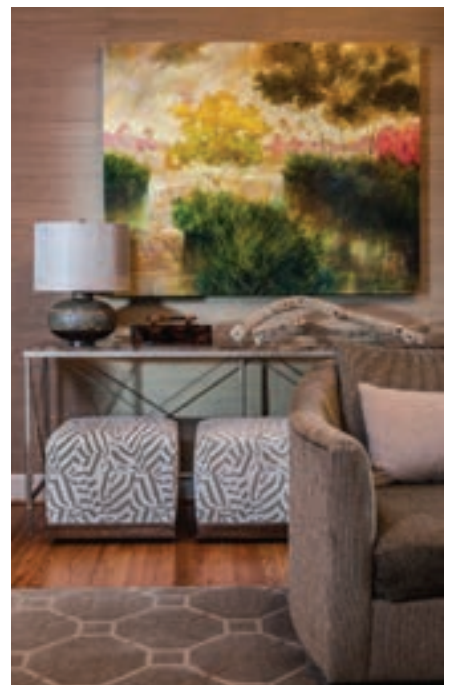
2. FAMILY ROOM

A family room proves that neutrals can pack a punch when combined with patterns and textures. Bold artwork injects lively color into the subdued tableau.

PHOTOS © LYDIA CUTTER PHOTOGRAPHY



*Creating spaces you will love...
traditional, modern or somewhere in between.sm*



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MEET THE DESIGNERS

MELISSA BROFFMAN, ALLIED MEMBER ASID



Principal Melissa Broffman of full-service residential design firm Melissa Broffman Interior Design feels that a project's success depends on how well it highlights the expertise of the designer and, more importantly, speaks to the personality of the client. Broffman captures a one-of-a-kind look that goes beyond the retail sameness of today's home furnishings market. Her clients' ideas, photos and family heirlooms often provide inspiration. "It's all about making a house a home," Broffman says. "If I can realize my clients' vision and delight them with the results, then that's a job well done."

Melissa Broffman addresses form and function with a focus on the client's personality. Her firm creates interiors with style, comfort and timeless appeal. Projects include new construction, remodeling and interior decoration.



PHOTOS © LYDIA CUTTER

1. WHITE KITCHEN

Broffman designed a crisp white kitchen with glass-tile backsplash and dark, polished counters as a backdrop for a classic Saarinen dining table.

2. CLASSIC KITCHEN

In another kitchen, marble counters and a counter-to-ceiling glass mosaic backsplash enhance the beauty of a sapele mahogany-topped island.

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PHOTOS: LYDIA CUTLER

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MEET THE DESIGNERS

ARLENE CRITZOS & COURTNEY GRIFFIN



Interior Concepts is a full-service interior design firm. Principal Arlene Critzos and senior residential designer Courtney Griffin emphasize creativity and professionalism, striving to exceed their clients' goals.

Founded in 1979, Interior Concepts, Inc., designs a broad spectrum of projects, from family homes, beach houses, mountain retreats, large flats and estates to corporate headquarters, world-class golf clubhouses and international hotels and embassies. ICI has worked throughout the United States and across the globe. "Our strength lies in how we approach each project, with systematic order," says principal Arlene Critzos. "We never begin without understanding the client's needs, budgetary and quality expectations and timing." Critzos' design vision developed from living, studying and traveling overseas.

1. OWNERS' SUITE

The hand-painted sage-green bed provides a contrast with the cobalt walls in a master bedroom. Custom accents of coral and a shell motif add pattern and interest to the room.

2. FAMILY ROOM

An oversized custom iron-and-stone cocktail table centers a family room, providing both beauty and function.



PHOTOS © GEOFFREY HODGDON

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MEET THE DESIGNERS

MARK WILLIAM SOMMERFIELD

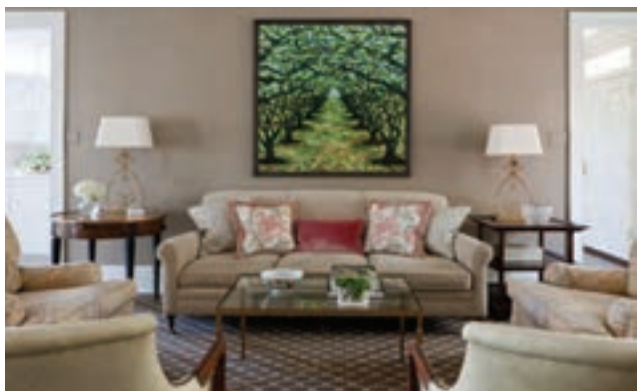


Principal Mark Sommerfield founded MWS Design in 1998. His projects span the U.S., contributing to a cross-cultural design vocabulary. Sommerfield, who has a degree in civil engineering and an MBA, began as a furniture designer and maintains a workshop in San Francisco, where his team of artisans fabricates custom furniture for clients. MWS is an accredited, LEED Green interior design firm handling turnkey new construction, renovations and furniture and fixture design. The firm practices a collaborative approach and fosters a bespoke aesthetic that is both intuitive and ingenious.

MWS DESIGN • 202-488-5575 • mwsdesigndc.com



ELIZABETH REYNOLDS



Elizabeth Reynolds has been helping to transform houses into dream homes for more than fifteen years. By carefully listening to and observing clients, she interprets what aesthetic and function will make them most comfortable and why. Then her training and experience in interior architecture kick in, allowing her to create unique and beautiful spaces that are not trendy or catalog-driven. Reynolds specializes in pre-construction planning; lighting; fixture and furniture specifications; custom upholstery; window treatments; and art and antiques. Her work has been published in *Southern Accents* and *The Washington Post*.

ELIZABETH REYNOLDS INTERIORS, LLC
703-470-6606 • elizabethreynoldsinteriors.com



PHOTOS © ANGIE SECKINGER

WESLEY THOMPSON



Wesley Thompson has one goal: to ensure that all her clients love both the design process and the spaces they create together.

Simply Wesley is an Annapolis-based, full-service interior design firm. Owner Wesley Thompson has been in the business for more than 10 years, designing homes and building relationships in Baltimore and Annapolis, as well as in DC and Virginia. Her collaborative, hands-on approach allows her to hone in on clients' needs on projects large and small. From working with architects and builders and doing AutoCAD design to the selection of furnishings, fabric and lighting, Thompson brings passion and energy to each project, making the process seamless and fun.

1. BEDROOM

In a coastal-inspired Arlington residence, the master bedroom boasts a spring-green bedstead and drapes; the art above the bed is made of sand dollars.

2. FAMILY ROOM

A comfortable family room gets a jolt of energy from turquoise accents that include a beaded chandelier, a leather-covered ottoman and lively throw pillows.



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MEET THE DESIGNERS

VICKY LAL



Vicky Lal Design creates spaces in which clients enjoy living, while taking into consideration their tastes and personality. “Design with a flair” is the firm’s motto.



Vicky Lal Design is a lifestyle design firm based in Potomac, Maryland. Founded in 2000, VLD specializes in residential and commercial projects, from renovations to new construction. Principal Vicky Lal and her team listen carefully to clients’ requirements, identifying design goals and then making recommendations to ensure a look that will suit their lifestyle and reflect their vision. Lal is known for creating sophisticated, elegant and timeless spaces. With an incomparable eye for detail and color, she supervises projects from design through construction with the single goal of complete customer satisfaction.

1. REC ROOM

In a renovated basement, Lal created a fun, lively media room where the owners can lounge and entertain beneath colorful mood lighting.

2. LIVING ROOM

A formal space for receiving and entertaining guests, the living room showcases the clients’ preferred palette of gray and blue.

VICKY LAL DESIGN LLC • 240-988-4350 • vickylaldesign.com

PHOTOS © LYDIA CUTLER

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NKEM OKWU



JNO Designs works diligently with clients in creating inviting personal spaces that encourage an emotional connection to their homes.



TOP © JNO DESIGNS; LEFT © ZACH MILLER PHOTOGRAPHY

1. DINING ROOM

A rustic dining table and chairs create a focal point in a dining room that is traditional yet conveys a sense of timeless appeal.

2. KITCHEN

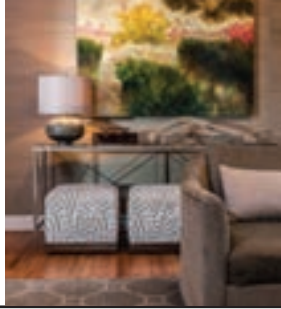
The spacious kitchen is the hub of an urban town home where a modern, open floor plan makes entertaining easy.

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GUIDE TO INTERIOR DESIGNERS

A. HOUCK DESIGNS

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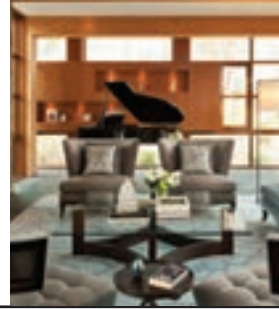


A. Houck Designs has been "creating spaces you will love" in the Washington area since 2000. Specializing in full-service, residential interior design, AHD manages your project from conception to completion, whatever your style may be.

RECENT PROJECT Vibrant color, luxurious textures and bold patterns all effortlessly combine in this sophisticated, yet livable family room space.

ADAMS DESIGN, INC.

Washington, DC • 202-333-1220 • www.adamsdesign.com



They create a partnership with their clients to develop innovative, effective and aesthetic design. Efficiency, attention to detail and working to the highest standards of design guide every project.

RECENT PROJECT The room is a play on contrast. The rug was custom designed to compliment the slate floor, the stone fireplace and the soft rich fabrics of the furniture.

ANNE WALKER DESIGN LLC

Potomac, MD • 301-219-8544 • www.annewalkerdesign.com



Specializing in unpretentious luxury, Anne has been creating beautiful interiors in DC, Nantucket and Bald Head Island since 2005. She was recently awarded the coveted "Best of Houzz 2014" moniker for excellence in client service.

RECENT PROJECT Custom built-ins, luxurious linen fabrics and a purposeful furniture arrangement create a warm and inviting living room in Chevy Chase.

BARBARA HAWTHORN INTERIORS, LTD.

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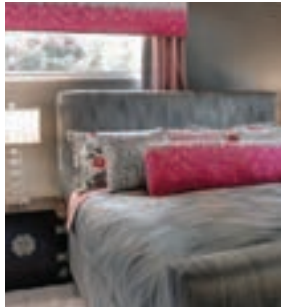
Photo: Kenneth Wyner

Barbara Hawthorn Interiors, Ltd. provides a full spectrum of residential and commercial design based upon the client's needs, including specifications for renovation; new construction; space planning; and furnishings, window treatments, lighting, and art.

RECENT PROJECT A long, narrow space becomes versatile and welcoming by dividing the space into two convivial conversational groupings, graced by warm, vibrant colors and timeless furnishings.

CARLOS INTERIORS, INC.

Crofton, MD • 301-261-6035 • www.carlosinteriors.net



An award-winning, full-service Interior Design Studio for 35 years, creating and fabricating custom residential & commercial designs. Featuring a full showroom and an in-house workroom providing upholstery, custom window treatments and bedding.

RECENT PROJECT In this residence the client wanted the room to feel chic and grown-up for her daughter returning from college.

DAHLIA DESIGN LLC

Ashburn, VA • 866-236-0439 • www.dahliadesign.net



Dahlia Design is an award-winning residential design firm founded in 1995. They create simple, yet glamorous spaces, enriching homes with comfort, elegance and luxury. Their demand for excellence and dedication to quality has built a trust among high profile clients globally.

RECENT PROJECT This high-fashion residential lounge combines sleek, bold lines with soft, lustrous finishes, resulting in a refined, stylish space.

DREAM HOUSE STUDIOS, INC.

Annapolis, MD • 410-224-7588 • www.dreamhousestudios.net



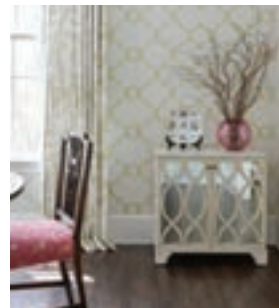
Photo: Geoffrey Hodgdon

An award-winning residential and commercial design firm located in Annapolis, Maryland with ten years of experience working around the Washington metro area. Most recently they opened a retail store and designer trade library in the Annapolis Design District.

RECENT PROJECT The project featured is located in Easton, Maryland for a young family that wanted a formal dining space reflective of their contemporary taste and comfortable at the same time.

ELIZABETH REYNOLDS INTERIORS, LLC

Alexandria, VA • 703-470-6606 • www.elizabethreynoldsinteriors.com



Elizabeth Reynolds founded her design practice in 2003, with the goal of creating functional, beautiful and unique environments. Each project captures the essence of the client and carefully solves design dilemmas.

RECENT PROJECT This dining room was part of a comprehensive renovation, which crafted the residence into a family home suited for fun and elegant living.



Samantha Friedman Interior Designs, LLC

A Full Service Interior Design Firm

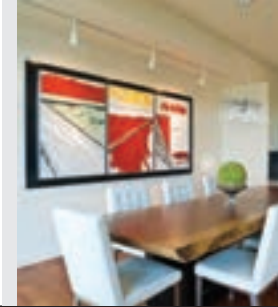
301.529.1900

SAMANTHAFRIEDMANINTERIORS.COM

GUIDE TO INTERIOR DESIGNERS

FARNADY INTERIORS

Annapolis, MD • 443-822-3248 • www.farnadyinteriors.com



This award-winning design firm is skilled to push boundaries while staying true and respecting traditional design aesthetics. Dedication to their clients and the achievement of their design goals are their main priority.

RECENT PROJECT In this modern dining room they reflected the clients' personality and kept a clean design while giving youthful energy to the space.

GREAT FALLS DISTINCTIVE INTERIORS, INC.

Ashburn, VA • 703-858-7688 • gfdii.com



GFDI is an award-winning and distinguished boutique firm located in the environs of our nation's capital. Since 1989, the Ashburn, Virginia-based company and their renowned designers, have been a force of excellence in architectural detailing, pre-construction and creative interior design.

RECENT PROJECT To complement the streamlined architecture of this modern home, sleek and industrial-inspired furnishings were chosen to take advantage of the chic and minimalist design.

GROSSMUELLER'S DESIGN CONSULTANTS, INC.

Washington, DC • 202-537-0060 • www.grossmuellers.com



An award-winning, interior design & remodeling firm with the basic philosophy to handle both complex & simple design projects with equal care while providing the highest quality work. Developing spaces that blend old and new seamlessly.

RECENT PROJECT A seaside living room project merging a fresh clean palate with antique details creates a comfortable space to entertain friends.

HUNTLEY & CO. INTERIOR DESIGN, INC.

Washington, DC • 202-462-3030 • www.huntleyandcompany.com



Huntley & Co. specializes in signature interiors marked by sophisticated palettes, one-of-a-kind furnishings and bespoke details. The underlying goal for every project, whether traditional or modern, is that of inviting, thoughtful drama.

RECENT PROJECT This Arlington living room was designed for a couple who wanted a layered and spirited environment grounded in a traditional aesthetic.

JNO DESIGNS

Woodbridge, VA • 818-426-8832 • www.restbyjno.com



JNO Designs is a Residential Interior Design firm that focuses on working with clients in creating a livable and lovable space, placing one in a state of R.E.S.T (Relax.Escape.Sensual.Timeless)

RECENT PROJECT In this formal greeting room the concept of this space is to depict an Afro-centric montage of tradition meets contemporary décor.

KMD INTERIORS

Leesburg, VA • 571-257-2467 • www.kmdinteriors.com



KMD Interiors is a full service interior design studio specializing in new construction residential projects. They collaborate with builders, architects and homeowners to simplify the selection and design process. Their attention to detail, deadlines and budget combined with on-site support sets their firm apart.

RECENT PROJECT The dark-wood island balances the creamy white-painted cabinetry in this kitchen embellished with glass-front cabinet doors and Bianco Romano granite to bring in reflection and contrast.

KRISTIN PEAKE INTERIORS

Rockville, MD • 301-545-0441 • www.kristinpeakeinteriors.com

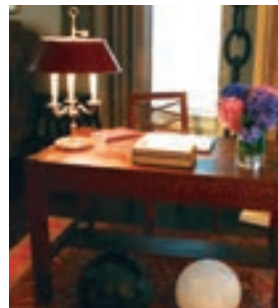


Kristin Peake Interiors specializes in luxury residential design. Principal, Kristin Peake, has been in the design industry for over twenty years and is passionate about designing both beautiful and functional spaces for her clients.

RECENT PROJECT In this Chevy Chase Master Suite, Kristin uses spa blues to create a serene atmosphere for her client.

MWS DESIGN

Washington, DC • 202-488-5575 • www.mwsdesigndc.com



Mark W. Sommerfield's design specialty is ingenuity. Sublime spaces which cater to your aesthetic and desire for comfort. His passion is to exceed your expectations.

RECENT PROJECT This bedroom is for an art collector in Washington, DC. Custom bed and commode under 19th century Japanese ink washes. A study in serene blues and textures.

