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Architect: Charles Hilton Architects
Photographer: Robert Benson Photography

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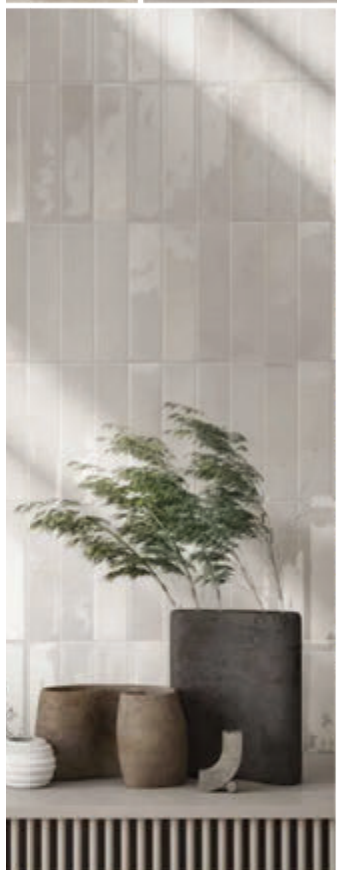
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VOLUME 21 ISSUE 1 | 2024



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EDITOR'S LETTER



"It's not about standing still and becoming safe. If anybody wants to keep creating, they have to be about change."

—Miles Davis

Miles Davis' quote can be applied to many facets of life, but I am going to apply it to my publication.

Design + Decor Publications is celebrating 20 years this year, and I can tell you that we have never stood still. Some of you may remember our growth from *Fairfield County Home* to *East Coast Home + Design*, when we did not stand still in the wake of one of the worst financial crises we faced. Instead, we continued to create and changed our distribution models to encompass what the industry needed.

Fast forward to 2017. Again, we did not stand still, but opened a new market for us, and *Gulf Coast Design + Decor* was born. We rebranded in 2018 to once again embrace change, and became *Design + Decor* Publications, serving the Northeast and Florida markets.

My partner, Shelley, and I have always looked at our publication as a way to serve our clients and readers. We were the first digital publication in our market—again, not standing still. We have created custom content for our partners and readers by anticipating their needs and wants, again not standing still.

We have featured many styles over the past 20 years, from traditional to modern and somewhere in between. We've even gone avant-garde, introducing how fashion and home design intertwine—what you see on the runway, you will see in home textiles, colors and shapes.

We at *Design + Decor*, along with our industry partners of architects, interior designers and builders, have not stood still—we have all pushed the envelope in what we do. We search and educate ourselves to bring you, our readers and clients, a world of change so you can decide what you want for your most sacred place—your home.

"There is no playing it safe if you want to move forward and stay relevant."

—Matthew Kolk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Kolk', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew J. Kolk
Editor in chief

DESIGN +DECOR

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Trendspotting: Off to the Market

High Point Market, NC, is a biannual show that industry innovators and insiders flock to with great anticipation. New collections are debuted at the show—just like at runway fashion shows in New York, Paris and Milan.

Here we present two acclaimed design firms, Rinfret Interiors and Moose Interior Design, and their finds from Fall Market 2023.

CINDY RINFRET
RINFRETLTD.COM



Tommy Fisher "Orchids in Tree" Wall Relief

"TOMMY MITCHEL WALL RELIEFS - THESE MAKE FOR AN ELEGANT TALKING POINT IN ANY ROOM. THEY DO CUSTOM ANYTHING IN ANY AREA. WE JUST DID ONE IN A SPA!"



Daysky Console from Century Furniture

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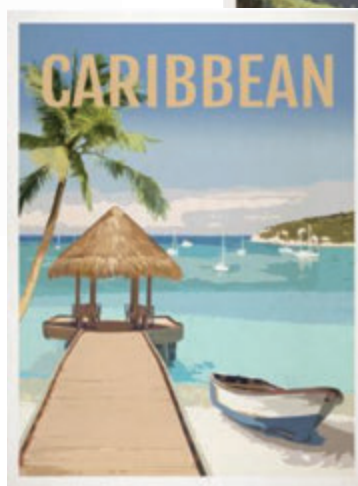
Sky Cabana from Couture Jardin





The Porter Mirror from Regina Andrew

“THIS CLASSIC NAUTICAL MIRROR FROM REGINA ANDREW HAS THAT NANTUCKET LOOK THAT I LOVE.”



Travel Art from Art Classics

“ART WITH A FUN TRAVEL VIBE, GREAT FOR FAMILY ROOM OR POWDER ROOM.”



The Fisher Weisman Sutton Collection from Visual Comfort

“FISHER WEISMAN FOR VISUAL COMFORT LIGHTS AND SCONCES. IT’S LIKE ART DECO JEWELRY FOR YOUR LIGHTING NEEDS.”



KATHERINE COWLEY

MOOSEINTERIORDESIGNS.COM

“NATURAL STONE WITHIN FURNITURE LIKE COFFEE TABLE AND NIGHTSTANDS - THIS WAS MY ABSOLUTE FAVORITE TREND TO SEE. I ALWAYS LOVE TO TRY AND USE NATURAL TONES WHEN FURNISHING A HOME. THE ITEMS FROM BAKER FURNITURE WERE BREATHTAKING. I FEEL THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT EARTHTONES THAT EVOKE A CALMING ATMOSPHERE. SHOWN HERE: COVE COCKTAIL TABLE SMALL AND LARGE, BAJA NIGHTSTAND AND MONACO NIGHTSTAND, ALL FROM BAKER FURNITURE.”



*The Baja Nightstand
from Baker Furniture*



*The Monaco Nightstand
from Baker Furniture*



*The Cove Cocktail Table
from Baker Furniture*

“THE COLOR GREEN! IT WAS REFRESHING TO SEE AN ACCENT COLOR THAT WAS NOT BLUE, BROWN OR OFF-WHITE. ALTHOUGH I LOVE THOSE COLORS, IT WAS NICE TO SEE THAT GREEN IS FINALLY GETTING SOME LOVE. IT COULD BE USED TO CREATE A MOODY ROOM BY DRAMATIC PAINT COLOR, OR BE USED AS A POP OF COLOR WITHIN THE SOFA OR THROW. SHOWN HERE IS THE SLOAN SOFA FROM VERELLEN.”



The Sloan sofa from Verellen

“PLASTERED/TEXTURED LAMPS AND ART-
 WORK - I HAVE SEEN PLASTER AND TEXTURE
 BEING USED A LOT FOR A WHILE NOW, AND I
 THINK IT IS SAFE TO SAY IT IS STAYING. THIS IS
 A DESIGN TREND I LOVE TO SEE EACH YEAR AT
 THE MARKET. SHOWN HERE ARE TABLE AND
 FLOOR LAMPS JILLIAN, ALANIS AND ADRIANA,
 ALL FROM ARTERIORS HOME. HADWIN ART-
 WORK FROM MADE GOODS.”