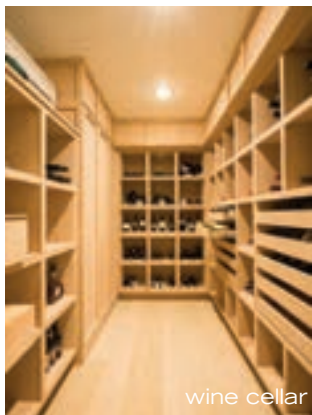
FORMA DESIGN

memorable creative thoughtful architecture + interior design



house in potomac 2.0 / lower level playroom

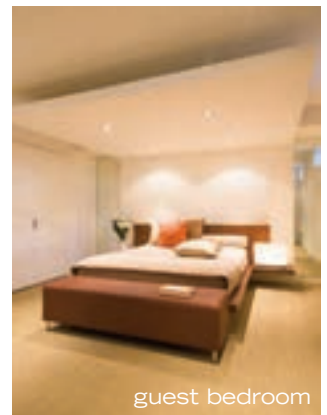
photography by Geoffrey Hodgdon



wine cellar



bar area

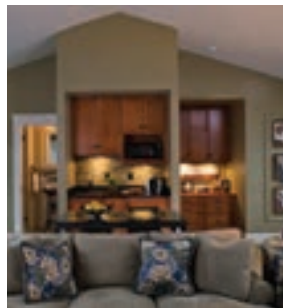


guest bedroom

GUIDE TO INTERIOR DESIGNERS

MELISSA BROFFMAN INTERIOR DESIGN

Arlington, VA • 703-536-5409 • www.melissabroffmaninteriors.com

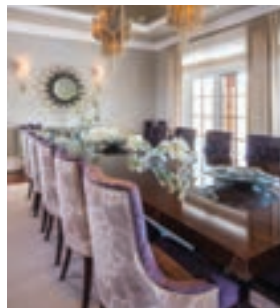


Melissa addresses matters of form and function, with a focus on personal style. The full-service residential firm specializes in customized interiors with style, comfort and timeless appeal. Projects include new construction, remodeling and interior decoration.

RECENT PROJECT Capturing unused space above a two-car garage had its challenges. This multi-use studio, complete with full-bath and kitchenette welcomes overnight guests while creating bonus space for the family.

NEST 301

North Bethesda, MD • 301-231-5600 • www.nest301.com



NEST 301 is a luxury furnishings showroom and design center with exclusive lines of furniture, textiles, accessories, custom carpets, lighting and original artwork. It caters to both interior designers and the public.

RECENT PROJECT NEST collaborated with Marlene Weiss to make this Bethesda residence dining room perfect for entertaining with its stunning table and double chandeliers.

OLAMAR INTERIORS, LLC

Haymarket, VA • 571-239-8845 • www.olarinteriors.com



Olar's ideal clients are looking for a collaborative designer-client relationship, tailored and customized to meet their personal interior design needs. They help their clients create their own kind of luxury.

RECENT PROJECT A shabby-chic meets rustic-elegance design fits their client's aesthetic perfectly. Soft, classic lines, rustic, antiqued finishes and natural elements create a romantic feel.

PAULA GRACE DESIGNS, INC.

Ashburn, VA • 703-201-1490 • www.paulagracedesigns.com



Paula achieves a design for your home that suits your specific, multifaceted needs, working closely with you to create a design that's comfortable and stylish, drawing from cherished elements of your life. Together, you'll create an environment you love coming home to – and sharing with the world.

RECENT PROJECT These clients felt trapped with traditional furnishings; their style evolved into transitional. Together they achieved their signature look. "Paula educated on key design principles, coaxed us out of our comfort zone to achieve dramatic transformation."

SAMANTHA FRIEDMAN INTERIOR DESIGNS, LLC

Bethesda, MD • 301-529-1900 • www.samanthafriedmaninteriors.com



Samantha Friedman Interior Designs is a full-service interior design firm. From complete renovations to move-in ready, SFID can assist with all of your selection requirements to create an elegant and inviting livable design.

RECENT PROJECT In a Dupont Circle townhouse, this bathroom brings a bit of comforting, modern elegance to a traditional home.

SIMPLY WESLEY

Annapolis, MD • 443-994-6757 • www.simplywesley.com



Owner, Wesley Thompson, has a collaborative and hands-on approach to design. From working with architects and builders, AutoCAD design and selections of furnishings, fabric, and lighting, the scope is broad. Wesley brings a tremendous amount of passion and energy to each project, making the process seamless and fun.

RECENT PROJECT In this coastal inspired Arlington residence, the focal point in this bedroom is the fabulous green bed and the large sand dollar artwork.

SROKA DESIGN INCORPORATED

Washington, DC • 202-734-3920 • www.srokadesign.com



Sroka Design takes care of their clients. They have the expertise, talent and business systems in place to make things happen. Review the testimonials on their website from their clients.

RECENT PROJECT This project was installed 12 years ago. It still is fresh and timely. Their goal is to produce classic, investment interiors.

STORYBOOK ROOMS

Potomac, MD • 301-365-6900 • www.storybookrooms.com



Syntha Harris-Wendel is the award-winning designer and founder of Storybook Rooms. SBR creates luxurious, timeless and livable environments that are infused with traditional warmth and original ideas.

RECENT PROJECT This breakfast room features linear elements, a rectangular tile backsplash, dark stained woods and stainless steel, making the space sleek and contemporary, yet warm and inviting.



PAULA GRACE DESIGNS
YOUR LIFE. YOUR HOME. YOUR DESIGN.



GUIDE TO INTERIOR DESIGNERS

STUDIO SANTALLA, INC.

Washington, DC • 202-338-8220 • www.studiosantalla.com



Ernesto is an architect and interior designer. Because Studio Santalla coordinates all aspects of a construction project, you get the services of both professionals together, saving both time and money.

RECENT PROJECT This contemporary in-town home was built into the centuries old fortifications of Rasteau, in the heart of Provence, France.

SUSAN GULICK INTERIORS

Great Falls, VA • 703-674-0332 • www.susangulickinteriors.com



Susan Gulick Interiors, a full service interior design firm, has been a respected creative presence in the greater Washington area for over two and a half decades. Susan's interiors exude a classically fresh and uncluttered personality.

RECENT PROJECT This breakfast area features a combo of colors and materials reflecting the modern spirit of an empty nester's new condominium. The client wanted to shed the formality of their large family home and create a more casual aesthetic. An edgy chandelier pushes the limits of their aesthetic boundaries.

TRANSITIONS BY SHARON KLEINMAN

Potomac, MD • 301-365-5113 • www.4transitions.com



Interior designer Sharon Kleinman's passion and expertise provide her clients with livable elegant interiors. In projects ranging from Pre-Construction planning for New Construction to Kitchen redesigns to house makeovers, Sharon brings an exacting attention to detail to each unique home.

RECENT PROJECT Luxurious fabrics, antiques and a stone fireplace complement the Old World style of the living room in this Magnificent French Country Farmhouse

VICKY LAL DESIGN LLC

Potomac, MD • 240-988-4350 • www.vickylaldesign.com



Vicky Lal Design is a lifestyle design firm specializing in residential and commercial projects, from renovations to new construction. Known for creating sophisticated, elegant and timeless spaces, VLD has an incomparable eye for detail and color.

RECENT PROJECT The lounge's center-piece bar was created to entertain. Colorful mood lighting above, below and behind the bar allows one to set the mood. The ceiling was enhanced to create a "dome" effect further highlighting the exquisite chandelier.



OLAMAR
INTERIORS



My philosophy about design is simple. Your home should reflect who you are and also work for the way you live in it and use it every day. To me, luxury is living in a space that your family and friends love to visit and never want to leave. It is truly enjoying your home and the time you spend in it.



Paola McDonald
Interior Designer



CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION
ABOUT OUR PROCESS AND SERVICES

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Bob Narod, Photographer, LLC

www.narodphoto.com



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12213 Sugar Creek Court • Herndon, VA 20170 • 703-404-9001

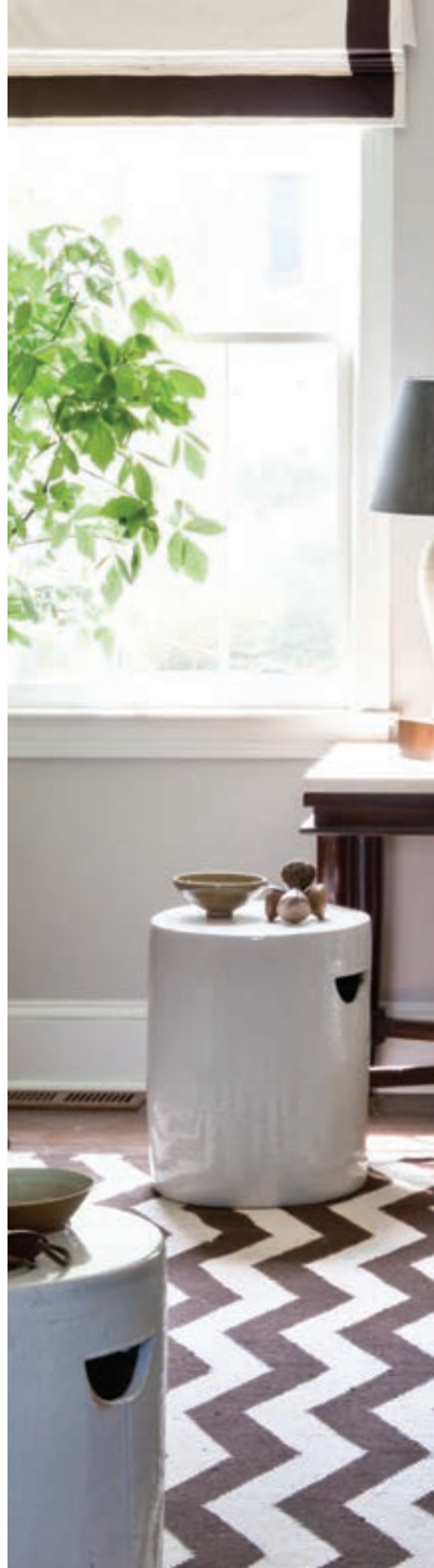


GRAPHIC EDGE

Designer David Mitchell hones a playful mix of furniture and collectibles in his 1930s Shepherd Park abode

BY SHARON JAFFE DAN | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANGIE SECKINGER





A new marble fireplace surround lends a modern touch to the living room (previous spread), where large-scale nature images by a Canadian photographer hang on one wall (opposite). A tall vellum-and-walnut desk (above) lends the room a sense of height. Objects on display include an old telescope lens (top, left), ceramics (top, right) and on the console (right), African beads and a walnut sphere designed by a Chicago scientist for his 1930s home.



Designer David Mitchell recently planted 115 daylilies, 25 dahlias and 16 hydrangeas in his backyard—every one in white to offset the other plants in his garden, which are all lime green. He also grows beets, heirloom tomatoes, eggplant and Russian black watermelon. “Remember the old green color people used to paint shutters, that Southern green?” he comments when asked about the melons. “They’re that color.”

Even in his garden, Mitchell leaves nothing to chance.

From his front porch to the interiors of the 1930s Colonial he recently renovated in DC’s Shepherd Park, the designer has masterfully manipulated color, texture and scale to create bold, graphic spaces. Envisioned as a “guy’s house” for the “designer who would rather be kayaking than buying antiques on a Saturday,” Mitchell’s home celebrates the outdoors in shades of olive and khaki. But aside from the occasional

INTERIOR DESIGN: David Mitchell, David Mitchell
Interior Design, Washington, DC.



baseball cap, this designer's home is far more stylish and sophisticated than your typical man lair.

Mitchell was drawn to the home for its beautiful proportions and mint condition. "I liked the fact that it was from the 1930s—I like '30s stuff. And I was going to be the second owner. No one had messed it up with stuff I was going to have to rip out," he explains.

As soon as he purchased it, Mitchell embarked on an update that respected the home's original vernacular. Other than a single wall that he demolished to make way for a larger master bath on the second floor, the designer left the existing floor plan intact. On ground level, he introduced a modern vocabulary by raising the height of the doorways between rooms by 16 inches and updating the fireplace in the living room with a clean-lined marble surround. He ripped out the old wall-to-wall carpet, exposing original hardwood floors, and completed a total kitchen makeover. He also screened in a side porch, adding a beadboard ceiling and porcelain faux-wood floors to reflect the home's period style.

As the dust settled, it became clear to Mitchell that the house called for a depar-



Olive walls offset an antique Biedermeier clock and a rare Swedish Art Deco chandelier in Mitchell's dining room (left). Etageres of his own design for Salvations Architectural Furnishings (above) display his creamware and ironware collections (top, left and right). These serving pieces are put to good use in the kitchen (opposite), where pale gray cabinets, marble surfaces and an old-fashioned Dutch door installed during the renovation create a classic look.





On Mitchell's screened porch (pictured here), black-painted furniture with striped upholstery from Schumacher makes a bold statement against the gray-painted brick wall and porcelain floors. African glass beads (far left) and shells (left) add an organic touch. Long baking peels and an old grain vessel hang above the sofa (bottom, left). An oxidized turpentine barrel-turned-planter (below) stands next to Mitchell's Octagon-Star table for Salvations.





“My house is more graphic than what we normally do. It has a Pacific Northwest feel to it, mixed with a little bit of Southern heritage.”

—DAVID MITCHELL

ture from his regular oeuvre. “I’m known for doing ethereal houses with lots of blue-grays and golden colors,” he says. But after testing his favorite robin’s egg blue on the foyer walls, he recalls taking a step back and saying, “Well, this doesn’t work.’ I was trying to turn the house into something it’s not.

“My house is more graphic than what we normally do. It has a Pacific Northwest feel to it,” he continues, “mixed with a little bit of Southern heritage. Getting it to work together was a challenge.”

In less experienced hands, rooms in the compact, 1,800-square-foot house could have wound up feeling cramped and smothering. But instead of filling his home with diminutive pieces, Mitchell tricked the eye

by selecting furniture with substance. For example, a tall walnut desk and large George Smith armchairs bring weight and balanced proportion to the living room. “People are afraid of big things in a small space. But they work really well,” the designer observes. “You just have fewer of them.”

Nature plays a starring role in the décor of this home located a stone’s throw from Rock Creek Park. In the living room, framed photographs hung in a grid pattern depict birds, deer and landscapes—“all things I love about my neighborhood,” Mitchell says. Rather than artwork flanking the fireplace, ledges are reserved for seasonal displays of tree branches, hydrangea or pussy willows, which the designer arranges in mammoth vases.



"They bring a green element into the room," he says, "and flowers or branches become part of the color scheme."

The palette of brown, ivory and green offers a bold contrast to Mitchell's well-honed collections, which include antiques, fine-art photography, creamware and ceramics. "I look for paint to be a backdrop," he explains. "A lot of people are obsessed with matching paint; I think paint is something you should play with a little more."

The author of his own no-holds-barred blog, "David Mitchell Uncensored," he is never one to take his work too seriously—especially in his own home. Mitchell happily admits to pairing rarefied antiques and designer pieces with affordable flea market and retail finds. "I love high-low stuff. In my living room, I have a pair of original André Arbus chairs and I also have a West Elm rug."

Mitchell is as proud of the priceless still-life photograph of a bay leaf plant in his bedroom as he is of the oversized marine blueprints covering one of the walls in his second-level TV room, which doubles as a guest room. Each one, printed in orange reverse, cost \$15. "I design this way," he says of the mix. "I think it's what makes design so interesting nowadays."

He is also a master at combining disparate and unexpected objects. In his home you'll find *étagères* and a coffee table from his own collection for Salvations Architectural Furnishings; stone-glazed Chinese stools; African bone bracelets arranged as a dining room centerpiece; and in the kitchen, a curved metal table on wheels that began life in a Victorian animal hospital.

In Mitchell's kitchen, color gives way to a calming palette. Pale gray cabinetry and slabs of marble on the counters and walls create a timeless, classic vibe.

The room will change next year, when an addition will enlarge the kitchen and convert the screened porch into a new TV room, making way for a dedicated guest room upstairs. Mitchell will also build a deck. "As much as I'm into gardening, a little less green space is fine with me," he admits. "This spring I did find genetically engineered grass that only grows three inches tall. We'll see if it works."

"I love learning stuff," he reflects. "There's always something new to learn." ♦

Photographer Angie Seckinger splits her time between Potomac, Maryland, and Spain.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 198.



In the master bedroom (opposite) a West Elm rug grounds a wooden bed from New Hampshire, a Biedermeier chest and a wing chair upholstered in Donghia fabric. The revamped, marble-clad master bath (above) boasts a deep soaking tub. Boat designs reverse-printed in orange make a bold statement on the TV room wall (top, right), where Mitchell designed the "patchwork" rug (top, left) using sisal remnants.