Hadwin artwork from Made Goods



*The Adriana floor lamp
 from Arteriors*



*The Jillian lamp
 from Arteriors*



*The Alanis lamp
 from Arteriors*



DAVID STURBRIDGE LIGHTING

DAVIDSTURBRIDGE.COM

The Tūi Chandelier

Inspired by New Zealand's beautiful native bird the Tūi, half rings of bamboo are woven into a basket form that would sit perfectly over a dining table, kitchen counter or equally hanging in a stairwell or entrance void.
davidtrubridge.com.com



The Outdoor Coral Chandelier

David Trubridge Lighting's award-winning Coral pendant, inspired by nature and geometric polyhedral, remains their most popular light to date. To celebrate the 20th anniversary, they've launched Outdoor Coral. It also happens to be the only light produced outside of New Zealand – it's made right here in the USA. A high-pressure laminate material called Panelex – along with wet location UL electrics – enables the new Coral pendant light fixture to be used outdoors.
davidtrubridge.com.com



The Toru Chandelier

The light's unique three-sided shape is the third pendant light inspired by microscopic diatoms which live in water and produce 50% of the air we breathe. A donation from every sale in the series goes to Sustainable Coastlines, who focus on looking after our ocean. The light adds an element of sculptural nature as it can be installed either horizontally or vertically.
davidtrubridge.com.com



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QUOTES

TAKING A BACKSEAT FOR 2024

As industry experts, we are always looking ahead at what is trending for the next year, well we wanted to have a little fun and ask our partners "What would you like to see go away in 2024".

Yes, it is a bit controversial, and taste is very selective to one's desire so do not worry if you still love some of these trends that is all that really matters!



MARIA LOIACONO
MARIA LOIACONO INTERIORS

The all-white cabinetry kitchen is giving way to warm natural woods - bold blue and every shade of green - making the kitchen more than ever feel like a gathering space for the entire family.
marialoiaconointeriors.com



LINA GALVAO
CURATED NEST INTERIORS

In 2024, Curated Nest predicts a continued emphasis on coziness and comfort, with soft edges, curves, and organic shapes leading the charge in furniture and interior architecture - think rounded kitchen islands, fluted marble applications, and curved furniture. We'll see lots of moody blues and greens, plus rich, luxe tones of brown and warm neutrals. Tailored, traditional looks will reign supreme with plenty of modern updates, like raw and knotty woods and square/checkerboard patterns, while light and airy farmhouse styles will be less popular. We'll probably see less use of heavy contrast with matte black hardware and doors / windows, though the look will still be used within a softer context.

curatednest.com



DIANE RATH
THE RATH PROJECT

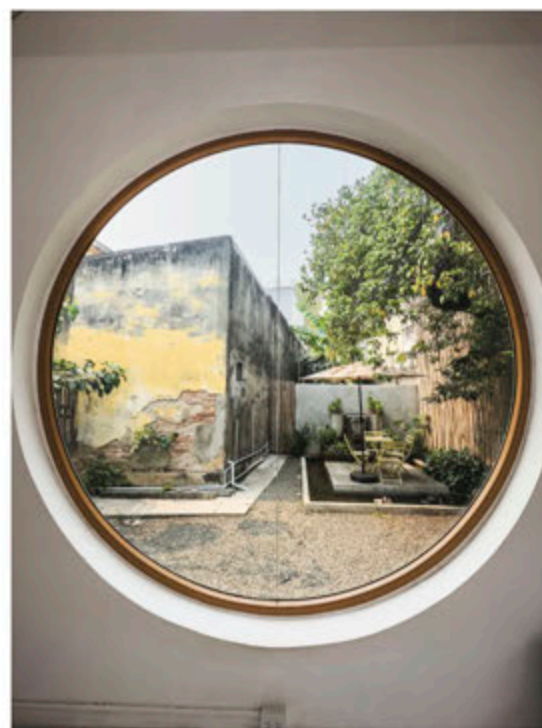
I anticipate a further departure from squared, hard, and angular lines in residential design, with a greater shift towards softer curves in architecture and interior finishes. Think oversized curved cabinet pulls, arched doorways - including, and especially, arched tiled shower enclosures, and a re-emergence of circular windows. As we are embracing a more comfortable, approachable way of living as a whole, I imagine our homes will continue to reflect that softer, more gentle approach as well.
therathproject.com



DANA KOEBBE
DANA KOEBBE INTERIORS

Fluted cabinetry has been a popular design trend that I believe will soon become outdated. Cabinetry and millwork are an expensive investment and should be designed with longevity in mind.

danakoebbeinteriors.com



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therathproject.com





**DAVID LA PIERRE
CARDELLO ARCHITECTS**

The "Modern Farmhouse" trend, including barn doors and shiplap walls, is fading, just like the shine on our once-loved chrome finishes. Interiors are embracing a more subdued elegance, swapping out the gleam for matte textures and ditching mirrored furniture in favor of a softer aesthetic.

cardelloarchitects.com



**CAROL KURTH
CAROL KURTH ARCHITECTURE + INTERIORS**

Design done well is timeless. Design of past decades is being reimagined and re-loved.

Everything is in when thoughtfully and creatively put together - mix & match vintage and new. Have fun with what speaks to you!

carolkurtharchitects.com



**CARLA SNOWDON
TIDEWATER LIGHTING & DESIGN**

This Jan of 2024 we are seeing a lot of white finishes in light fixtures. Brass finishes of many shades are still going strong. Black still holding its own but farmhouse looks in black are out. Clean simple lines in light fixtures becoming more and more popular. Glass fixtures taking the back seat. Lastly organic fixtures such as rope, wicker, ratan, jute and string like fixtures very popular. And oversized fixtures are being used allowing the light fixture in the home becoming a focal point.

tidewaterltg.com



**CARLOS SOLANO
STAMFORD MODERN**

I believe it's time for a change in the architectural landscape. The ubiquity of black and white houses has left us yearning for more diversity and character in our surroundings. We have a deep appreciation for intricate details, and it appears that the prevailing trend in new constructions leans heavily towards the monochrome palette. Let's celebrate and embrace a more varied and vibrant spectrum of designs that bring back a sense of uniqueness and individuality to our homes.

stamfordmodern.com

**JOA STUDHOLME
FARROW & BALL**

Whilst we're not in the business of being too prescriptive, especially as it concerns trends, we have seen a move away from cold tones like pale grays and stark whites. The use of white on trim will definitely wain as people continue to experiment with colour combination, and delight in how these unexpected combinations make them feel. Farrow & Ball makes colours that have a timeless charm and create different feelings within spaces, so we urge an embrace of life's rich rainbow, as well as a play with texture and pattern (i.e. hanging wallpaper across ceiling, the contrast of Dead Flat and Full Gloss within a space).
farrow-ball.com



**CYNTHIA VENGROW
VITA DESIGN GROUP**

All white everything with expected minimal materials is out for 2024. Although that design trend made the home feel quiet and calming, the aesthetic became expected. Clients are now embracing ultra-luxe materials for 2024. We are using them in upholstery, with lush velvets and soft leathers, stone with deep-veined marbles in amazing hues, and metals that patina beautifully to make a more dramatic notable statement in their homes. We are excited for VDG's 2024 custom homes.
vdgarch.com



**LISA HELDWHITE
BREAKWATER RENOVATION & DESIGN**

Our clients are moving away from the neutral white & grey color schemes. I am seeing color being added back into rooms, primarily with accent walls incorporating color with texture and/or pattern.
breakwaterdesignbuild.com