Family Affair

Eleanor Niermann puts her own
spin on the Niermann Weeks
legacy in her Annapolis home

BY SUSAN STILES DOWELL
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JOHN MAGOR





All of the chairs in Eleanor Niemann's study are antique prototypes or reproductions by Niemann Weeks. Other treasures include a painting by her father, Joe Niemann, above the console, and the Palissy Lantern, which she and her sister Claire designed with him in 2010.



Eleanor Niermann's world is filled with memories of her parents' boundless talent for creating beautiful furnishings. The Maryland company they founded in 1978—maker of elegant, handcrafted furniture, lighting and accessories sold to the trade only—has literally formed the fabric of her life. As a teenager, she acid-washed metal beads to create a patina for the Niermann Weeks Iron & Crystal Chandelier, deemed an “iconic 1970s design” 30 years later by *Interior Design*. When successive models of Joe Niermann's first coffee table sold to designers right out of the family's living room, she noted its changing dimensions because she had to adjust her position while watching TV. In fact, observing her father parlay his knowledge of antique restoration into the creation of new pieces for their growing furnishings business helped mold who she is today. Small wonder Eleanor has furnished the Eastport house she built across Spa Creek from Annapolis with so many beautiful prototypes from her life and family business.

“See my model of a 17th-century Southern Maryland brick manor house under the console in the study?” Niermann asks during a

.....
 INTERIOR DESIGN: Eleanor Niermann, Niermann Weeks, Millersville, Maryland.

ARCHITECTURE: Gary Schwerzler, Fourth Street Design Studio, Annapolis, Maryland. CONTRACTOR: Steve Park, S.D. Park Builder, Annapolis, Maryland.



Eleanor Niermann (top, left) directs the design and manufacture of her family's lighting, furnishings and accessories collections. Her home has a classic, center-hall design, but an unusual curved staircase (above and top, right) adds an unexpectedly modern touch. The stairs descend to the living room at the back of the house. The Klismos-style Elgin Chairs and the Danieli Chandelier, which occupy the dining room (opposite), are best-selling Niermann Weeks designs.





tour of her 3,100-square-foot, two-bedroom frame house. “I loved the ornamental brickwork so I built a model of it for a high school project.” Her father’s artwork hangs above the Frascati Console, which her mother and sister also own in different finishes. “My sister Claire and I helped my father create the Palissy Lantern,” Eleanor says, pointing to one hanging above a velvet-draped center table. “Claire has since designed a Palissy fixture for low ceilings as a result of living in a 1960s rancher. Traditionally, Niermann Weeks’s best designs originate from the ideas we get furnishing our own homes.”

Eleanor Niermann, half of the sister team now directing Niermann Weeks in Millersville, Maryland, took over a share of her mother, Eleanor McKay’s, marketing duties and her father’s design tasks in 2012 when they retired from the company. The fact that she had completed her own house in 2009 was a boon, as her new responsibilities send her to showrooms across the country promoting collections. When she returned home following the recent New York launch of designer Amanda Nisbet’s collaboration with Niermann Weeks, she was grateful for the refuge of her own personal oasis.

“I’ve actually lived in Eastport since 1996, so I’ve experienced how relaxed this sailors’ destination is across the drawbridge from the Annapolis Yacht Club,” she says. “I built my house because a lot came up for sale that promised unusual privacy.”



In the living room (these pages), the vibrant color of an antique Oushak rug counteracts otherwise neutral tones. Tramezzo Screens by Niermann Weeks were inserted into several windows in the house to afford extra privacy.

“Traditionally, Niermann Weeks’s
best designs originate from the
ideas we get furnishing our
own homes.” —ELEANOR NIERMANN





Inspired by age-old campaign furniture that could be easily broken down and stored during battle, Niermann designed her kitchen table (above) with a rust-finished scissor base and zinc top and paired it with bar stools for dining. The Petunia Pendants are by Amanda Nisbet for Niermann Weeks. The console (opposite), purchased at Marston Luce Antiques in DC, is the prototype for her company's Luce Console Table.

Despite her love of the laid-back, water-oriented lifestyle, Niermann drew from the formal symmetry of Annapolis's 18th-century architecture when she and her father brainstormed her home's design with Annapolis architect Gary Schwerzler. "I used a symmetrical center-hall plan with two ways out of every room," she says. "I took liberties with the windows, bringing them all the way to the floor to get as much light in the house as possible." She created modern contrast in the interior architecture with a staircase that fills the rear center hall with a luscious curve. "It's made of steel with drywall and spackle filling in the base," she says. "People seeing the house always comment on how contemporary the inside feels."

Niermann's choice of stark white walls and lightly bleached wide-plank pine flooring provides a neutral backdrop, or "canvas," as she thinks of it, for her treasure trove of furnishings. "It's second

nature for me to stage my things because I do all the showroom displays for Niermann Weeks," she observes. "But sometimes I think of my house as an excuse to gather furnishings I admire."

The practice of assessing and promoting furnishings for their beauty originates with her father. "Dad can take a classic antique and hone it to an essential shape for a new piece that is exactly right for today's living," Niermann says. "My sister and I like to think we're carrying on his talent."

Niermann mixes periods and styles, combining antiques with more contemporary furnishings and pieces from prominent designers. In the living room, Amanda Nisbet's Pike Occasional Table and Niermann's own sunburst design for a fire screen make a bold contrast with the Niermann Weeks Tramezzo Screens, inspired by ancient Rome, in the windows. The frisson between worlds is exactly



In lieu of a traditional headboard, Niermann ornamented the guest room wall (above, left) with a collection of beaded Victorian flowers, then paired an over-scaled painting with a mid-century slipper chair (above, right) to visually expand the space. In the upstairs hall (below, left), an antique iron urn cast in fiberglass is now a console table. The master bedroom ceiling (opposite) is vaulted to frame the extra-tall Niermann Weeks Steel Campaign Bed.



what she's after and it may be that extra element she and her sister encourage with their new generation of the company's offerings.

"I'm not into layering," Niermann says. "I like making a statement." For example, two Petunia Pendants from Amanda Nisbet's spring collection deliver task lighting over a kitchen table/workspace. But with their funky, blue serrated petals and gold-leaf interiors, they slant the straightforward kitchen in a more personal and eccentric direction.

Though color has real presence in Niermann's rooms, she tends to use it sparingly. The pink velvet-draped table in her study, for example, is there for sentimental reasons: "It's the same one from the living room of a Beaux Arts house my parents rehabbed in Memphis when they were just starting their business," she says. Her favorite celadon paint finish, most noticeable on the dining room chairs, floats through the house as verdigris furniture finishes, or on upholstery fabrics and ceramics. The color pay-off comes on the floor of the living room at the back of the house: Vibrant orange hues in a large antique Oushak rug explode in an intense complement to the room's calming blues.

Creating beautiful furnishings for the home is a business for Niermann. But in her own home, it's also a compulsion and a pleasure. Trained from childhood with a discerning eye, she wouldn't have it any other way. ❖

Susan Stiles Dowell is a writer who lives in Monkton, Maryland. Photographer John Magor is based in Stafford, Virginia.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 198.







CITY CHIC

Lori Graham outfits her 1890s DC row house with an unexpected mix of furniture and finishes

BY JULIE SANDERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ABBY GREENAWALT





Previous pages: A large, strategically placed mirror in the living room imparts extra depth and light to the space. Graham (opposite, top) cleverly juxtaposed classic and modern aesthetics by hanging an abstract painting by Robert Mellor above the original etched-stone fireplace. In the living room (this page), she added streamlined shelving to the right of the fireplace. Built-in cabinetry provides attractive storage in the adjoining dining room (opposite, bottom).



Lori Graham's 14th Street shop, Lori Graham Home, perfectly exemplifies the designer's chic, eclectic sensibility. A trip to her home, therefore, comes as no surprise. It exudes the same hip, glamorous vibe, created by the deft juxtaposition of dynamic art, vintage finds and strong, warm colors. The two-bedroom row house was a recent purchase for Graham. After completing several major row-house projects close to downtown DC's 14th Street Corridor, she had become a fan of the area's surrounding residential streets. Newly single, she was looking for a fresh start for herself and her beloved Papillons, Camus and MiltonFriedman, when the bottom two floors of a late Victorian-era row house on Corcoran Street became available. Graham was thrilled—especially when she went inside. “I was attracted by the architecture,” she says. “I loved the fireplace, the open floor plan, the high ceilings and the exposed brick in the back.”

The first floor, with its 11-and-a-half-foot ceilings, encompasses living and dining rooms, a powder room behind the stairs, a small but functional kitchen—already updated when Graham moved in—and a breakfast nook that she converted into a sitting room. Bay windows at both the front and back of the house bring in light, and oak floors were conveniently stained dark (one of Graham's signatures) before she bought the house.

The lower level, which the designer describes as an English, or above-ground, basement, boasts plenty of light, with full-height windows and nine-foot ceilings. It houses a home office-cum-guest room and a master bedroom and bath. The lower level opens out to both front and back gardens.

Graham set to work first figuring out how to create more storage space. “I needed places for books, objects and serving ware,” she says. In the living room, she flanked the etched-stone fireplace with open shelving on one side and a built-in, ceiling-height mirror on the other that makes the room feel larger. In the dining room, there were niches on either side of a blank wall (on the other side of which is the neighbors' fireplace). “They cried out for built-ins,” says the

INTERIOR DESIGN: Lori Graham, Lori Graham Design, Washington, DC.



Visitors first enter the living room (above), where a vintage chair by the bay windows provides a perch for Graham's prized pets, Camus and MiltonFriedman (below). In the sitting room (opposite), Graham combined Greek key chairs and a ram's head coffee table with an antique rug from Timothy Paul Carpet + Home and vivid photography by Barbara Probst.

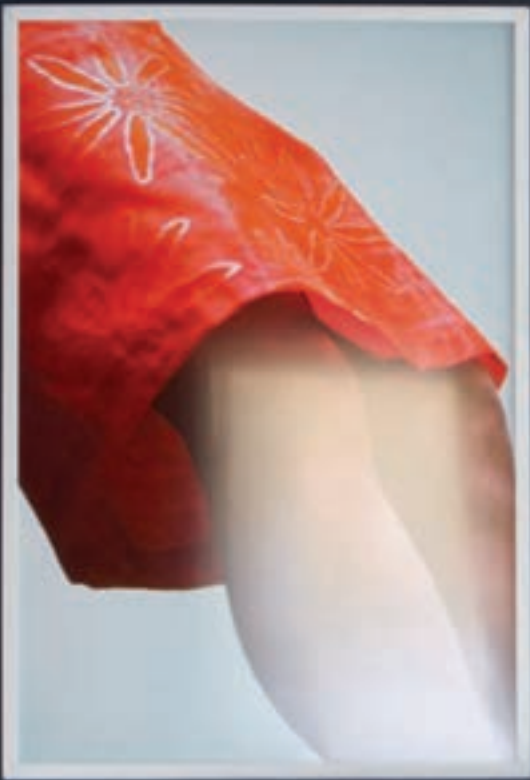
designer, who particularly needed storage space in the dining room that would accommodate overflow from the small kitchen.

To create the sophisticated, glam look she wanted, Graham decorated the house with reupholstered vintage furniture and pieces selected from her showroom. In the dining room, for example, the table came from her shop, while "the chairs are pieces I've had forever," she says. Above the dining room table, a new chandelier by CL Sterling & Son conveys the look of an earlier era with its use of mercury glass.

In the living room, with its soft gray palette, mid-century sofas share space with a glass-topped coffee table from the showroom; a high-backed chair by the window—a popular perch for the dogs—is a vintage piece that's been reupholstered in Italian velvet by C&C Milano. An unusual beaded chandelier from Shine by S.H.O., a home furnishings line carried by Lori Graham Home, creates a focal point above a console table by the bay window.

The living and dining rooms are more formal, but "the house becomes more casual as you move back through it," says Graham. The sitting room, painted a dark Benjamin Moore gray boasts an antique red rug from Timothy Paul Carpet + Home, a sofa from Graham's showroom, an eye-catching ram's head coffee table and Greek key chairs. The sitting and dining rooms share a wall of exposed brick that warms both spaces.







"I was attracted by the architecture.
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—LORI GRAHAM



From the dining room (above), the sitting room (left) is visible through an exposed-brick archway. Rich fabrics and deep colors enliven the space, into which light floods through dramatic floor-to-ceiling bay windows.

New decorative wall moldings lend visual interest, while custom draperies—navy velvet in the living room and white denim by Powell & Bonnell trimmed with a lively Ikat pattern in the sitting room—accent the big bay windows and high ceilings.

For Graham, her choice of art was very important. She turned to colleague and curator Mike Johnson for some pieces, selecting a mix of vintage Japanese lithographs, art photography and personal photographs for a collage of art in the living room. Above the mantel, an abstract canvas by Robert Mellor introduces a vivid shot of color to the room, while in the sitting room, photographs by Barbara Probst are striking against the dark-hued wall. On an easel behind the sofa, an oil painting by Teo González adds a punch of color.

Downstairs, Graham enjoyed creating a thoroughly “girly” bedroom, complete with floor-to-ceiling pink draperies and soft, feminine bedding. “It was fun because I got to do it by myself,” she says.

A DC native, Graham has lived in the capital her whole life. “I used to be a lawyer before I made the switch to interior design,” she says. This year marks her tenth anniversary as a designer, and her second since the opening of her showroom, only a block and a half away. Now, her new home heralds another beginning. “It’s a great location,” she says. “It’s the perfect size and the perfect fit.” ❖

Photographer Abby Greenawalt is based in Washington, DC.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 198.



A botanical wallcovering by Donghia offsets a modern serigraph in the foyer (this page), which leads to the library. In the living room (opposite), a work by Gene Davis presides over an armless sofa of Roberson's design and a coffee table made from a 19th-century Japanese hibachi.



Easy Rhythm

Designer Michael Roberson
celebrates the change of seasons in
her airy Arlington home

BY SHARON JAFFE DAN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MORGAN HOWARTH

Roberson (opposite) can host 20 in her new dining room addition (pictured here), designed by architect Charles Moore. It opens to a balcony overlooking her verdant backyard. A trio of etchings by Maud Greder hangs above the sideboard.





After earning a degree in interior design, Michael Roberson spent 18 years creating window displays for Neiman Marcus in her native Texas and, later, her adopted hometown of Washington, DC. The experience not only taught her how to execute projects on time, but also how to infuse them with a sense of drama—a skill that still comes in handy today as she runs her own interior design firm.

Roberson's studio occupies a light-filled wing in the Arlington home where she and her husband Rob, a retired technology management consultant, raised their son and now entertain three grandchildren. Just as she does for her clients, Roberson has distilled a fresh, clean-lined look in her home that captures her style in a carefree, seemingly effortless way.

The house and surrounding landscape have evolved over the years with the couple's lifestyle and aesthetic. "Houses should be like peo-

INTERIOR DESIGN: Michael Roberson, ASID, Michael Roberson Interior Design, Arlington, Virginia. RENOVATION ARCHITECTURE: Charles Moore, AIA, Moore Architects, Alexandria, Virginia.



“People talk about natural colors being boring, but I think that, subconsciously, they anchor us in some way.” —MICHAEL ROBERSON

ple and families, and have generations,” says Roberson, referring to the mix of contemporary and antique furnishings and art that prevails throughout her interiors. “You don’t want it all modern—you want to mix things up. But most of all, it has to be comfortable.”

Between the enveloping forest of Donghia botanical wallpaper and the designer’s disarming Southern charm, visitors immediately feel welcome upon arrival in her foyer. There, a framed serigraph of a doll’s face “gives some people the creeps,” Roberson admits, “but I love it.”

She contends that her sizable art collection “varies hugely, but there’s always a rhythm to what appeals to me. Because I was an art student for so long, I respond to composition—but at the same time, I’m very intrigued by the lack of structure.” In the living room, French etchings and a Fritz Scholder work share space with a piece by Washington Color School artist Gene Davis. Beneath the latter, a modern, armless sofa of Roberson’s design is paired with an antique armchair that belonged to her grandmother and a coffee table made from a vintage Japanese hibachi.

“If anybody’s eclectic, I am,” says Roberson. “But I can truly say that everything I have, I love.”

Beyond the living room, a modern addition completed seven years ago enlarged and updated the kitchen and dining room and forged a stronger connection between the home and its lush backyard. Roberson, who enjoys “cooking and feeding people,” turned to architect Charles Moore to design the renovation, which would also include a bold staircase and a screened porch. Moore bumped out the entire rear of the home. On the main level, the new dining room is framed by a wall of windows and French doors that spill onto a balcony.

A long dining table allows Roberson to seat up to 20 for family dinners. A carefully designed lighting plan combines pendants and recessed lights to illuminate the tabletop without casting harsh light on diners. “It’s important to light the table and the perimeter,” says the designer. “You can see what you’re eating and everybody looks beautiful.”

Roberson designed her dream kitchen in space that once housed the kitchen and dining room combined. A picture of efficiency with marble countertops and easy-on-the-feet cork floors, it features enough cabinet space to store dishes and barware within easy reach, an 18-foot-long island that accommodates food prep and



Roberson designed her kitchen to be functional and organized. Shallow cabinets above the Saarinen breakfast table (opposite) store barware in easy reach. A long island (this page) topped with marble works as a prep space and a buffet. Flowers are arranged in a woven backpack from the Philippines.





In the “tower” by the addition’s light-filled staircase (left), the homeowners gather for morning coffee or drinks in facing Donghia armchairs. Roberson has mounted iron kissy pennies—a form of currency used in the Congo until the 1920s—on the wall like miniature sculptures. On the lower level (above), a metal table from the Georgetown Flea displays a Kuba cloth she bought in Africa and later framed, along with an antique Chinese temple lantern.

buffet meals, a six-burner Dacor range and an eat-in breakfast area. Roberson is so delighted with her new kitchen that she calls it her “playroom.”

A seating area for two between the dining room and the vaulted staircase is the owners’ favorite spot to read the morning paper or enjoy an evening aperitif. “We spend a lot of time right in this little corner,” says Roberson. “We call it the tower; it’s really magical.”

Though the designer happily entertains parties large and small in the sun-dappled addition, she also enjoys the interplay of light and shadow throughout her home. “I’m not afraid of a dark space,” she says, pointing out the library off the foyer painted in Duron’s Sealskin brown. “We turn a lamp on in there and it’s this cozy little safe place. And the living room is fairly dim. In the summertime, it’s so comforting to have that.”

The warmer months are also prime time to enjoy the lower-level screened porch, where two Niermann Weeks chaises with luxuri-



The lower level of the addition houses a screened porch (right). The Robersons relax and read on Niemann Weeks chaises; the paper lanterns are from IKEA. Outside, a patio (above) and deck (below) rim the impeccably manicured garden.







ous cushions beckon. “I sit out here in the summer and read for hours,” says Roberson. The screened porch opens to the family room, which was also revamped during the renovation. This cozy hangout is furnished with clean-lined furniture, folk art Roberson has collected around the world—including several Hokkaido bear sculptures—and a wall of bookshelves built by her husband.

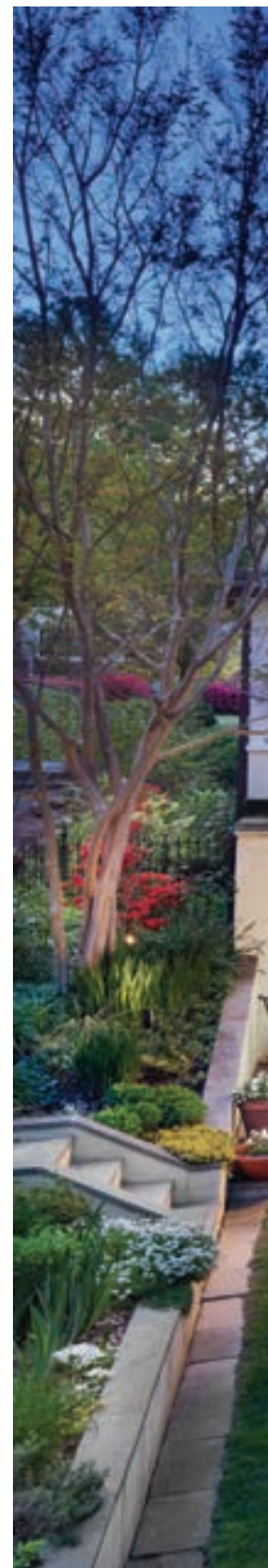
Throughout her home, neutral colors derived from nature create a calm backdrop that offsets Roberson’s bolder art and accessories. She advises clients not to underestimate the power of a neutral palette. “People talk about natural colors being boring, but they’re not,” she insists. “I tend to think that my favorite colors—the greens and gray-browns and blue-grays—are the colors of nature. I think that, subconsciously, they anchor us in some way.”

Though she is thrilled with her updated house, Roberson is probably most content in her impeccably manicured garden. She nurtures her flower beds all spring and summer and often enjoys lunch under the shade of a favorite crape myrtle.

“Gardening occupies your mind without causing any stress,” she says. “It’s like painting with living things. I love that sense of quiet when you’re outside. When I come home and get out in the yard, it’s like a mini vacation.” ❖

Photographer Morgan Howarth is based in Reston, Virginia.

SEE RESOURCES ON PAGE 198.





Roberson's studio, perched above the garage (opposite, top and bottom) doubles as a workspace and product library. A rear view of the home reveals the addition by Charles Moore, with the "tower" stairs on the left and the dining room and screened porch on the right.

SHOW HOUSE DAZZLE

The 2014 DC Design House
infused a time-worn home with
style and inspiration

By JULIE SANDERS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANGIE SECKINGER



A Glamorous Touch

The era of the house dictated the living room's style for Kelley Proxmire, who blended traditional architectural elements with a glamorous, sophisticated vibe. "The metallic Bergamo pillows were a springboard for the room," she says. The walls were sprayed with a high-gloss gray lacquer and existing built-ins were painted white. Proxmire grouped a Pearson sofa and a David latesta coffee table below a colorful painting by March Avery from the Marin-Price Galleries. *Design: Kelley Proxmire, Kelley Interior Design.*

The 2014 DC Design House transformed a classic but dated 8,000-square-foot, stone center-hall Colonial located in Northwest DC's picturesque Forest Hills neighborhood. The house and grounds showcased the work of 27 area design teams whose innovative ideas and creative execution imparted 21st-century style to the traditional 1929 home. Sponsored in part by *Home & Design* and C2 Paint, the show house was open for tours from April 13 through May 11; in case you missed it, we highlight each room on the following pages. Now in its seventh year, the DC Design House benefits Children's National Health System.



First Impression

Architect David Benton and his team offset the home's traditional front façade by "brightening it up and making it friendlier and more approachable," he says. The French entry doors were painted vibrant Pond Shimmer blue, and new shutters now match the existing ones. A glass door in the vestibule admits light into the foyer while accessories, including planters and a bench, create an arrival space outside. *Design: David A. Benton, AIA, LEED Green Associate, Rill Architects, PC.*



Making an Entrance

According to Camille Saum, the foyer and stairwell (above) were in need of “a bit of drama and timeless design.” She and her associate, Whitney Hansen, achieved this goal by extending glitzy, beaded wall-paper by Romo up to the third floor, and painting ceilings in high-gloss Viburnum from Barry Dixon’s The Naturals collection for C2 Paint. Plywood floors were painted in a large-scale checkerboard pattern and art from Merritt Gallery added bursts of color on every level. *Design: Camille Saum, ASID, Camille Saum Interior Design, LLC.*



Family Affair

Victoria Sanchez created a comfortable, welcoming seating area in the relatively narrow space (right) abutting the kitchen, ensuring that it would complement both the kitchen and adjoining butler’s pantry. She took her cues from the palette of wood and cream in the kitchen, installing a sectional sofa that emphasized the L-shaped walls of windows to “wrap around the space” and bring the outdoors in. Stylish furnishings and accessories were sourced from the designer’s Old Town Alexandria boutique, Victoria at Home. *Design: Victoria Sanchez, ASID, IFDA, Victoria at Home, LLC.*





A Chic Soirée

Marika Meyer created a formal yet family-oriented dining room. "I was looking for a balance of form and function," she says. "I wanted it to be approachable." Chair rails were replaced with wainscoting, while subtly patterned wallpaper complemented touches of blue-and-white Chinoiserie. A vintage 22-karat gold-leaf chandelier hung above a distressed walnut table that was elegant yet durable, and vintage dining chairs upholstered in indoor-outdoor fabric kept the space kid-friendly. *Design: Marika Meyer, Marika Meyer Interiors, LLC.*



Life of the Party

The butler's pantry/wine room "was dedicated to entertaining," says Nadia Subaran. An extension of the kitchen, it also connected to the dining room—thus requiring a more refined vibe. Subaran paired cabinetry from Wood-Mode in Vintage Navy with Carrara marble counters and floors. A distressed wood table, ready to serve as a buffet or prep area, occupied center stage. Thermador wine columns, glass-fronted cabinets displaying dishes and stemware and a Robert Abbey chandelier completed the space. *Design: Nadia N. Subaran, Aidan Design.*



New Traditional

The scope of the work was the biggest challenge Nadia Subaran faced during her kitchen redesign (left)—which included the removal of a large masonry wall that separated it from the sitting room. She paired Wood-Mode burnished-cherry cabinetry with soapstone countertops and a seamless, marble-like porcelain-tile backsplash. Porcelain tile floors resembled fieldstone. "I call it a 'new traditional' look," says Subaran. "It has texture and warmth with minimal detailing." *Design: Nadia N. Subaran, Aidan Design.*



A Modern Twist

In his re-do of the library (above), Nestor Santa-Cruz was inspired by its 1970s paneling, which reminded him of rooms designed by Jean-Michel Frank in the late '20s. With their look of cerused oak, the panels provided a backdrop for a space that blended classical and modern Scandinavian elements. "Modern design is not about a particular period," Santa-Cruz says. Beneath an abstract painting from Susan Calloway Fine Arts, a Hans Wegner sofa shared space with antique Louis XVI chairs. *Design: Nestor Santa-Cruz, IIDA, Nestor Santa-Cruz Decoration.*



Martini, Anyone?

Coordinating with the adjoining library, Tracy Morris conceived the diminutive library bar (left) as "a throwback to an era" when enjoying cocktails in a private niche was in vogue. She left the room's existing bar with its retro stainless-steel sink and countertop intact, but installed a limestone backsplash wall in a faux wood grain. An unlacquered brass Waterworks faucet, art from Susan Calloway Fine Arts and a mirror from Donghia completed the picture. *Design: Tracy Morris, Tracy Morris Design, LLC.*



Lounge Around

"Tone on Tone" was the theme for the family room (left), according to Jeff Akseizer and Jamie Brown. The designers achieved a soothing vibe using textured wallpaper from Thibaut that evoked bleached wood and subtle window treatments by Romo. A custom sofa and a coffee table by Berman Rosetti faced a media wall that included shelving, a TV and a linear gas fireplace. The room opens out to the pool area through French doors that admit plenty of light. *Design: Jeff Akseizer & Jamie Brown, Akseizer Design Group, LLC.*

Made in the Shade

Tapped to dress up the pool area (below), the designers decided to make it "an extension of the family room," Naseera Moore-Lawrence says. "We chose teak furniture because it is really high quality." They employed seating arrangements that included the Havana club chairs, sofa and ottoman; Fiori coffee tables; and the Seneca dining table. Chaises and director's chairs flanked the pool, while vibrant cushions and umbrellas in durable Sunbrella fabrics added the finishing touch. *Design: Naseera Moore-Lawrence & Nicolette Powell, Country Casual.*



Fresh Style

When Joanne Fitzgerald embarked on a redesign of the dull, cramped powder room (above), she wanted it to be "the antithesis of what it was." To inject a sense of drama without overpowering the space, she balanced an accent wall covered in a rich, shimmering peacock-themed wallpaper by Cole & Sons against a backsplash wall of iridescent stone, glass and metal tiles. A narrow Kohler Saile commode fit the space while a floating acrylic sink top kept the room light. *Design: Joanne Fitzgerald, Gatéga Interior Design, LLC.*



Back to Nature

To unify the jumbled backyard, Stephen Włodarczyk designed a custom pergola that extends above the backyard patio (above). Steps curved up to the grassy lawn, while a gravel sitting area was anchored by glazed urns that echo the colors of the changing room inside. "To integrate the house with the yard," Włodarczyk coordinated with Christopher Cahill to build a centrally located door to the nearby pool dressing room. *Design: Stephen Włodarczyk, Botanical Decorators.*

Stately Approach

When designing the entry garden (right), Gina Benincasa took her cues from the style of the house. "Our vision was to create a stately, traditional threshold that would match the home's stature," she says. Stonework and mature, manicured plantings created a classic feel while adding color and interest. A number of the existing plants were retained and revitalized—in particular, a decades-old heirloom azalea of sentimental value to the owners.

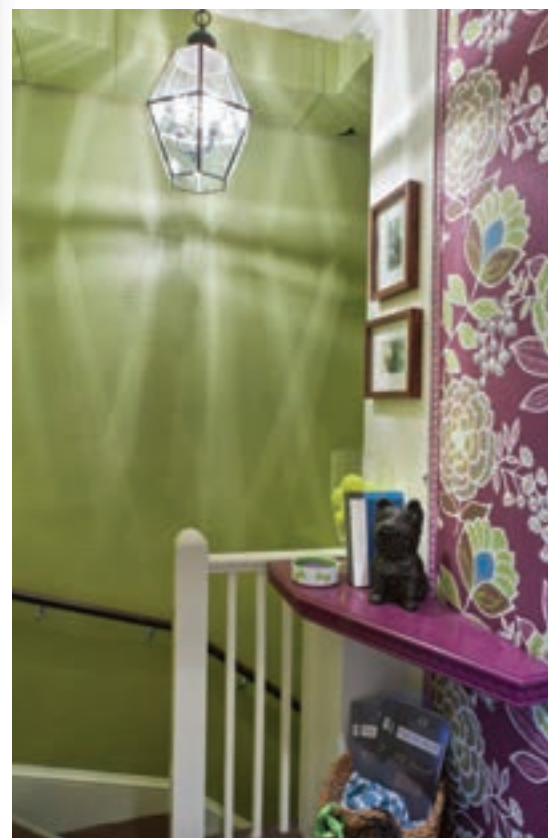
Design: Blake Dunlevy & Gina Benincasa, D & A Dunlevy Landscapers, Inc.





Art Deco Splash

A reclaimed shower door with a South Beach, Miami, motif provided the inspiration for the Art Deco loggia and pool bath/dressing room (left). Christopher Cahill and Kerry Ann Rodriguez framed and back-lit the door and hung it in the dressing room, borrowing its vibrant colors for the loggia. "We wanted it to feel retro," Cahill explains. Hand-cut vinyl floor tiles arranged in a Deco pattern and fish tile from Italo Ceramica in the adjoining bath (inset) reinforced the look. *Design: Christopher Cahill & Kerry Ann Rodriguez, Cahill Design Build.*



Child's Play

Intent on creating "a fun playroom for kids to engage without technology," Katherine Vernot-Jonas filled the space with options for indoor physical activity—including a climbing wall, climbing ropes and hanging rings. Built-ins lined one side of the room, with space for storage and display and a cushioned window seat. A bold palette of primary colors was intended to stimulate creativity, while brightly hued rugs and furniture ensured a playful atmosphere. *Design: Katherine Vernot-Jonas, Katherine Vernot-Jonas Designs, LLC.*

A Step Forward

The design team combined bold paint colors with a panel of lively Thibaut fabric in shades of plum, lilac and spring green to lure visitors into taking the back stairs (above). "We wanted to use Radiant Orchid—Pantone's Color of the Year," says Teri Lohmann of the textured, paintable wallpaper they chose from York Wallcoverings to camouflage cracks in the home's original plaster walls. A shelf was added and an existing light fixture repurposed for the space. *Design: Teri Lohmann, Lynne Parmele & Beth Boggs, ASID, C2 Paint & Design Centers.*

Bathing Beauty

Allie Mann created “a timeless, chic look” in the second-floor guest bath (below), where large-scale Calacatta marble tiles in a six-by-12-inch herringbone pattern covered the floor and custom, white-painted vanities were topped with marble. Mirrored cabinet fronts made the room feel larger; all fixtures were new except the tub, which was re-glazed in a crisp, white hue. An acoustic showerhead from Kohler and Fizz bubble sconces from Troy Lighting conveyed a modern sensibility. *Design: Allie Mann, Case Design/Remodeling Inc.*



Restful Retreat

Nancy Colbert reconfigured the master bedroom (right), where a wall had been moved between the bedroom and bath to allow more bath and closet space. The designer chose a gray palette in this tranquil retreat, covering a blank wall that was “in need of detail” with silk draperies that grounded the four-poster bed from Hickory Chair. A hand-stenciled night table from Century, a whimsical garden stool from Made Goods and bedding from Emissary imparted interest and warmth. *Design: Nancy M. Colbert, NCIDQ, ASID, CID, Design Partners, LLC.*



Pretty in Pink

"The wallpaper was our inspiration," says Susan Donelson of the delicate Thibaut floral pattern that covered the walls of the first guest room, located on the second floor (opposite, top). The designers chose streamlined furniture to "make it a little less girly." They painted the radiator cover in a raspberry hue that picked up the color inside the closet. A moss-green rug from Jaipur and a spring-green graphic print on the custom headboard channeled a fresh, outdoor sensibility. *Design: Susan Donelson & Sharon Bubenhofer, Cleveland Hall Design.*

Rest & Relaxation

In the upstairs sitting room (right), the designers used the movement and reflective color of water to convey a sense of relaxation.