**DOUGLAS GRANETO
DOUGLAS GRANETO DESIGN**

Going into 2024 we're seeing a shift in how we use materials that we love, moving away from recently popular colors and finishes, and presenting them in a fresh way. Much as we love white boucle, for example, we're now using this versatile fabric in colors like moss green or petrol blue. White oak is another much loved material. We still enjoy its warmth and texture, but we're seeing it used in deeper tones, and we're introducing other woods such as walnut and deep rose-woods.
douglasgraneto.com





LARA MICHELLE

LARA MICHELLE BEAUTIFUL INTERIORS

What's going out of style is minimalistic design! Clients (and myself!) as well as the younger generational clients desire traditional design that is cool and clean looking. Not your grandmother's version of traditional, no heavy draperies and overflow of florals. Think rather of a refined, edited blend of chic patterns, textures, and colors. Use of hardwoods, marbles, and thoughtfully placed moldings and decor curated together to create warm, inviting and visually stunning spaces.
laramichelle.com



CHRIS QUINN

QUINNINDICO CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS

What's phasing out for '24 is the use of gray accents and white everything. We have seen a resurgence of bold bright colors filling spaces in the homes we are building. Nothing is better than walking into a space that is lively and colorful and brings out the personality of each client... Cheers to those bold individuals who have adopted "more color is better" these days!
quinndico.com



MYLENE DELNERO ORNARE

Style trends in architecture and interior design that we're seeing less of is the use of contrasting shapes, colors and patterns that over stimulate the eye. More and more we're leaning towards a smooth, monochromatic, and minimalistic tone throughout the home. Neutral colors using a variety of materials (fabric, wood, metals, glass, and lighting) with clean lines.
ornare.com



PRUDENCE C. BAILEY PRUDENCE HOME AND DESIGN

As we see a strong forward push of warm and cozy interiors embracing bold colors and textures in interiors for 2024, trends that have been at the forefront for some time are starting to disappear. Anything minimalistic, ultramodern and industrial are on the way out for 2024 in order to make way for layered spaces drenched in color and pattern! We couldn't be happier to say goodbye to gray!
prudencehomes.com



JOHN C. GEDNEY III
WAGNER POOLS

Natural shape pools are out for 2024. Swimming pool customers are looking for swimming pools and spas with automatic covers. This enables parents to have another barrier to keeping small children out of the pool, and is a great safety feature. Automatic covers keep the heat in the pool, most debris out, and lower the costs for adding chemicals to sanitize and balance the swimming pool and spa water. You need to have a rectangular shape pool and spa to be able to install an automatic cover in most cases. The cover tracks and motor are hidden under the pool and spa coping. While natural pools are beautiful, there is no easy way to install an automatic cover on them.
wagnerpools.com



MELISSA ADAMS
ADAMS INTERIOR DESIGN

Outdated and no longer in style is the concept of DIY if one lacks the proper expertise. Many projects that would have been attempted by homeowners over the past few years are now going to skilled professionals. Clients are striving for better style and quality, even if it means doing less.
aidesignny.com



LUKE SCULLY
GLENGATE COMPANY

The trend of acquiring fast furniture for outdoor spaces is fading away as clients increasingly prioritize quality design and opt for luxury brands that last for years. Instead of going to the big box stores for a quick fix, homeowners are seeing that their exterior design deserves the same attention and investment as their interiors—and they are shopping accordingly.
glengatecompany.com

MICHAEL HAWKES
ACORN DECK HOUSE COMPANY

It's time to move beyond conventional on-site Construction and start exploring the benefits of off-site construction. Without sacrificing customization, it can offer more predictable quality, cost, and time.
deckhouse.com





**LEAH DIAMOND
LEICHT KITCHENS**

Restriction to one style is out, and the creative spirit of mixing and blending styles to create a distinctive design is in. The evolving trend towards a warm modern European kitchen with its many timeless and personalized characteristics will continue to soar in 2024.
leichtgreenwich.com
leichtwestchester.com



**RAY MARTIN
RAY MARTIN INTERIORS**

The proliferation of once-iconic furniture is out; it's time for overexposed Jeanneret-style V-legged chairs to walk away. Also, modular seating: Out with matchy-matchy sofa and chair "sets." Instead, mix it up with various silhouettes for a uniquely curated space.
raymartinteriors.com



**JONATHAN GORDON
DESIGN BY THE JONATHANS**

Cool neutrals are out, at least for now, and warm is in. Gray is trending towards taupe and beige, white is moving towards off-white, and even black is being pushed towards a very dark warm gray or brown. It will all come back around again, but for now this seems to be where it's heading. Believe it or not, stainless-steel appliances are out. Paneled appliances are coming back with a vengeance, and painted or custom-color appliances are very much in. There will always be a place for stainless-steel appliances, but they've reigned supreme for nearly three decades now and things are beginning to change – what was old is new again!
thejonathans.com



**BRENDA MACLEISH
CALIFORNIA CLOSETS**

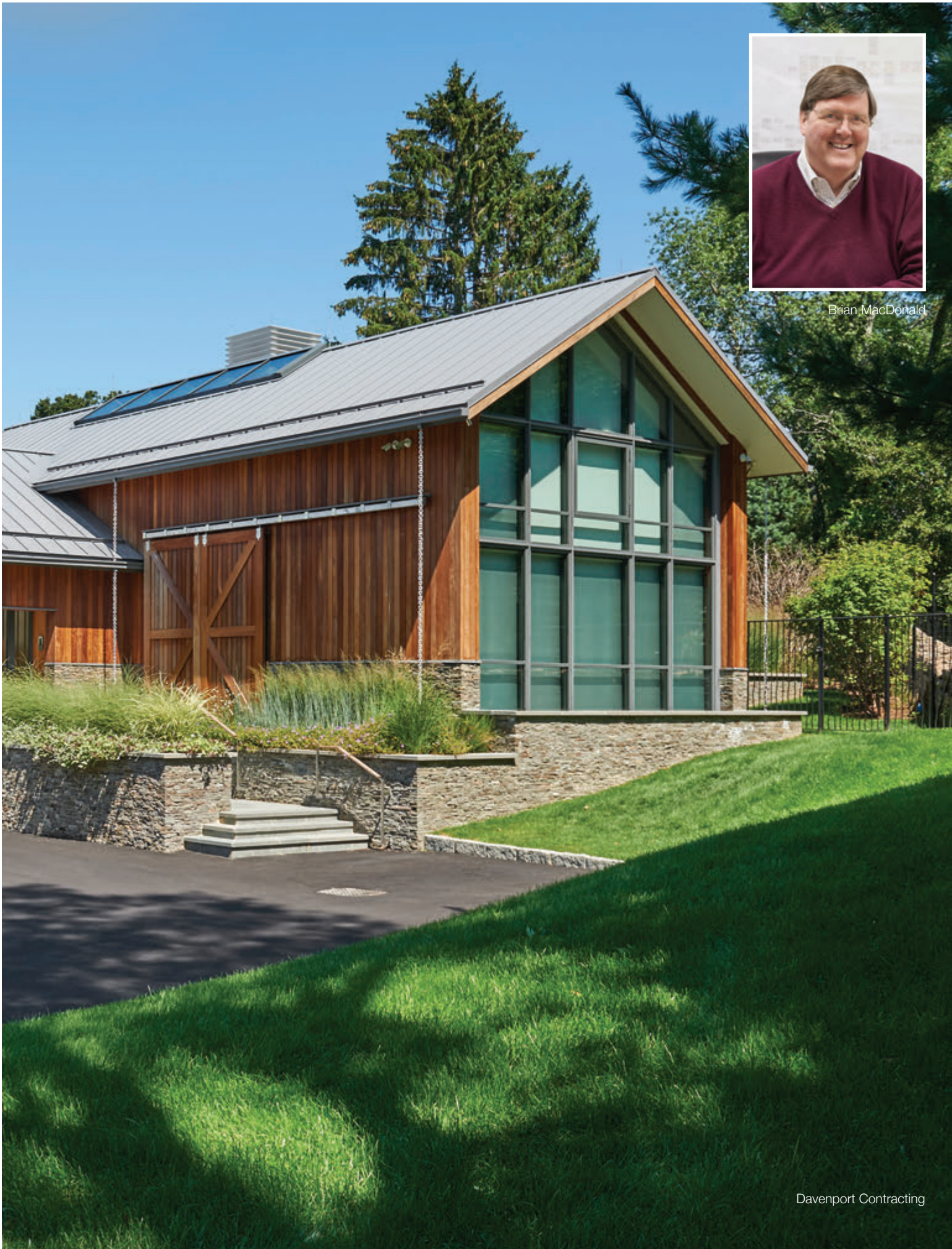
As we have moved more to needing or desiring comfort (the COVID years), hard lines and bold statements, whether it comes to color, furniture or texture are on the way out along with open plan living spaces. We are moving to looking inward instead of outward.
californiaclosets.com