"We wanted to create a calm space where people could relax and Zen out," says Dennese Guadeloupe Rojas. Faux-painted walls by Christine Barnette evoked water and sand, while a ceiling relief panel added interest. A Michael-Cleary sofa and armchairs from Urban Essentials surrounded a glass coffee table from J. Lambeth. *Design: Dennese Guadeloupe Rojas, Interiors by Design, LLC, & Diane S. Taitt, ASID, Associate AIA, DE Space Designs, LLC.*



A Day at the Spa

To expand the master bath and bring in natural light, Cindy McClure first eliminated a wall between the small, existing bath and an unused dressing room, creating a large, airy space. She envisioned a restful, beach-themed bath in neutrals. A wall of textured tiles with a seashell motif from Mosaic Tile created a focal point between the freestanding soaking tub and open shower. Travertine floor and wall tiles reinforced the light, sensual feel. *Design: Cindy Grossmueller McClure, ASID, MCR, CKD, GCP, Grossmueller's Design Consultants, Inc.*



A Place for Everything

"We took a fairly small space and made it efficient as well as pretty," says Deborah Broockerd, who designed the master closets. With "a woman's important wardrobe" in mind, she created a space (above) with high capacity that didn't feel crowded, selecting storage solutions including a double-decker jewelry drawer and a display cabinet for scarves and necklaces. The melamine built-ins had a textured, neutral finish that complemented the bedroom. Two reach-in closets accommodated wardrobe storage. *Designer: Deborah Broockerd, ASID, Closet Factory.*



Think Tank

Chad Alan describes his vision for the third-floor office (above) as “structure meets sculpture.” Dormers formed a slanted ceiling that the designer had to work around. He installed a row of bookshelves at the base of the dormer wall that decreased the floor space in the room but created more options for furniture placement. He designed a desk to fit conveniently into the room, while an “inside out bookcase,” also of his own design, imparted a whimsical note. *Design: Chad Alan, Chad Alan Designs, LLC.*

Retro Look

Cindy McClure and her design team improved the cramped second-floor guest bath (right) by borrowing space from an adjacent closet. In the reconfigured room, McClure took inspiration from the home’s 1920s origins to create “a fun, retro look” that would reflect its era. Black marble and tile selections in the tub area and on the floor offset crisp white fixtures and polished chrome accents. Dark purple walls conveyed a bold yet feminine vibe. *Design: Cindy Grossmueller McClure, ASID, MCR, CKD, GCP, Grossmueller’s Design Consultants, Inc.*





Home Sweet Home

Tucked away on the third floor, the guest suite (above) was inspired by Cheryl Lynn Doyle's grandmother, remembered as "a great hostess who believed in every amenity and made guests feel at home." The room included a bed with a valance from GP & J Baker and—separated visually by a decorative screen from Cote Jardin Antiques—a sitting area with a loveseat. Doyle combined antique and contemporary pieces to create an unstuffy, welcoming vibe. *Design: Cheryl Lynn Doyle, Doyle Interiors, LLC.*

Bright Spot

Anne Wenzel was constrained by the need to retain the existing fixtures and tile in the third-floor bath off the guest suite (opposite, bottom right). "It all had to be original yet modernized and youthful," she says. She covered the walls with a bold, eye-catching fabric called Dara by Manuel Canovas that de-emphasized the more antiquated aspects of the room. She embellished the bathroom closet with a low-key, complementary fabric by the same designer. *Design: Anne Wenzel, Anne Walsh Design, LLC.*



Playful Perch

The third-floor guest bedroom (above) was inspired by Victoria Larson's bold, vibrant Peacock fabric, which Melissa McClay chose for the custom headboard and bed skirt. She used the same palette of red, brown, spring green and blue throughout the room, applying a band of red on the walls that highlighted the room's quirky architectural lines. "It's a fresh, happy, chic space," McClay says. "It's intended to be fun for a sophisticated teenager or an adult." *Design: Melissa McClay, Allied ASID, Melissa McClay Interiors.*



Streamlined Style

The third-floor guest bath (left) was designed through iBBY, a remodeling company owned by Case Design and launched by TJ Monahan that offers online bath remodeling tools. In this space, Monahan selected chocolate porcelain tiles, a white ceramic-tile accent wall and a visually unifying, dark-stained floating vanity. "It's a modern space where everything is high quality," says Monahan. *Design: TJ Monahan, LEED AP, iBBY.* ♦

For before photos, see homeanddesign.com.

FAB FURNITURE



Innovation is the buzzword for this season's crop of fine furnishings

BY JULIE SANDERS

1/ HOT SEAT

Designed by Gaetano Pesce for Poltrona Frau, the Feltri chair is covered entirely by thick wool felt. Thermosetting resin on the seat lends stiffness and resistance, while the softer back and arms adapt to the sitter for comfort. Available with a high or low back, it's lined with quilted polyester padding and comes in a range of vibrant colors. frauwashington.com

2/ CHIC CONTRAST

Portuguese designer Marco Sousa created the Contemporary sideboard, with its contrasting colors and wood grains, by combining light-hued ash drawers with a dark-stained walnut frame on a base of criss-crossed, black-lacquered iron. bymarcosousa.com

3/ TABLE SCAPES

Designer Jonas Trampedach's collection of diminutive side tables for Dutch furniture



manufacturer Arco is called Tablets. They come in five sizes and shapes, in wood or epoxy finishes or a combination of the two. Each table is portable via a built-in leather loop on the top; cluster them together as a coffee table or scatter them throughout your home for extra surface space. Available through Apartment Zero. apartmentzero.com

4/ SLEEK + SPARE

Cattelan Italia's sleek, spare Giano Dining Table boasts a sculptural, lacquered-steel base embossed in hues of white (pictured), black or graphite. The top comes in matte white Carrara marble, Canaletto walnut or burnt oak. Available in a round or oval shape through Theodores in Upper Georgetown. theodores.com





4/ HIGH DENSITY

The popular Vik dining chair was designed by Thibault Desombre for Ligne Roset. Now, Desombre has updated his creation with the Vik 2, which has cushions made of more comfortable high-density foam. The back is felt and the front comes in wool or leather. The frame is natural, black- or gray-stained ash. ligneroset-dc.com

1/ FINNISH LINE

M2L has teamed with Scandinavian furniture maker Inno to bring its modern collections to the U.S. Pictured here, the Aura sofa by Finnish designer Mikko Laakkonen—part of a line of seating that won a 2013 Red Dot Best of the Best Award for its innovative design. Available as an armchair and with different back heights. m2l.com

2/ MINIMALIST MAGIC

Room & Board's Cooper collection marries form, function and minimal design. The line, which comes in colors that pop, includes a media console, cocktail table and bench (pictured), all made of hand-welded alumi-

num with a durable, powder-coated finish. Benches are available in three sizes. roomandboard.com

3/ OUT OF THE BOX

Furniture designer Nathan Anthony's versatile Boxx Ottoman is a convenient square, measuring in at 18 by 18 inches. Pair it with other Boxx Ottomans and dress them in an array of covers: fabrics in vibrant colors and patterns, or leather, hide or ultrasuede with details by Swarovski Elements. Made in America. nafurniture.com



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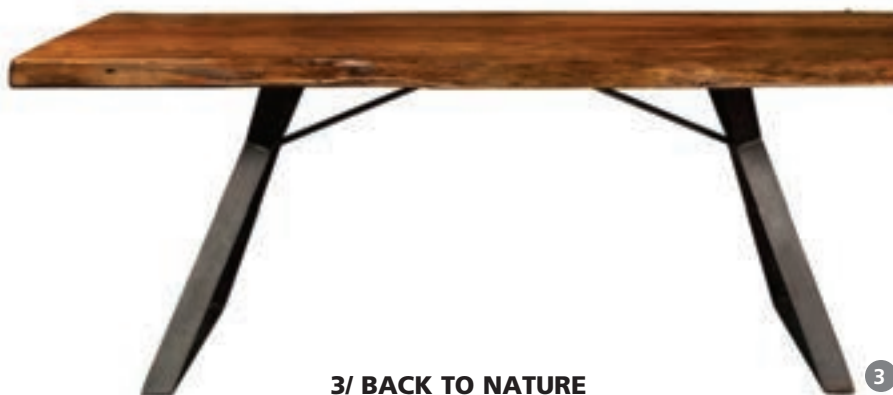
1/ SIMPLE SILHOUETTE

Willem Smith's Van Breck Occasional Table offers a clean, simple silhouette with tapered-steel legs and an unadorned top that alters the look of the piece depending whether it comes in Kirei (shown), repurposed Douglas fir, stained concrete or glass. Measures in at 16 by 22 inches but can be custom sized. willemsmith.com



2/ A DIFFERENT STRIPE

Furniture manufacturer Jessica Charles has adorned the Jenna Bench in a playful animal print, part of a collection of seating that can be upholstered in leather or fabric, with a wood frame that comes in a range of finishes. Pictured here, the zebra-striped fabric is enhanced with nail-head trim. Available through Baker. jessicacharles.com; bakerfurniture.com



3/ BACK TO NATURE

The London Loft collection of live-edge tables conveys an organic, back-to-nature vibe with its free-form Acacia top and hand-forged metal base. The collection includes a dining table, coffee table and console; pictured here is the dining table, which runs 80, 94 or 106 inches in length. Available through Belfort Furniture. belfortfurniture.com

4/ RUSTIC STYLE

Bare Woods and Home Furnishings is offering a rustic, hand-painted storage cabinet/console from a collection of hand-crafted pine furniture that also includes living, dining, bedroom, accent and occasional pieces. barewoods.com



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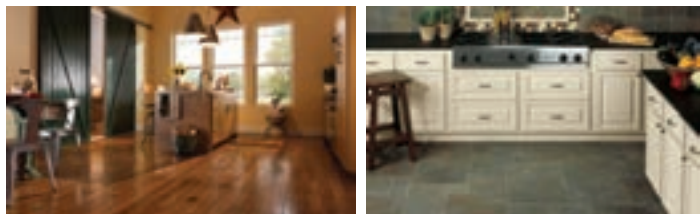
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BY ALEX STOLLER

1/ GLOBAL WARMING

Tracy Glover's new Blackburn Cluster Pendant boasts customizable, hand-blown glass globes, available in four shapes and eight patterns. The base comes in a range of finishes. tracygloverstudio.com

2/ GOLD STANDARD

The Rockstar collection by Corbett Lighting features pendants (pictured), sconces and a flush-mount fixture. Handcrafted from metal, agate stone and gold leaf, they are available through Annapolis Lighting. annapolislighting.com; corbettlighting.com



3/ PURE GEOMETRY

Zaneen's Quartet Floor Lamp is made of polished aluminum and stainless steel for a clean, geometric look. In stainless, black or white (pictured); also available as a pendant or table lamp. zaneen.com

4/ TEAM WORK

Designed by Barry Dixon for his collection for Atlanta-based furniture maker Peyton Avrett, the sculptural Non Crystal Chandelier is made of brushed steel with satin brass details. Shown here with six arms, the fixture's size can be customized. avrett.com

5/ CRYSTAL CLEAR

The opulent Schonbek Chantant ceiling pendant emphasizes the beauty of light produced by soft strands of Spectra and Heritage clear, handcut crystals. A polished stainless-steel metal base completes the look. The fixture is available through Dulles Electric in a wide range of hanging and semi-flush mount fixtures. dulleselectric.com; schonbek.com

6/ PRIVATE LABEL

From Lion Storm, NEST 301's exclusive private-label furniture collection, the Glass Cascade Pendant is custom-crafted in glass



and chrome with a clear finish. Four lights and an oval chrome frame with long strands of hanging glass impart an opulent vibe. Available exclusively at NEST 301 in North Bethesda. nest301.com

7/ CUSTOM CAST

The floor and table lamps in David Weeks Studio's Fenta collection have a custom-cast cement base that lends them an industrial sensibility. A wooden pin holds the brass armature as it curves gently up. The collection marks the first time Weeks has used brass as the primary metal for his designs. davidweeksstudio.com



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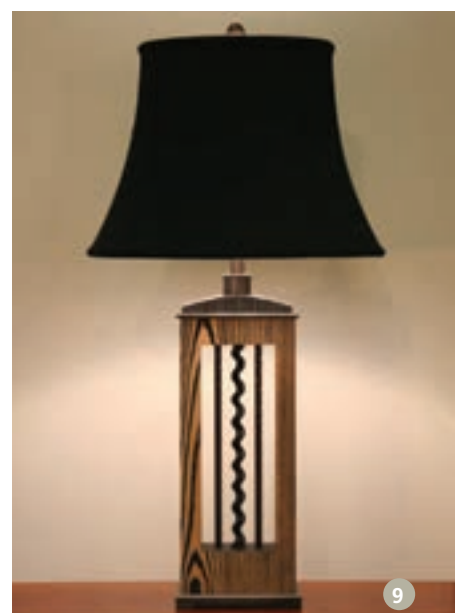
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8/ TREE OF LIGHT

Marcel Wanders designed the whimsical Inkborn table lamp for Moooi's 2014 collection. Winding metal tendrils on the tree-like fixture evoke the look of an intricate candelabra while miniature shades conceal bulbs at the end of each tendril. A cylindrical marble base holds the light in place. Also available as a chandelier. moooi.com

9/ ONE OF A KIND

Designed and handcrafted by Gutierrez Studios, the Taylor Lamp series of one-of-a-kind fixtures includes the one pictured above, with a base combining sandblasted ash and hand-wrought bronze details; it's topped with a silk shade. Currently available in the Baltimore showroom. gutierrezstudios.com

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BAZAAR



LORD OF THE RINGS

The Giuko pendant series from Leucos features sleek aluminum rings with round, blown-glass diffusers in a satin finish. Pictured here, the Itre Giuko 3 Light Reading Lamp can be hung vertically or horizontally; optional rings can create a unique look. Available through Dominion Electric Supply Company. dominion electric.com; leucos.com



MIRROR, MIRROR

The convenient Rae Mirror Kit from Tech Lighting makes morning ablutions easy. Two vertical lights run the length of the rectangular mirror on each side to illuminate the reflection. Available in chrome and satin nickel, the kit can be purchased in a one-, two- or three-mirror set. techlighting.com ♦

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BAZAAR

FOOT LOOSE

Flooring and carpet options
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BY JULIE SANDERS

PURELY PORCELAIN

Parker Wood Porcelain tiles from Porcelanosa look like wood but offer the benefits of tile in terms of function, maintenance and durability. The tiles come in different sizes, textures and finishes—including an anti-slip finish that makes them suitable for bathroom or even outdoor installations. porcelanosa-usa.com





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1/ THE WAYS OF WOOL

Part of a collection designed by Kelly Wearstler for The Rug Company, the Array Light rug is made of soft, hand-knotted Tibetan wool. Inspired by the look of mismatched stones, it's available in natural shades that subtly showcase the design, as well as in a darker-hued version. therugcompany.com

2/ SET IN STONE

The Maxima collection by Imola Ceramica imitates natural stone surfaces. Pictured here,

the look of Rainbow Teak sandstone—which has a precise veining pattern in gray, yellow and pink—is duplicated, but with impervious porcelain tile instead of porous sandstone, which is more difficult to maintain. Available at Italo Ceramica. italoceramica.com

3/ SUSTAINABLE SURFACE

EcoDomo's hardy, eco-friendly Cork Design Collection offers myriad choices, with a range of styles, sizes and hand-assembled surface designs. Available in floating planks, glue-down tiles and sheets and panels lami-

nated to MDF (engineered fiberboard) slabs. Pictured here, floating cork planks in a dark Rum finish. ecodomo.com

4/ MODERN HISTORY

The new Timothy Corrigan custom rug collection for Patterson, Flynn & Martin showcases a warm palette of creams, lavenders, reds and blues in patterns grounded in historical reference but modernized by the designer's own sensibility. Pictured here, Rue Lafayette in a sandstone colorway. pattersonflynnmartin.com

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BAZAAR



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Terra Legno's chocolate-hued Mystique line of hardwood flooring showcases the distinctive grain of European white oak. FSC-certified, this wood surface is engineered using sustainable methods and is both durable and fade-resistant. terralegno.com



▲ THE LOOK OF WOOD

The Estonia collection from Architectural Ceramics is a line of porcelain tiles that seamlessly duplicates four wood types from around the world, including gray ash (pictured). The series will expand to include replicas of species from other geographical locations. architecturalceramics.com



▲ VERY VERSATILE

Boasting a range of color combinations and sizes, this durable, stain-resistant indoor/outdoor rug by Capel is made of the synthetic fiber olefin and imported from Belgium. Pictured here in ivory and taupe; available through Classic Interiors in Ellicott City. classicinteriorsonline.com ♦



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Francie Hester's
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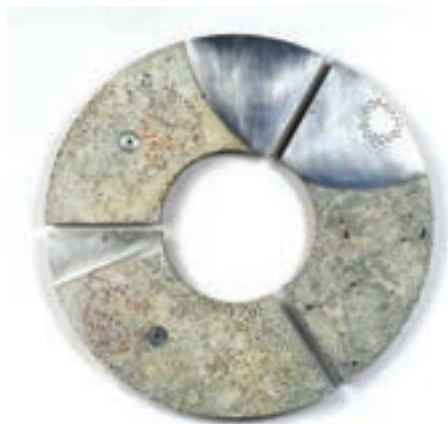
BY TINA COPLAN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG STALEY
PORTRAIT BY BOB NAROD

The concept of beauty is difficult," says Francie Hester, standing beside one of the ravishing new art objects displayed recently in an exhibition of her work at Kaller Fine Arts in Washington, DC. "A lot of beauty comes out of destruction."

For the past decade and a half, from her studio on an industrial byway in Kensington, Hester has been attacking metal with hammers, drills, sandpaper, routers and a blowtorch. Tearing down the surface, she builds it back up, then repeats the process layer by layer, often drop by drop. This laborious technique mirrors ideas at the heart of her work—the passage of time and its ravages, the hard-earned beauty that comes from experiencing life's turbulence.

"You can't have joy without pain, highs without lows, life without death," Hester says philosophically. In her art, light and shadows coexist peaceably. She points to

In her Kensington, Maryland, studio (left), Francie Hester distresses and then embellishes raw aluminum disks, building up layers of acrylic paint and ink to create pieces such as "Convex #14" (below) and "Intertwined #18" (bottom).



one example, "Relic #4." The free-standing disk is covered in brilliantly mottled blue shades as indefinable as the colors on peacock feathers.

"Everybody knows what a pretty blue looks like," says the artist. "But that's a little ordinary." To deconstruct it, she added contrasting rust tones. Wherever Hester detects a particularly beautiful passage of color, she feels compelled to counter it with a dark place. "It may be buried in the piece," she notes, "not seen on the surface."

Hester likes creating new buried treasures and rediscovering old ones. Her Relic series is based on artifacts unearthed in Chinese burial sites—simplified, enlarged and embedded with new meaning. She begins by roughing up the smooth surface of 29-inch-diameter aluminum disks as they arrive from a fabricator in Minnesota. She adds and subtracts acrylic paints and inks,



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Shown: Abrecht, *Daybreak*, Oil on Canvas, 48 x 48 in.

ART STUDIO

and sometimes simply water, using squeegees, rubber spatulas, a fork, eyedroppers or whatever is called into play.

Subtly blended colors emerge from beneath encrusted layers, suggesting the erosion of age. Within a perfect circle, radiating borders imply “the continuity of life and death, and the infinity of time,” says the artist. By contrast, in her Convex series, circles are divided into separate segments. Each section is spaced out on the wall and further subdivided into well-defined patterns. These pieces signify a different rhythm—a break in the action.

“There are events in life when we stop and start. And there are times when life is fluid, when things happen in waves,” Hester reflects, tracing at the same time her own life trajectory. Arriving in Washington in the late 1980s, Hester had a lofty downtown studio on the top floor of the then low-rent Lansburgh Building. She earned a master’s degree in art theory from the University of Maryland, and by 2000, her painting had moved from canvas to wavy aluminum panels with a honeycomb core. Then 9/11 hit.

After that momentous day, she recalls thinking, “I can’t just paint what I was painting. I had to stop and start again.” The everyday imagery in her work vanished. Seeking a spiritual connection, she listened to the pure, extended notes of Gregorian chants. She remembers, “I would hear an absolutely gorgeous passage, then sand away a portion of the paint and build again. I realized then that there was beauty in shadows.” She called that first series Strata—Italian for “layers.”

Subsequent losses triggered further reflection and change. In 2004 and 2010, beloved friends tragically died—journalist and editor Diane Granat Yalowitz, age 49; and Brendan Ogg, a 19-year-old college sophomore, poet and best friend of Hester’s son. In an elegiac tribute, Hester and her studio partner, artist Lisa Hill, brought family and friends together for a communal arts project. All performed a simple task: wrapping cutout paper around paper clips. Each piece bore words scanned from magazine stories by Yalowitz or poems by Ogg.

Some 80,000 paperclips were wrapped. Linked together, they form studded



Kaller Fine Arts in Washington (above) recently mounted an exhibit of Hester’s work. Her collections include “Relic #2” (right) and “Vessel #11” (below, right). “Wordfall” (below), a communal art installation of wrapped paper clips, is on view at the Athenaeum in Alexandria.



streams grouped into 16-foot-long cascades. Part of the billowing testament, “Wordfall,” is now on view with other works by Hester at the Athenaeum in Alexandria. It is one of five exhibits of Hester’s work to open from March to June in Washington and New York. The shows represent the result of two years of intense work.

Hester talks a lot about “circling back” in her art, as she has done by revisiting her early Strata series. Starting out with a single theme in mind, she lines up several pieces and paints all with the same grid or swirls. Then the paths of each diverge. “It’s almost like writing a novel. You know all the people, but not how they’ll inter-

act,” says the artist. “There’s an evolution that happens.” To decide when a piece is complete, Hester may take it home and live with it. “It has to offer something different each time I look at it,” she adds with the renewed pleasure of discovery. ♦

Tina Coplan is a freelance writer based in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Francie Hester’s new work can be seen in “The Spaces in Between” at Kaller Fine Arts (kallerfinearts.com) through June 14; in “Words and Letters” at the Athenaeum in Alexandria, Virginia (nvfaa.org) through June 22, and in a solo show there from June 26 to August 3. Find more at franciehester.com and wordsaslegacy.com.

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INSIDE LOOK PARTY

April 23, 2014—*Home & Design* celebrated the launch of its May/June 2014 issue with a reception at Reico Kitchen & Bath and FA Design Build in Woodbridge, Virginia. Guests mingled and perused the many collections and vignettes on display in the two adjoining showrooms. 1. Erin Paige Pitts, Roxanne Lumme. 2. Reico's Rich Maresco. 3. Shannon Kadwell, Sean Mullin, Keira St. Claire. 4. Peggy White Golden, Paula Kelley, Caron Broadway. 5. Leo Wilson, Richard Anuszkiewicz, Deborah Kalkstein, Douglas Burton, Morgan Howarth. 6. Bob Wickline, Robbie Wickline, Denise Smith, Beau Bevard. 7. Lisa Tureson, Pamela Harvey, Sue Rosenbaum. 8. Michael Kaperst, Yoshiko Monterio. 9. Publisher Tod Herbers, Mechelle Clements, FA Design Build's Rob Menefee.



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2014 DC DESIGN HOUSE OPENING CELEBRATION

APRIL 12, 2014—Designers and guests celebrated the 2014 DC Design House with a preview of the elegant Forest Hills home after it was transformed by local design teams. Proceeds from the evening, as well as ticket sales to the Design House, benefited Children's National Medical Center. *Home & Design* is a media sponsor. For full coverage, see page 156. 1. Front row: Diane Taitt, Cheryl Lynn Doyle, Gina Benincasa, Victoria Sanchez, Camille Saum, Katherine Vernot-Jonas, Melissa McLay, Tracy Morris, Susan Donelson, Sharon Bubenhofer. Center row: Joanne Fitzgerald, Kelley Proxmire, Anne Wenzel, Nadia Subaran, Marika Meyer, Nancy Colbert, Nicolette Powell. Back row: Chad Alan, Deborah Broockerd, Cindy Grossmueller, Whitney Hansen, TJ Monahan, Jeff Akseizer, David Benton. 2. Attendees with special guest Barry Dixon. 3. Nicolette Powell, Homa Nowrouzi. 4. Cheryl Lynn Doyle, Nestor Santa-Cruz. 5. Cathy Porter, Chase Plymale. 6. G. Chandler Fox, Taylor Wells. 7. Joanne Fitzgerald, Marina Placido. 8. Skip Singleton, Katie McBreen, Dr. Richard Jonas. 9. Diane Taitt, Denese Guadeloupe-Rojas. 10. Victoria Chapman, Nancy Colbert.



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CHESAPEAKE VIEWS LAUNCH PARTY

MAY 14, 2014—*Home & Design* hosted an event at Dream House Studios in Annapolis to celebrate the May launch of its new sister publication, *Chesapeake Views*.

1. Leo Wilson, Anne Wilson. 2. Erin Olexia, Kim Mohr, Lisa Publicover. 3. Susan Hardy, Bill Sutton. 4. Nick Ries, Vincent Thompson, Chris Neumann, Andrew Lehner. 5. Scarlett Breeding, Mark Sanders, Kevin Campion. 6. Melanie Scott, Kely Estigarriba. 7. Cathy Purple Cherry, David Attenberger, Lynn Lang, Gwen Legg. 9. Mike Prokopchak, Marta Hansen, Bret Anderson. 10. Caroline Reid, Elizabeth Reid.



PHOTOS © BOB NAROD AND MELODY RUSH





find it here!

1/ GRAND OPENING

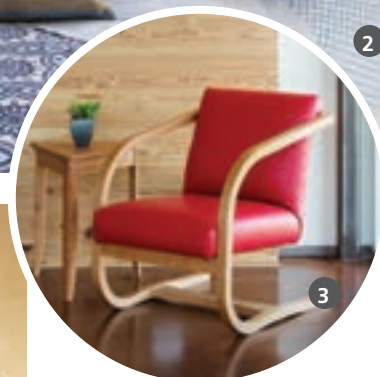
Popular home furnishings retailer Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams recently expanded its presence in the DC area with a 10,000-square-foot showroom, located at Tysons Galleria in Tysons Corner, Virginia. In the new space, the company's chic, transitional furniture, caseloads, lighting, area rugs, accessories, artwork and a bespoke bed linens collection are shown to advantage in vignettes like the one above, created by Gold and Williams. mgbwhome.com

2/ EXOTIC COLLECTION

Textile designer John Robshaw was inspired by trips to the South Pacific when he created his combed-cotton Petra Cobalt Duvet in a medallion block print. Made in India, the duvet and matching shams, with flange and envelope closures and embroidered stitching, complement the Cinde and Soma sheet sets, which come in 300-thread-count percale. Available through Dream House Studios in Annapolis. dreamhousestudios.net; johnrobshaw.com

3/ VERMONT STYLE

The clean-lined, comfortable Benson chair, from Vermont-based hardwood-furniture maker Pompanoosuc Mills, showcases thin strips of maple that have been laminated by hand to create a gently curving frame. Comes with a matching ottoman, in a variety of fabrics and leathers; available through the company's showrooms in Rockville, Maryland, and Alexandria, Virginia. pompy.com



4/ LUXE LEANINGS

The luxury furnishings showroom Nest 301 in North Bethesda has added chic, opulent furnishings by Fendi Casa to its repertoire. Pictured here, the Metropolitan dormeuse, a chaise from the Contemporary collection, upholstered in plain calf leather with a sleek steel frame. fendi.com; nest301.com



RESOURCES

GRAPHIC EDGE FROM PAGE 125



INTERIOR DESIGN: DAVID MITCHELL, David Mitchell Interior Design; davidmitchellinteriordesign.com.

LIVING ROOM—PAGES 116, 117, 118, 119

Sofa: Donghia; donghia.com. **Armchairs:** George Smith; georgesmith.com. **Sofa & Armchair Fabric:** Rogers & Goffigon; delanyandlong.com. **Coffee Table:** Laurin Copen; laurincopenantiques.com.

Rug: West Elm; westelm.com. **Vintage Console & Photographs:** Owner's collection. **Lamp, Custom Fireplace Surround, Desk & Throw:** David Mitchell Interior Design. **Desk Chair:** Maison Grange NYC; grange.fr. **Stool:** Marston Luce Antiques; marstonluce.com.

DINING ROOM—PAGE 120

Table: David Mitchell. **Vintage Dining Chairs & Swedish Art Deco Chandelier:** Owner's collection. **Chair Fabric:** Rogers & Goffigon. **Etagères:** David Mitchell for Salvations Architectural Furnishings; salvationsaf.com.

KITCHEN—PAGE 121

Cabinets: Custom. **Countertop/Backsplash:** Calacatta Gold marble. **Antique Table & Vase:** David Mitchell Interior Design. **Vintage Stool:** Owner's collection. **Hardware:** Lee Valley Hardware; leevalley.com. **Roman Shade Fabric:** Rogers & Goffigon.

PORCH—PAGES 122, 123

Sofa & Chairs: Palecek; palecek.com; **Sofa & Chair Fabric:** Stroheim; stroheim.com. **Coffee Table & Pillows:** David Mitchell Interior Design. **Star Table:** David Mitchell for Salvations Architectural Furnishings.

TV ROOM—PAGE 124

Sofa: Lee Industries; leeindustries.com. **Armchair:** Hickory Chair; hickorychair.com. **Sofa & Chair Fabric:** Osborne & Little (osborneandlittle.com) and Clarence House; clarencehouse.com. **Floor Lamp:** Circa Lighting; circalighting.com. **Rug:** Custom by David Mitchell. **Coffee Table:** David Mitchell for Salvations Architectural Furnishings. **Pedestal Side Table:** David Mitchell Interior Design.

BATHROOM—PAGE 124

Wall Tile: Renaissance Tile & Bath; renaissance tileandbath.com. **Tub:** WET through Renaissance Tile & Bath. **Floor Tile:** Custom.

BEDROOM—PAGE 125

Vintage Bed: Owner's collection. **Armchair:** Andrew Martin; andrewmartin.co.uk. **Armchair Fabric:** Donghia. **Biedermeier Chest of Drawers:** Karl Kemp Antiques; karlkemp.com. **Rug:** West Elm. **Drapery Fabric:** Ralph Lauren Home; ralphlaurenhome.com.

FAMILY AFFAIR FROM PAGE 135



INTERIOR DESIGN: ELEANOR NIERMANN, Niermann Weeks; niermannweeks.com.

ARCHITECTURE: GARY SCHWERZLER, Fourth Street Design Studio; fsds.biz. CONTRACTOR: S.D. Park Builder; 410-757-1614. Unless otherwise noted, all items are antique or designed and sourced by Niermann Weeks.

STUDY—PAGES 126, 127

Painting above Console: Joe Niermann.

Painting above Desk: Douglas Freeman; douglasfreemanartworks.com. **White Lamp:** Moth Design; mothdesign.com.

HALLWAY—PAGE 128

Painting above Metal Chair: Lara Murray.

LIVING ROOM—PAGES 130, 131

Club Chairs: Tomlinson/Erwin-Lambeth; tomlinsonerwinlambeth.com. **Fabric:** Bergamo; bergamofabrics.com. **Painting:** Joe Niermann.

KITCHEN—PAGE 133

Cabinetry: IKEA; ikea.com. **Table:** Custom by Eleanor Niermann, fabricated by Niermann Weeks.

Stools: Crate & Barrel; crateandbarrel.com. **Console:** Marston Luce Antiques; marstonluce.com.

UPSTAIRS HALLWAY—PAGE 134

Stair Railings: Designed by Eleanor Niermann, built by Carter Fabrications; carterfabricationsinc.com.

GUEST ROOM—PAGE 134

Armless Chair: Nancy Corzine; nancycorzine.com.

MASTER BEDROOM—PAGE 135

Roman Shades: Smith & Noble; smithandnoble.com. **Carpet:** Design Materials; dmikc.com.

CITY CHIC FROM PAGE 143



INTERIOR DESIGN & CONTRACTING: LORI GRAHAM, Lori Graham Design + Home; lorigrahamdesign.com.

LIVING ROOM—PAGES 136, 137, 138, 140

Rug: Timothy Paul Carpet + Home; timothypaulhome.com. **Matching Sofas:** ABC Carpet & Home; abchome.com. **Pillows:** C&C

Milano (cec-milano.com) through Holland and Sherry; hollandandsherry.com; Gretchen Bellinger (gretchenbellinger.com); Bergamo (bergamofabrics.com). **Chair Upholstery:** C&C Milano. **Painting:** Robert Mellor. **Chandelier:** Shine By S.H.O. (shinebysho.com) through Lori Graham Home. **Stool**

& Coffee Table: Lori Graham Home. **Draperies:** Kravet; kravet.com.

DINING ROOM—PAGE 139, 143

Table: Lori Graham Home. **Chandelier:** CL Sterling (clsterling.com) through Lori Graham Home.

SITTING ROOM—PAGES 141, 142, 143

Greek Key Chairs: Vintage. **Leather Upholstery on Chairs:** Great Plains by Holly Hunt; hollyhunt.com. **Throw Pillows & Rug:** Timothy Paul

Carpet + Home. **Photographs:** Barbara Probst; barbaraprobst.net. **Art on Easel:** Teo Gonzalez; contemporarywing.com. **Draperies:** Kravet. **Trim:** Trend Fabrics; trend-fabrics.com.

EASY RHYTHM FROM PAGE 155



INTERIOR DESIGN: MICHAEL ROBERSON, ASID, Michael Roberson Interior Design; michaelroberson.com. RENOVATION ARCHITECTURE: CHARLES

MOORE, AIA, Moore Architects; moorearch.com. RENOVATION CONTRACTOR: GN Contracting; gncontracting.com.

LIVING ROOM—PAGE 145

Sofa: Custom by Michael Roberson. **Sofa & Armchair Fabric:** Pollack; pollackassociates.com. **Slipper Chair & Fabric:** Donghia; donghia.com.