ARCHITECTURE + BUILDING

TWENTY24: THE TRENDS THAT WILL SHAPE OUR HOMES

StorY by Danielle Porter

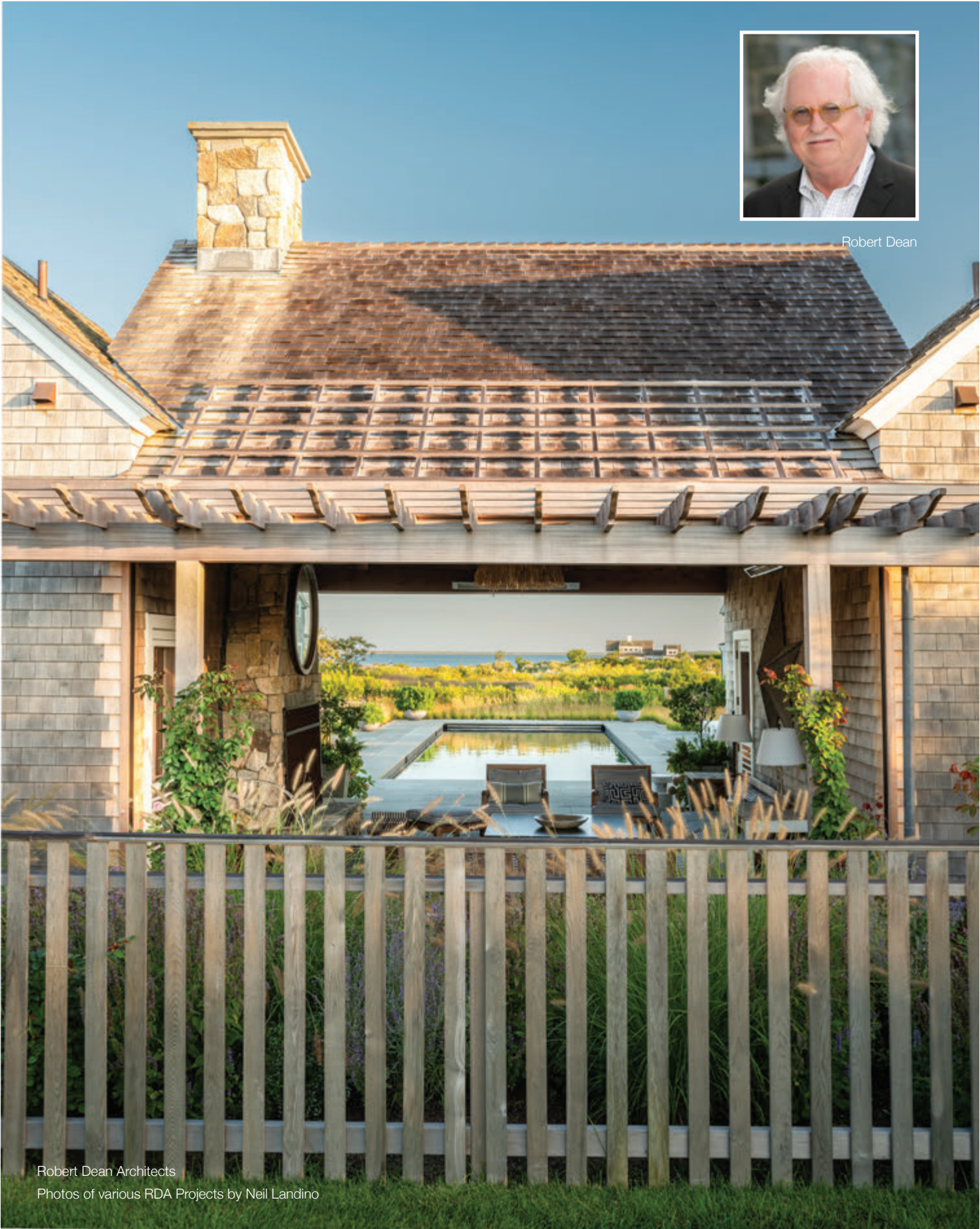




Brian MacDonald



Robert Dean



Robert Dean Architects
Photos of various RDA Projects by Neil Landino



Peter Cadoux Architects



Robert Dean Architects

As 2023 fades into the rearview, the design world has set its sights on 2024 and all that is in store. This year, home design promises to focus on sustainability, technology and health-centered spaces, to name just a few target areas. We met with leading local experts to hear their insights on what to expect in home design for the year to come—and beyond.

D+D: What trends do you see in store for design and architecture?

Ryan Fletcher | Fletcher Development

Without a doubt, artificial intelligence (AI) is happening fast in the design world. We're using AI to generate a lot of ideas quickly and to provide things we always needed a person for—it is changing how we practice. Traditional is also coming back in design approach, colors, materials, and even detailing.

The bigger picture is that there is a sensitivity to building costs—it's out of control. It doesn't always make sense to build right now, and we're seeing a complete inverse in the proportion of new home builds to renovations from last year to this year. People are choosing to stay in place and do major, full home renovations. Manufacturers are making



Peter Cadoux



Peter Cadoux Architects



Davenport Contracting

their products better—more sustainable, efficient, etc.—but the costs of the products go up at every point in the supply chain, and we absorb it all, and it isn't sustainable. It looks like a correction is coming.

Brian MacDonald | Davenport Contracting

In new construction, we're seeing some new, modern homes that have classic and traditional exteriors and a clean modern interior. In renovation work, it's a fascinating dichotomy. Half the people are renovating their homes to make them look like they've been there for 100 years, and the other half are renovating to make them look more modern. It seems to go one way or the other, with little in between. The lean toward traditional and classic houses is something we're seeing happen in the coming year.

D+D: With sustainability taking a more center stage in 2024, what are some practices you will be incorporating in design or building materials?

Peter Cadoux | Peter Cadoux Architects

Creating sustainable environments requires the consideration of both energy efficiency and air quality with daylight and views—

and it's a delicate balancing act. When you add glass, you need to adjust for the heat gain, and you need to ensure you're circulating clean air and not creating stale space. We want to connect people to the exterior, but being thoughtful about the whole chain of events is critical.

Robert Dean | Robert Dean Architects

The shift tends to be toward natural materials that are heavily modified by some kind of production technology. There used to be a prejudice against using anything but natural materials, but now the sustainable process and the quality or longevity of, for example, an engineered wood floor, may be better than that of a natural solid hardwood floor. We benefit from the technology of engineered flooring, and it still gets the natural material where the homeowners can see it."

D+D: What does flexible and multifunctional space mean for the future of design?

Ryan Fletcher | Fletcher Development

Everyone wants flex space—basements and covered porches are the two primary ones we see. Basements used to be just open



Ryan Fletcher



Fletcher Development



Fletcher Development

space where the kids could run around. Now, parents recognize how much time the family spends there and are looking for those spaces to be more specifically planned—rock wall, homework areas, home office. It's become more intentional.

Peter Cadoux | Peter Cadoux Architects

Clients may come in looking for a 10,000-square-foot home, but efficient and flexible planning can get it done in 7,000 square feet, achieve all their needs and leave money in the budget for upgrades. The true trend here is the indoor/outdoor living experience. It can be an outdoor porch in the summer and a heated, screened porch in the winter.

Brian MacDonald | Davenport Contracting

We're seeing the concept of multifunctional living take hold in the living room. It wasn't always used much, but now it's more of a family room. It may have a bar area, with music integrated and more comfortable seating. The multifunctionality is about modifications to the traditional living spaces that make them usable in more ways.

D+D: While smart technology is nothing new, it is changing at a rapid pace.



Robert Dean Architects



Peter Cadoux Architects

What are you seeing on the horizon for devices and systems?

Ryan Fletcher | Fletcher Development

Smart technology is a hot topic, but we're only in the first inning of designing or building an actual smart home, and no one has truly defined what it means. Music, lighting and window-shade controls have been around forever, and it's rapidly evolving to include things like clean air, clean water, even light fixtures that respond to daylight. Even if the technology is impressive, it doesn't make sense if the owner can't justify the return on

investment.

I founded Vibrant Building Technologies to address this issue. Our goal is to disrupt the construction space by delivering technology that gives homeowners the information they need to improve their daily quality of life. Our initial focus is on clean air and water as well as the electric supply.

Peter Cadoux | Peter Cadoux Architects

Technologically, the idea of a smart home is one with a broad



Peter Cadoux Architects

spectrum of technology and systems. We integrate more and more of it as homeowners seek more control in their homes. Generally, full lighting control, HVAC control and even control for solar panels are gaining traction, but by far the most important component is security. This is particularly important in a second home that the homeowner wants to monitor from a distance.

Robert Dean | Robert Dean Architects

Some technology is so abstract that the owners don't understand it, so they aren't necessarily asking for smart systems in their home. Yet they expect the technology to be there and to be manageable from anywhere. It's an evolving electronic environment in the home, and it's becoming more common. It'll be a big focus in the next 10 years or so.

Brian MacDonald | Davenport Contracting

Clients seem to want the technology, but some clients are steering away from it to a degree. Technology evolves so quickly, so there is a question of when it will be obsolete, and whether they should invest in the technology for something as long term as a home. Will it still be operable in 10, 20 or even 40 years? Will there be parts for it? Will it need to be entirely replaced? It's interesting that people may not want to depend on that technology system to turn on their light, but would rather revert to a light switch.



Peter Cadoux Architects



Fletcher Development



D+D: Mental health is a central topic lately. How are you designing homes to promote relaxation and stress reduction?

Ryan Fletcher | Fletcher Development

We're still seeing the importance of wellness-centric spaces in the home. We currently have two homes in the works that have wellness centers that are 2,000 and 1,500 square feet—a substantial 10% of the homes' footprints. These are essentially dedicated wings of the home, where the homeowner can go to spend a few hours at a time. It's a destination and an experience that can include relaxation rooms, saunas, cold plunges and stretching rooms.

Peter Cadoux | Peter Cadoux Architects

Fitness rooms and gyms have always been popular, but yoga and meditation rooms are a growing trend in homes, too. Getting daylight in is great—adding in all the glass—but we remind our clients that there are days you won't want it, so we add in areas of refuge. These are simply small spaces in the home—a den or small gathering room—where you don't have to compete with the environment and can just exist.

Robert Dean | Robert Dean Architects

There is a strong desire to bring the outdoors in—spaces that aren't just for show, but are comforting and tied to the outdoors. Integrating bifold doors and larger openings can help make that connection; it's a small thing that makes the house feel more livable and less static.

D+D: What futuristic materials are you integrating that will offer structural, environmental and other advantages?





Robert Dean Architects

Robert Dean | Robert Dean Architects

For us, it's more about using materials in more innovative ways. Mass timber materials allow us to get larger spans in space and other materials afford us more creative building opportunities. It's also about the technology within the materials, much of which is hidden behind the surface of the product.

Brian MacDonald | Davenport Contracting

We do a fair amount of antique homes, and are seeing people actually lean toward antique or historic materials. For example, when we need to integrate a window that looks antiqued, we do it with a double-pane window, where it looks antique from the outside, but there is no distortion from the inside. When it comes to futuristic aspects, that's more in the electronic elements. Materially, we're going back to the old materials and making them feel new again.

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Davenport Contracting

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Robert Dean Architects

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Robert Dean Architects



DOPAMINE DESIGN: SPACES THAT LIGHT US UP

Imagine stepping into a space that immediately relaxes you, lifts your mood, and sparks a sense of joy within you. While a minimalist, neutral and modern aesthetic has been a staple in home design for the last decade, the pendulum has swung, and color, pattern and texture are back. We spoke with three designers known for their vibrant designs to learn the secrets of creating spaces in our homes that trigger the “dopamine response”—the same effect we get from the “feel-good hormone,” dopamine

Story by Danielle Porter







Known for an eclectic and creative vibe that permeates its designs, Antonio Pippo Interiors is no stranger to taking risks with color, graphics and texture in its spaces. Founder and Principal Owner Antonio Pippo is inspired by the blank canvas of space—the opportunity to create something special—and he and his team certainly deliver.

For Antonio, what is the unexpected, underlying element that influences how well space is received? The layout. Antonio is a big believer in function over form. It is key that a space functions properly, has seating for everyone, and provides a variety of settings, particularly more intimate settings in open concept homes. These elements kickstart the good vibes and, from there, joy and vibrancy are layered into the space, uniquely inspired by each client.