DINING ROOM—PAGES 146, 147

Chairs: Andreu World; andreuworldamerica.com.

Chair Fabric: Rogers & Goffigon; delanyandlong.com.

Pendant Lights: Tech Lighting (techlighting.com) through Dominion Electric; dominionelectric.com. **Sideboard:** IKEA; ikea.com.

KITCHEN—PAGES 148, 149

Table: Saarinen through Knoll; knoll.com. **Chairs:** Eames through Herman Miller; hermanmiller.com.

Pendant: Tech Lighting through Dominion Electric. **Cabinetry:** Custom. **Sinks & Fixtures:** Kohler; kohler.com. **Range:** Dacor (dacor.com) through Appliance Distributors Unlimited; adu.com.

Flooring: Expanko Cork (expanko.com) through Architectural Coatings; archcoatings.com. **Art:** Robert Stark.

TOWER—PAGES 149, 150, 151

Chairs, Ottoman & Fabric: Donghia.

SCREENED PORCH—PAGES 152, 153

Chaises: Niermann Weeks; niermannweeks.com.

Fabric: Sunbrella; sunbrella.com. **Lamps:** IKEA.

Fan: Fanimation; fanimation.com. **Chairs:** Andreu World. **Table:** Country Casual; countrycasual.com.

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LUXURY HOMES



Summer has arrived with this issue's Notable Listing, which showcases a sprawling beachfront retreat (above) in North Bethany Beach. With water views at every turn, this spacious abode reflects the bringing-the-outdoors-in sensibility that prevails in today's custom homes. Similarly, our builder profile highlights AV Architects + Builders and its most recent project: a wooded home (left) in McLean, Virginia, that emphasizes a strong connection to nature with abundant windows, easy outdoor access and outdoor living spaces that make enjoying the al fresco life a breeze. Also in this issue: model homes, industry news, top home sales and more.

Industry UPDATE

Buyer Preferences

A recent survey by the National Association of Home Builders revealed that convenience, livability and energy efficiency are top priorities, along with features such as walk-in master-bedroom closets, low-E windows, a dedicated laundry room and a great room. Granite countertops, double sinks and a central island are winning elements in kitchens, while linen closets and private WCs are popular for bathrooms.

Green Features

During the first quarter of 2014, the most popular green-building features were high-performance windows in Low-E and Argon gas designs; high-efficiency HVAC systems; programmable thermostats; moisture-control products like bathroom fans; and Energy Star appliances, according to a McGraw Hill Construction green-building study. Ceiling fans, water-conservation fixtures and high-performance insulation were also common. Seventy percent of remodelers used programmable thermostats and 62 percent used ceiling fans.

New Home Stats

According to the United States Census Bureau, of the 569,000 single-family homes completed in 2013: 518,000 had air-conditioning; 251,000 had four bedrooms or more; 188,000 homes had three bathrooms or more; 166,000 had a full or partial basement; and 305,000 had two or more stories. The average single-family house was 2,598 square feet.



A bedroom in a house at Camberley Homes' Willowsford community.

WHO'S BUILDING WHAT

Scenic Views

Camberley Homes' 4,000-acre Willowsford community in Ashburn, Virginia, includes 2,000 acres of conservancy-managed open space with forests and parkland; picnicking sites; canoeing and fishing in nearby Willow Lake; and camping areas connected by more than 40 miles of nature trails. The 3,800- to 5,000-square-foot homes were designed exclusively for Willowsford; the decorated Milburn model has an open floor plan, ample windows, hardwood floors and flexible spaces. A kitchen and oversized breakfast area invite leisurely gatherings, while a mudroom caters to active lifestyles. The front porch affords views of the countryside and an optional morning room and covered back porch provide additional living space. Priced from \$889,900. 703-542-7390; yourhomeyourway.com/camberley

City Living

Designed by architecture firm Foster + Partners, The Residences at CityCenter in downtown DC encompasses 216 condominiums with open layouts emphasizing natural light. Modern interiors include finishes in natural hues, custom details and green-building materials. Kitchens offer Molteni



The Residences at CityCenter.

custom cabinetry in bleached wood, walnut or white lacquer; Caesarstone counters; Miele, Thermador or Liebherr refrigerators with integrated panels; Bosch cooktops; and Miele dishwashers. Terraces feature sustainable wood decking. Services include a concierge, fitness center and two rooftop parks. Priced from \$600,000 for one bedroom and \$1 million for two. 202-232-2022; residencesatcitycenterdc.com

Natural Beauty

NV Homes' Schooley Mill Farm combines conveniences with pristine countryside amid views of wetlands, woodlands and meadows. Located in Highland, Maryland, 3,000-square-foot, shingled homes on one-acre sites feature two-car, side-entry garages and brick stoops and fronts. Interiors include four bedrooms, hardwood flooring on the first floor, furniture-grade cabinetry and granite countertops in the kitchen and bathrooms. The community offers baseball diamonds, basketball courts, tennis courts, an equestrian ring and an indoor gym. Priced from the upper \$990s. 240-444-2378; nvhomes.com



An interior in NV Homes' Schooley Mill Farm.

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A Strong Partnership

AV Architects + Builders brings an architecture-driven focus to its design/build work

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOB NAROD

Francisca Villarroel Alonso and Antonio Alonso both hail from Spain—but they met while studying architecture at Catholic University. After graduating, they married and pursued separate careers, then ended up pooling their talent in 2001 when they founded AV Architects, pllc. Within a couple of years, however, they realized they wanted more control over their designs in the construction phase of each project. At that point, they launched AV Architects + Builders—a full-scale renovation and custom-home construction company with architects and builders under one roof. “There are a lot of design/build companies,” Francisca points out, “but very few are headed by architects rather than builders. We have created an unusual niche.”

The Alonsos see many benefits to the way their firm does business. Among them is the sense that having an architect in the field





The "360 Home" (above, left) boasts a stone-and-brick exterior. A custom kitchen (this page) is adorned with a stone backsplash and marble counters. Details include a wrought-iron front door (left) and a stone wall encasing a two-sided fireplace (opposite, bottom).

LUXURY HOMES | BUILDER PROFILE



Outdoor living spaces include a travertine-paved grotto.

during the building phase adds another level of value for the client. “We control costs during design and protect the design during construction,” Francisca explains. Adds Tony, “No one understands the design better than the designer. We’re the ones who can make necessary changes during construction without compromising the design’s intent.”

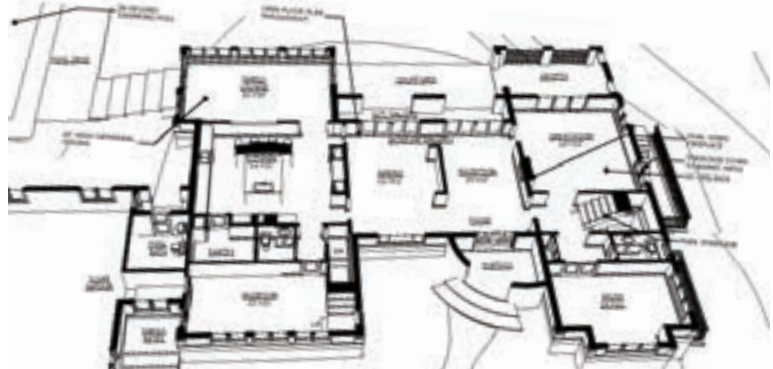
Over the years, AV Architects + Builders has developed a style of its own, rooted in the traditional European vernacular each partner experienced while growing up in Spain. “It’s a hybrid of traditional and modern. We use traditional materials like wood and stone that are warm and appealing, but add a modern touch in terms of design,” Francisca explains. “We offer modern floor plans that are in alignment with the lifestyles of our clients.” Open layouts, clean lines and lots of glass characterize the interiors of projects by AV Architects.

An example of this aesthetic is currently represented by a soon-to-be-completed spec home in McLean, Virginia, the couple has dubbed the “360 Home.” The idea was hatched after the Alonsos had completed numerous renovations in which they had to “solve the problems of traditional homes.” These included layouts in which there was unused space in the house, poor flow, an under-utilized yard and more. “Francisca had a list of the top 20 issues we needed to solve,” says Tony. “So we created a design that would address them.”

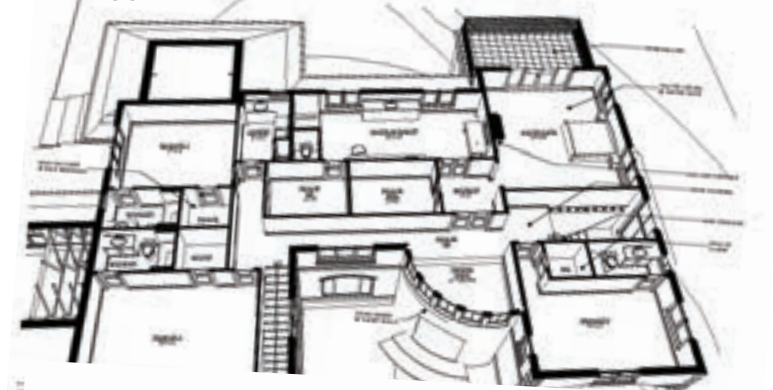
Measuring more than 10,000 square feet, with 2,000 square feet of pre-designed outdoor space, the 360 Home boasts an open-plan layout. Staircases are located at the ends of the house instead of in the middle to eliminate dead space, and only three doors—two to the bathrooms and one to the library—separate the ground-floor spaces from one another. The airy design emphasizes easy living, both for family and entertaining purposes; a functional, casual vibe; a seamless flow to a host of outdoor spaces that include balconies, patios, a grotto and a pool; natural materials like stone, wood, metal and glass; a low-voltage LED lighting system; and Control 4 home automation.

The 360 Home is a prototype; buyers can choose from other, similar designs. The house is currently on the market for \$3.5 million.

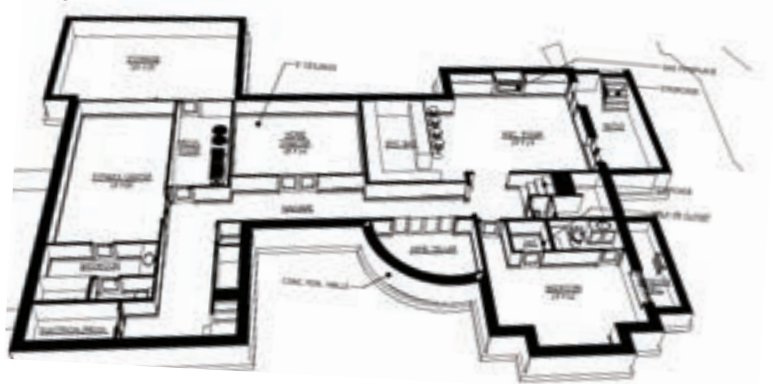
MAIN FLOOR



2ND FLOOR



BASEMENT



FACTS & STATS

In addition to its founders, AV Architects + Builders employs six staff members, including designers and administrators. The Alonsos personally oversee each project.

SPECIALTIES

The firm completes four to six projects per year. Twenty percent of them are custom homes and the rest are renovations. Most are located in Northern Virginia.

INQUIRIES

Francisca Villarroel Alonso, CEO, and Antonio Alonso, AIA, AV Architects + Builders, 1650 Tysons Boulevard, #1580, McLean, Virginia 22102; 703-865-5065; avarchitectsbuid.com.



Clockwise from top, left: The great room opens to the grotto; a mudroom makes organizing easy; the master bath tub is surrounded by Crema Marfil marble and a mosaic-tile wall with a two-sided fireplace; and the periphery of the kitchen boasts custom cabinetry.

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MODEL
HOMES
3 TO SEE



Preserve at Rock Creek

Stanley Martin is featuring seven floor plans at The Preserve at Rock Creek, a community of new luxury homes located near Shady Grove Road in Montgomery County, Maryland. Homes range from 3,111 to 4,056 square feet; with additional structural options, they may expand to 6,121 to 7,364 square feet. 301-258-3406; stanleymartin.com



Tufton Springs

Steuart-Kret Homes' Tufton Springs is an enclave of five one-acre-plus home sites in Baltimore County, Maryland. The Edgemoor model boasts such features as a first-floor owner's suite that enables homeowners to age in place and a library separated from the rest of the house by French doors. 443-908-0935; skhomes.com



The Meadows

Visitors to Ryan Homes' Oberlin Terrace model at The Meadows in Ashburn, Virginia, are greeted by a dramatic waterfall staircase, study, family room and kitchen with walk-in pantry and breakfast bar. Home sites are as large as a half acre and border tree lines or community green space. 703-327-5277; ryanhomes.com

NOTABLE LISTING



When the summer heat hits DC, this sprawling oceanfront estate in North Bethany, Delaware, is the perfect escape. Built in 2000, the Coastal-style home in the gated community of Bayberry Dunes offers 5,639 square feet of living space on an extended corner lot measuring .29 acres. Water views abound with multiple decks and ocean-facing windows; luxury extras include an elevator, private beach and outdoor shower. Featuring seven bedrooms and seven full and one half baths, the property is priced at \$4,995,000. 39671 Bayberry Dunes Lane. Inquiries: Henry Jaffe, Ocean Atlantic Sotheby's International Realty. 302-296-6646; henryjaffe.com

BY THE NUMBERS

Ready to Buy

In a new survey by realtor.com, 13 percent of respondents said they're ready to buy a luxury home and another 26 percent are considering a high-end home purchase. "The luxury-home buyer is an important contingent of today's real estate market, as luxury homes tend to drive trends throughout the entire balance of the marketplace," says Barbara O'Connor, chief marketing officer at Move, Inc.

Luxury in the NFL

Former Redskins safety LaRon Landry—now of the Indianapolis Colts—has listed his Leesburg, Virginia, home for sale at \$2.2 million; he paid \$2.3 million for the home in 2007. At nearly 8,000 square feet, the home boasts a dual-island kitchen and luxury appointments throughout.

Shark Tank

Former Washington Wizard Gilbert Arenas recently cut the price of his 9,000-square-foot home in Great Falls, Virginia, for the third time. Originally listed for \$3.5 million, the asking price is now \$2.8 million. Among its unusual selling points: multiple shark tanks.

85

The number of homes in the DC area that are currently priced at \$1 million or more.

TOP 10 HOME SALES

Price	Address	City, State
\$6,000,000	3303 Water Street NW #8N	Washington, DC
\$4,920,000	3106 N Street NW	Washington, DC
\$4,700,000	2045 Dogwood Lane	Charlottesville, VA
\$4,100,000	10 Wissioming Court	Bethesda, MD
\$3,975,000	3023 Q Street NW	Washington, DC
\$3,764,040	2121 Leroy Place NW	Washington, DC
\$3,750,000	1111 19th Street N, #3001	Arlington, VA
\$3,200,000	8506 Country Club Drive	Bethesda, MD
\$3,100,000	1287 Ballantrae Farm Drive	McLean, VA
\$3,065,000	6609 Kennedy Drive	Chevy Chase, MD



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1004StHelenaIsland.com

Reisterstown \$2,095,000



2304TuftonRidgeRoad.com

Baltimore \$2,000,000



1728RuxtonRoad.com

The Preserve \$1,999,900



10395KingsbridgeRoad.com

Dayton \$1,900,000



4074LinthicumRoad.com

Emmitsburg \$1,699,000



10720DernRoad.com

Clarksville \$1,650,000



13628GilbrideLane.com

Lutherville Timonium \$1,500,000



498WhithornCourt.com

Gaithersburg \$1,499,900



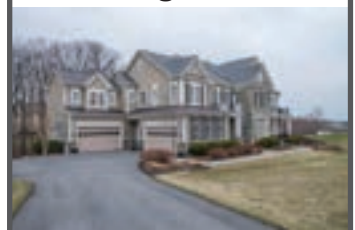
21644RipplemeadDrive.com

Glenwood \$1,400,000



3621BroadleafCourt.com

Clarksburg \$1,300,000



24010BurntHillRoad.com

Reisterstown \$1,299,000



2404LongRidgeRoad.com

Highland \$1,250,000



13445PondFieldCourt.com

Myersville \$1,200,000



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Ellicott City \$1,150,000



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Clarksville \$1,100,000



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14680DorseyMillRoad.com

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Harking back to an earlier era, 1891 Hunter Mill Road in Vienna feels like a World Apart. These 5.3 Rolling Acres are home to one of the most storied homes in Virginia history. The main house, greeting the world with a gracious wide front porch, was erected in 1747 by Lord Fairfax, to serve as his Hunting Lodge. Today, the property, with 4 separate structures, offers a rare opportunity to offer lodging to family or friends. The main home presents 5 bedrooms, including a main level master bedroom suite, and 3.5 baths. It retains much of the original hardwood and brick flooring and enjoys 4 masonry fireplaces, including one in the master bedroom. An inviting Screened Porch overlooks the countryside and the In-ground Pool. A two-level Carriage House presents a complete guest house, with a Rec Room and Game Room (reminiscent of an old pub) with gas fireplace and wet bar, as well as an upper level bedroom and kitchenette and full bath. A one room outbuilding, formerly used as a "Smoke House", is a perfect potting shed for the avid gardener. A two-level Bank Barn has entrances on both levels and offers about 2000 square feet of storage space. ... Relax, sit in a rocker on the front porch and gaze out over the countryside, where your horses can graze, your dogs or kids can frolic, and where you can enjoy a life not often found in this hectic world. ... Hard to believe you're just 1 mile from the new Silver Line Metro. 1891 Hunter Mill Road has a Story to Tell. Make the next Chapter your Story.