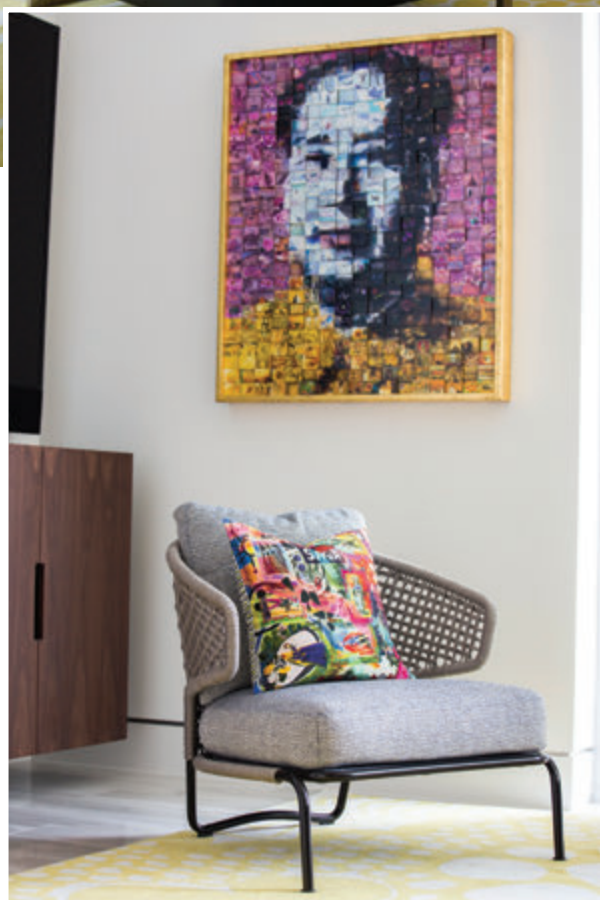
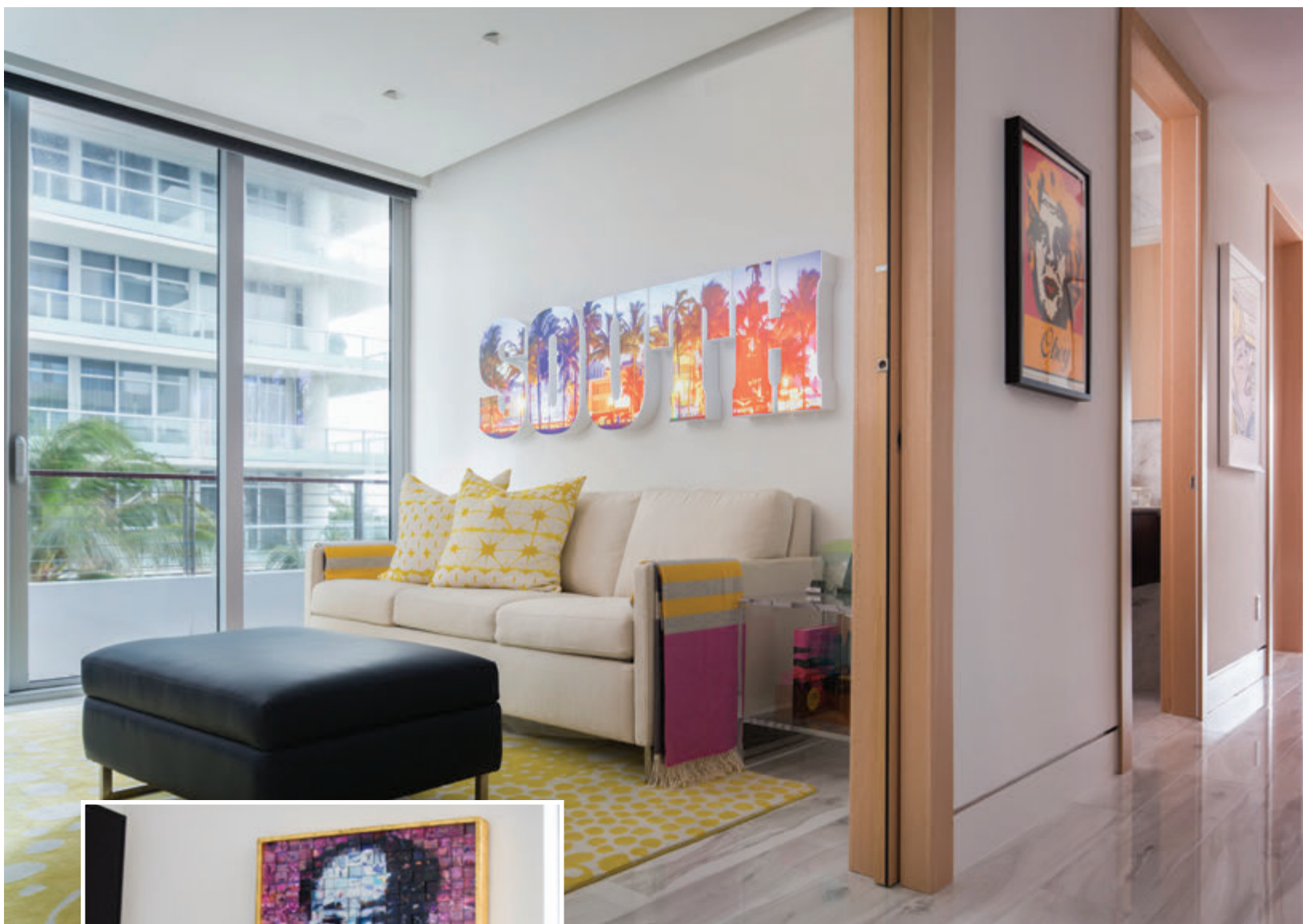
In the Miami home of a longtime client, inspiration came from an unexpected place—a pair of soft cranberry-colored, vineyard vines shorts. Using this, Antonio transformed the home with color and character, perfectly representing this preppy, creative aesthetic. The overall space has a crisp white hue throughout, and each space was given a color to set the tone for that room. The result is a holistic and joyful experience that delights at every turn, and is further adorned by the couple's expansive art collection.

The connected dining and living room spaces are tied together through beautiful shades of blue.

In the dining space, a custom Bocci handblown glass chandelier brings in shades of tropical blues while anchoring the dining table, and is perfectly balanced in the living room through the upholstery and unique glass coffee table.

The media room has a confident, signature yellow. The patterned area rug brings depth, while the gas station-inspired wall sign evokes the vivacious South Beach lifestyle. Also notable, the citrus-toned guest





room is bright, welcoming and perfectly balanced with wood tones and natural daylight—the epitome of happy.

More than anything, says Antonio, if you're looking to bring a sense of happiness to your home, "Go with your gut instinct—if it feels wrong, don't do it." He's not a fan of following every trend. Trends can be implemented here and there if you like them and they feel good in your space. Ultimately, however, space that is classic and timeless, and features pieces you can change out along with your own personal evolution, will make a space last and bring you joy for years to come.

Resource:

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PRUDENCE BAILEY
PRUDENCEHOMES.COM





When it comes to creating spaces that bring homeowners joy, Prudence Home & Design has it down to a science and is well known for its use of color and pattern mixing in spaces. “Color adds a smile to a room,” says Prudence Bailey, founder and principal designer of the firm, and if you’ve seen the spaces she and her team have designed, you may be inclined to agree.

The Prudence Home & Design team starts each project by getting to know its clients and understanding exactly what inspires them and brings them happiness in their home and daily lives. They work collaboratively so they can interpret and transform what they learn into a uniquely personalized space that can evoke that dopamine feeling for years to come.

While it changes from client to client, the common thread seems to be in creating a sense of comfort—a space that “makes you want to come in and sit down because it feels good,” says Prudence. Whether it’s a dominant color, the feeling that a particular chair gives, or even how a piece of artwork is highlighted in a room, if the space invites you in and makes you want to stay, it’s good.

In Prudence Home’s designs, cohesiveness is key. There is generally a





“star of the show” that is center stage, which all the other elements play off and visually support. The importance of how everything “comes together and the elements talk to each other to create the overall story,” says Prudence, cannot be emphasized enough in these spaces.

In the Edgerton project, a young girl’s bedroom was transformed into a delightfully playful yet sophisticated space, with a symphony of eclectically youthful but chic colors and patterns. It’s almost surreal how the vibrancy of the pink mirrors, the teal and green area rug, and the bold draperies are so perfectly balanced that they give the illusion that the softly toned wallcovering is almost neutral in the space. The room is exemplary of the firm’s work—an artful balance of vibrant color and subtle sophistication on every level.

Resource:

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prudencehomes.com*

STEPHANIE RAPP

STEPHANIERAPPINTERIORS.COM

PHOTOS BY JANE BEILES AND RAQUEL LANGWORTHY





For Stephanie Rapp, owner and principal designer at Stephanie Rapp Interiors (SRI), “light and bright” may often be the mantra for designing happy spaces, but she believes it’s the elements that “stop us in our tracks and engage the brain” that really trigger the dopamine effect.

Much as one cannot see light without darkness, Stephanie finds that color is most effective when it is a contrasting moment or “pop” in a space. Whimsical patterns and artwork have a special place in her designs. She says they’re “inspiring and make us smile”—particularly in children’s spaces where they can add an element of fun.

What Stephanie really loves are the elements we don’t expect to see in a space—something quirky, exciting or different. A particular signature approach of SRI is a brilliant fearlessness when it comes to wallcovering. In a playroom for a long-time client, the wallcovering simply repeats, “p.s. I love you,” in a handwritten font, over and over. From a distance, it reads as pattern, but as you approach, the





message becomes clear, and it's one that melts the heart no matter your age.

In a young boy's bedroom, the space is fairly neutral—gray and white with a warm, wood-tone floor. The impact, however, is in the accents. The feature wall is clad with a deep charcoal wallcovering that has an almost storm cloud texture and bold yellow lightning bolts throughout. It's simple, yet exciting, and is perfectly complemented by the charcoal-and-yellow area rug. Soft accents of yellow and orange adorn the room, tying it all together.

The result here is a playful and youthful space that can evolve and grow with ease over time, sparking joy at a variety of stages of life. Stephanie reveals that, for her, a happy space has "that special

something that sets it apart—that feeling of seeing something you love when you walk into a room, and you can't help but smile." Unquestionably, her designs deliver.

Resource:

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KITCHENS



Christopher Peacock

CLEVER APPLIANCE HIDEAWAYS

Got a messy kitchen? Customized kitchen
garages can help bring order.

Story by Shehla Lucanera





Leicht Kitchens



Karen Berkemeyer Home
Photo by Tim Lenz

Enticed by the aroma of percolating coffee and the promise of delectable treats, everyone gravitates to the beating heart of the home: our warm, cozy kitchen. Our fondest memories of home are often associated with the kitchen, amid the atmosphere of great food, heartening conversations, and love. But all that wonderful, soul-nourishing activity can leave the kitchen a bit of a mess, with meal prep causing chaos and appliances taking up valuable counter space. Imagine if we could just wave a wand and quickly stash away all those no-longer-needed kitchen appliances, leaving us with a clutter-free, sleek and attractive workstation and relaxing kitchen environment.

A clever and stylish appliance hideaway or “kitchen garage” can perform as beautifully as a magic trick. A kitchen garage is a specially designed custom cabinet, usually at counter-top height, that seamlessly and conveniently closes up,



AMS Kitchens



Christopher Peacock



Karen Berkemeyer Home
Photo by Jane Beiles

hiding away the toaster oven, coffee station, microwave, kitchen aid and anything else you use frequently. A clever hideaway is not a new engineering concept, but if you work with the right kitchen designer, you can be assured that your kitchen garage will look modern and flawless, and feature the finest of today's cabinetry options.

Design + Decor consulted some top kitchen designers to reveal the pros and cons of the kitchen garage, and to share some exciting options to consider for your next remodel.

Kitchen garages appeal to homeowners for many reasons. "Beautiful coffee stations have become a popular feature in the last few years," says Leah Diamond, senior interior designer at LEICHT Westchester in Greenwich, CT. "People enjoy having a coffee center with a nice café-style machine. Some people like to store their drinks and glassware in the kitchen garage; the space can be so multifunctional."

"You can get that clutter hidden and put away and still have that beautiful, gorgeous kitch-



Karen Berkemeyer Home
Photo by Tim Lenz



en,” adds Martha Gargano, lead designer at AMS Kitchens in Cheshire, CT. “The majority of the kitchen hideaways we create are the pocket-door style that slide back. It’s a great solution for so many people—for their baking stations, coffee nooks or bars.”

Luxury designer Christopher Peacock, owner of Christopher Peacock Home, shares some pros and cons of the kitchen garage. “Clients typically request this if they prefer to hide the appliances, rather than look at them on a countertop,” he says. “This is usually because the client has an open kitchen area that is visible from other parts of the home, or they just like ‘no clutter’ and want to hide things. There really is no space gain—it’s just a way to hide the appliances. So it’s not extra storage because the same space is taken up, whether the appliances are covered or not.”

Owner and Principal Designer Karen Berkemeyer of Karen Berkemeyer Home in Westport, CT, discusses some options available to homeowners. “There are several ways of executing a kitchen hideaway. There are the Tambour door units, which I don’t personally recommend because they are more cumbersome,” says Karen. These are doors that run along a track. “The doors don’t run smoothly after a while, and then people just start to leave them open,” she explains. “Another option is the Lift-up Hideaway, where the door lifts up and slides behind the upper cabinet. You need at least 18 inches of depth for this one, yet the advantage is that you have open space for your countertop appliances, and still have access to the cabinet above it. The third one is the Pull-up Door style, where the cabinet door pulls out and lifts up. It’s popular and people like it, but the negative is that you can’t access the cabinet above it while the door is open.”



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Christopher Peacock



Karen Berkemeyer Home

Numerous sizes and door options are available, including full-length or smaller cabinet styles, based on the homeowner's needs and the appliances to be concealed. "You can adjust the door size and cabinet size based on the appliances going in," notes Amy Eisenburg, a designer with Karen Berkemeyer Homes. Adds Karen, "You do need to know what appliances you will be putting in, to make sure everything fits proportionally."