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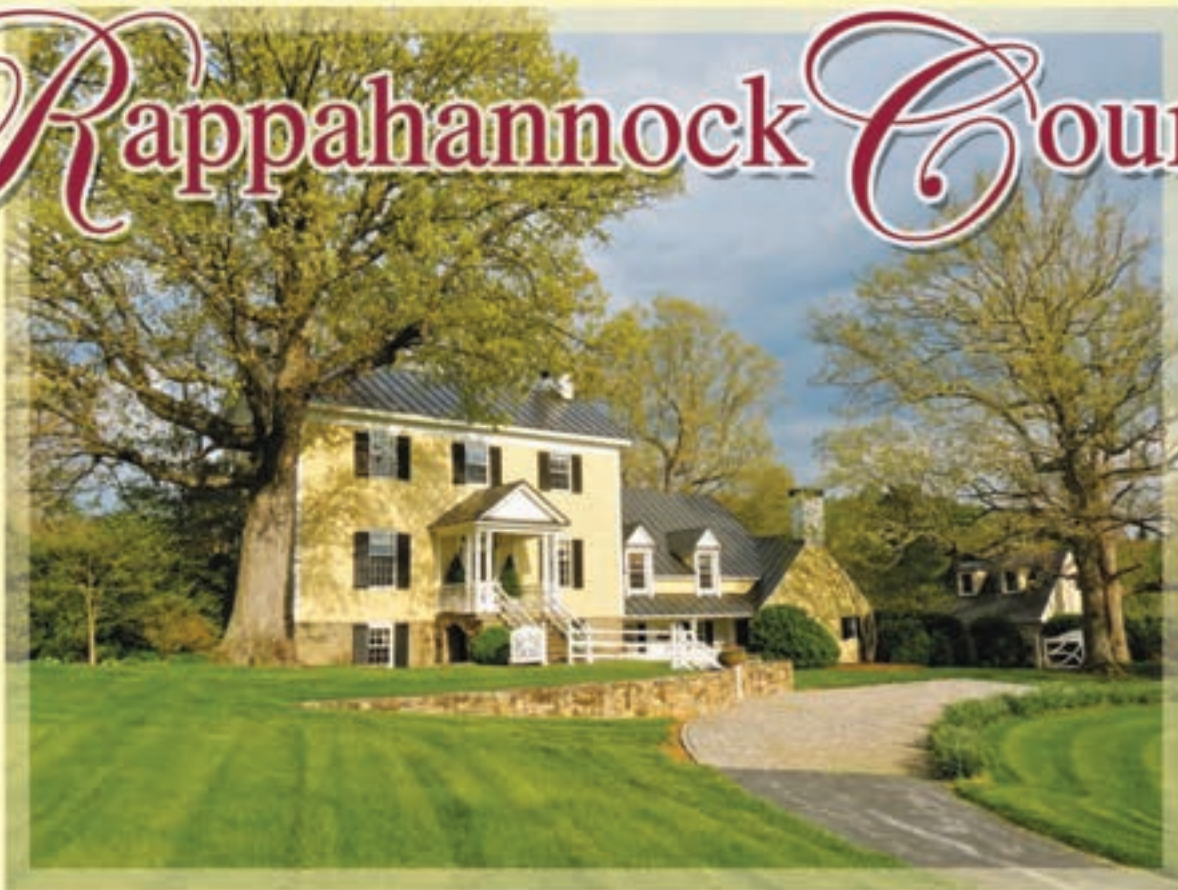
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Rappahannock County



Millwood ~ c: 1836

A classic Virginia farming estate of 154 acres in the heart of Rappahannock County, Virginia. Expansive Blue Ridge Mountains view, formal and informal entertaining, his & her studies, four bedrooms and baths, pool with log pool/guest house, garages, farm buildings and a three acre lake with charming party house, gas lamps and stone fireplaces. Significant tax credits available for conservation of development rights. \$2,500,000. Extraordinary furnishings also available. Only one hour west of the Beltway



Kitchen Breakfast Room



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Bethany Beach **\$2,175,000**

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South Bethany **\$1,595,000**

Stunning like new 5 BR ocean side home steps to the beach. This coastal gem offers impressive ocean views, open inverted floor plan & irresistible great room.



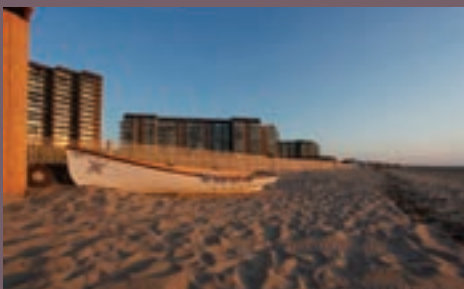
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Stone manor house in spectacular setting on 86.81 acres in a highly protected area. Gourmet kitchen, wonderful detail throughout, 5 bedrooms, 4 full and 2 half baths, 3 fireplaces and classic pine paneled library. Tenant house, stable, riding ring, heated saltwater pool, Pergola and full house generator. \$4,900,000.

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Canaan

Upperville, Virginia

118 acres in protected Piedmont Hunt territory. Main house is stone with a slate & copper roof recently expanded to approximately 7,000 square feet. Amazing views of stunning property and Blue Ridge Mountains. 2 bedroom guest house w/ gym and artist's studio. 3 bedroom tenant house overlooking the western pond. 4 stall stable w/ heated tack room, grass jumping arena, cross fencing. Heated pool w/ pool house & stone terrace. Heated 4 car garage & 2 ponds. \$5,925,000.

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Faraway Farm

Middleburg Area

Impeccable solid stone home with copper roof & original portions from the 1700's. Expanded to include a 1st floor bedroom & 3 additional suites. Original floors in library, den & dining room with 8 fireplaces throughout. 70 acres in a dream-like setting with 2 ponds, mountain views, pastures & stone walls. Home is surrounded by mature gardens, pool & primitive log cabin. \$3,350,000.

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Wood Hill

Middleburg, Virginia

Quintessential Middleburg property. Located in the heart of fox hunting country and ideally situated just 3 miles from the quaint village of Middleburg. This 49 acre property has an elegant 1940's brick colonial home, stable, cottage, apartment, pool, tennis court, grand mature trees and sweeping lawn to Goose Creek which surrounds most of the property. This is a classic. \$3,300,000.

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Trough Hill Farm

Middleburg, Virginia

Surrounded by 103 acres of protected land is this pastoral farmhouse & grand stone pavilion. Elegant but unfussy. Constructed of native fieldstone, Honduran mahogany and exquisite millwork. Originally a large game room, today a pool house and guest quarters. Trough Hill gracefully combines a 5 bedroom c. 1830 Virginia farmhouse with understated elegance. Original floors, 9 fireplaces and 2 ponds. \$2,950,000.

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Belvedere

Middleburg, Virginia

Gracious home with 5 bedrooms and carriage house. Gourmet kitchen includes every amenity imaginable. Rooms are generous in scale including the two-story floor-to-ceiling window display of the Blue Ridge Mountains. 3 fireplaces, coffered ceilings, and random width rustic cherry floors. Large home office, gym, rec room, multiple porches and patios. Three finished stories, approx. 10,000 sf. Privately situated on 27 acres. \$2,650,000.

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Buck Run Farm

Hume, Virginia

Stone & stucco cottage overlooking 2 ponds and amazing mountain views. 72 acres with minimal maintenance and maximum quality throughout shows in every detail. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 3 fireplaces, copper roof, antique floors and beams. Lovely kitchen and baths, charming library and multiple french doors open to a massive stone terrace. \$1,925,000.

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Lions Lane

Boyce, Virginia

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Adams Green

Middleburg, Virginia

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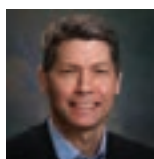
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Named for the King of Fairies in Shakespeare's *A Mid-Summer Night's Dream*, Oberon's Wood is a magical property of bewitching gardens, alluring woodlands and a heavenly home that casts a perfect spell. Four bedrooms, two and a half baths, 5.5 acres and infinite charm. **\$825,000**

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Berry Hill is country living at its finest. It is a delightful farm with a 4 bdr. "Planter's Cottage" style home and 25 outstanding acres, breathtaking mountain views, old stone walls and a large pond. The property features a perfect little vineyard of about 2 acres. Includes an additional 4-car garage. **\$1,195,000**



F.T. VALLEY HIGHLANDS, SPERRYVILLE

This is a grand country home in the Virginia tradition with 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths and plenty of room for everyone. The rooms are spacious and the home is in excellent condition. Included are lovely gardens, pool, pool cabana, and two car garage. The property is 40 acres with about 15 acres of lush pasture. **\$1,195,000**



KILBY FARM LANE, SPERRYVILLE

This grand home has one of the most stunning sites in Rappahannock County. On 70 acres, it has over 6,000 sq. ft., 4 bdrs., 4 bths., a gourmet kitchen and a large finished basement. The property includes a full apartment above and lovely landscaping. **\$1,450,000**



BRONSON LANE, SPERRYVILLE

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OLD HOLLOW, SPERRYVILLE

This 8.3 - acre property has a wonderful variety of vegetation from mountain forest to some of the most captivating country gardens in Rappahannock County. The beautifully remodeled country home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and lots of charm. **\$495,000**

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Unparalleled 6BR/5.5BA contemporary home w/ over 9000+SF of finished living space. Features: soaring ceilings, embassy sized rooms, floor-to-ceiling windows throughout, multiple skylights, 5 fireplaces. Backyard features a gorgeous pool. **\$3,495,000**
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Bethesda

Beautiful NEW custom 5BR/4.5BA home. Built with highest quality materials and finishes. Features hardwood flooring, oversized windows, custom millwork, recessed lighting throughout. Gourmet chef's kitchen, separate dining & living rooms, large backyard and great location! **\$1,998,500**
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Bethesda

Impressive 6BR Colonial in desirable Hillmead neighborhood. 6000+SF home features: fresh exterior paint; front porch; grand 2 story LR; hardwood flooring; main lvl office; finished LL w/in law suite, kitchenette & bonus RM; MBR suite w/spa bath; & more! **\$1,695,000**
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Bethesda

Beautiful, sun-filled 4BR/5.5BA home in Westmoreland Hills Overlook. Features: hwood flooring throughout, formal LR & DR, 2 FPs, Family RM w/ built-ins & wet bar, granite & SS kitchen, sunroom off kitch that walks out to amazing flagstone patio; 3 BR's on UL all w/ en-suite baths. **\$1,575,500**
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Arlington

Frank Lloyd Wright Inspired 3BR/2.5BA Home. Winner of Arlington Preservation Design Award for Residential Major Addition. Features: formal DR; remodeled family RM w/vaulted ceiling & oversized stone fp; MBR suite w/exposed stone & vaulted ceilings. **\$1,495,000**
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Falls Church

Charming Cape Cod on 1 acre lot in Ravenwood. Home beautifully renovated & expanded: remodeled bathrooms; new pella windows throughout; MBR suite addition w/ walk-in closets & spa-like bath; extensive hardscaping & landscaping in the large, level backyard. **\$1,250,000**
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Vienna

Stately colonial in Langley HS pyramid. This 4 BR/4.5 BA home backs to parkland and features: updated kitchen and baths, high ceilings, oversized windows, hardwood floors, two fireplaces & more. Professionally landscaped backyard with pool, gazebo and three decks. **\$1,235,000**
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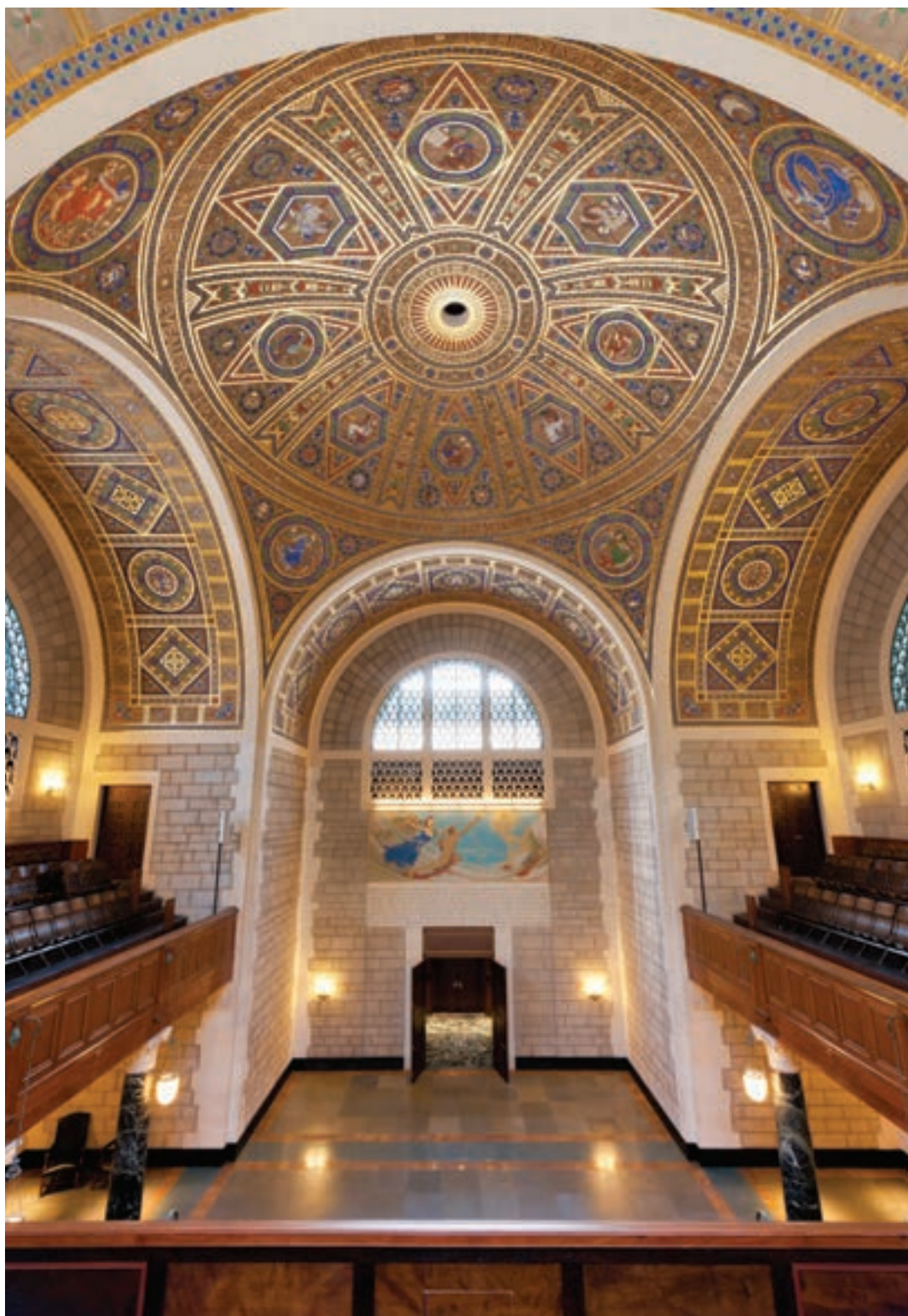


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preserving history



The stately, neoclassical National Academy of Sciences building in DC has been revitalized. Designed in 1922 by Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue, it was added onto in 1965 and 1970 but had remained untouched since.

Tapped to renovate this landmark, Quinn Evans Architects restored its historic envelope, overhauled outdated mechanical systems and implemented sustainable technologies. "We reconfigured it to create more public spaces," says project manager Thomas Jester. "We made courtyards into atriums and restored gallery space for the Academy's art collection."

In the great hall (left), decades of dirt and smoke were removed from the dome, which was originally faux-painted and gilded in the '20s by muralist Hildreth Meiere. LED lights now illuminate the space and wood surfaces have been rejuvenated.

The restoration received an award of excellence from the AIA's Northern Virginia chapter and a 2013 District of Columbia award for Excellence in Historic Preservation. —Julie Sanders

RENOVATION ARCHITECTURE:
 Larry Barr, AIA, principal in charge;
 Thomas Jester, AIA, FAPT, LEED
 AP, project manager, Quinn Evans
 Architects, Washington, DC.
 CONSERVATION: The Gilders'
 Studio, Inc., Olney, Maryland & F.C.
 Vogt Company, Richmond, Virginia.
 CONTRACTORS: Gilbane Inc.,
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