"Another use of these compartments is to hide a kitchen television," says Karen. It's perfect for homeowners who like to cook along with their favorite TV chef, keep up with the big game while making snacks, or enjoy an espresso while taking in the news.

Homeowners should keep in mind that the kitchen is the one room in the house that's tricky to rearrange, as you might your living room. "You can rearrange your pillows and fabrics all you like, but your kitchen should be fairly static," says Amy. "You are set in stone when it comes to cabinetry."

When you're ready to remodel your kitchen cabinetry with a beautiful, functional kitchen garage, it's essential to select a kitchen designer you can trust. Your designer will need to know all the details and uses of your kitchen to help create the ultimate look that is tailored to fit your lifestyle and design aesthetics. A simple pull-down or a closing of a door can bring your kitchen counter back to a clutter-free, showroom-worthy chic space—





Leicht Kitchens



AMS Kitchens

all while keeping those fundamental appliances right at your fingertips.

Resources:

Leicht Kitchens Westchester & Greenwich
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LAYERED LIGHTING

Design + Decor talks lighting with Melissa Adams of Adams Interior Design
Story by Shehla Lucanera



Humans have long been enchanted by the warm radiance of light. Indeed, studies show that illumination can impact our physical and mental health. Learning how to properly layer and mix the lighting in your living space can create just the right ambience, making your home an inviting, cozy place.

Celebrated interior designer Melissa Adams, owner of Adams Interior Design, is an expert in using lighting to transform a client's residence into a luxurious dreamscape. Melissa believes that layered lighting is essential in uplifting the attitude and atmosphere of our spaces. "If you aren't making layered lighting a priority," she says, "you're missing out on a huge opportunity!"

Melissa earned her BA from Syracuse University School of Fine Arts and received her MA from Manhattanville College. Her portfolio showcases her experience working with high-end textiles, luxury accessories and sumptuous fabrics for leading companies, including Disney and Calvin Klein. She has also served as a contributor to *U.S. News and World Report* and other media outlets. Melissa's education and background help her to create striking, yet truly warm and inviting environments that are lit to perfection. Intelligent layered lighting is a vital tool that Melissa incorporates to ensure

that a space's warmth and brilliance are at their visual peak, creating the ultimate immersive experience. "Layered or accent lighting is your chance to mix different materials, combine finishes and put your best design foot forward," she says. "Lighting fixture selection is one of my favorite parts of the job. It often can become the focal point of the room, and add texture and visual interest." Melissa's designs look luxurious and feel spectacular, with a distinctive aura all their own; she has a special talent for setting a fantastic backdrop with Hollywood-quality lighting. Recently, Melissa shared some advice and insights about layered lighting with *Design + Decor*.

One way that homeowners can easily implement layered lighting, says Melissa, is by adding sconces in strategic places, such as above a fireplace. "This achieves a gentle wash of light, as opposed to harsher overhead lights," she says. "And, in addition to their function, these fixtures also act as accessories and artwork."

"Clients with more modern interiors are opting for lit staircases, where each tread is illuminated," she adds. "This has a very dramatic and warm effect. Cove lighting is an easy application to crown molding that adds an up-lit wash of elegant light." When considering lighting for their residences, homeowners often overlook hallways, leaving them dark, narrow and less attractive. A well-lit hallway, especially one at the entrance of your home,



is a welcoming invitation to family and guests. Melissa pays thoughtful attention to these important passageways. “I love using semi-flush fixtures instead of recessed lighting,” she says. “These have a very dramatic effect as you walk down the hallway, and you can appreciate the beauty of special fixtures. They go a long way toward setting your home apart from everyone else’s.”

Living rooms serve as the central gathering space open to a variety of activities, unlike other rooms that have specific functions. Several sources and layers of light in the living room can help you create the ambience you choose, whether that means turning up the lights for board game night, or dimming the lights for a theater atmosphere. “Consider adding sconces that are plug-in but hard-wire ready,” says Melissa. “This will allow you to play

around with the location of the lights, and invest in a professional when you’re ready.” For a satisfying and surprisingly whimsical touch, “Consider small white string lights on a large plant or decorative tree.”

Sconces can even work their charm in the bedrooms. “Consider adding sconces beside your bed,” Melissa advises. “Get rid of the clumsy lamp, and use your bedside table for your favorite book, TV remote and attractive accessories—this adds a bit of boutique hotel charm.” Freeing up the bedside table of a lamp allows you more space to style your bedside with your own special keepsakes.

Like living rooms, kitchens offer a cheerful communal gathering space and a focal point for our home. How can we use lighting to boost the ambience



of our kitchens? Melissa suggests toe-kick lighting, which lines the undersides of cabinets or vanities, providing gentle light inches from the floor. “We have all seen under-cabinet lighting, but consider toe-kick lights as well to warm up the look of the kitchen,” she says. For additional functionality and ambience, she adds, “consider adding a recessed fixture inside glass-front cabinets.”

We’ve experienced how lighting has the power to create or deflate the atmosphere in a restaurant. How can we use illumination in our own dining areas? “Put matching lamps on either side of a buffet, flanking a painting or mirror,” says Melissa. “This allows for a continuation of low-level light throughout the home, and makes the dining room inviting in the evening hours.”

One of the most important rooms of our home, the bathroom provides a launching point to begin our day and a welcome respite for a quiet moment. Thoughtfully layering light in the bathroom can boost how we feel and help us in our daily transitions, from work mode to home leisure time. Melissa offers this tip for creating an inviting mood in this space: “Instead of an over-mirror fixture, use side sconces to divide the light in a more functional way and avoid unpleasant shadowing.”

Even the most luxurious of backyard hideaways and party-friendly patios will remain dormant after sunset without adequate lighting. Melissa shares some insider tips to transform outdoor lighting from simply visible and functional to awesome. “Lighting is equally important outdoors,” she says. “If given the opportunity to add decorative fixtures to your outdoor porches, you can set the mood beautifully. You can also get more playful with torches and hanging bistro lighting. On screened-in porches, you can use outdoor lamps in your seating areas to make it feel like a true extension of your living space.”

Is the type of light used important? Melissa tells us that the transition to LED lighting has made it more challenging to create the right mood temperature. Color temperature is a serious consideration, and LED bulbs don’t always have the same warm, pleasing appearance as their incandescent counterparts. Melissa suggests that homeowners do research when selecting the proper bulbs for each zone in the home. “Buy dimmable bulbs for the most pleasing lighting effects,” she says. “With certain fixtures, I still prefer using specialized chandelier bulbs, faceted bulbs and other unique shapes.” Faceted bulbs have a visible texture and a more classic look, while smooth bulbs tend to lean more modern.

Layering the light in the spaces of your home can create a surprising difference, uplifting the atmosphere, brightening your mood and creating warmth. “I strongly encourage all my clients to think beyond the ambient recessed lighting and to consider the sensory effects that well-selected decorative fixtures can have on their emotional well-being and enjoyment of their home,” says Melissa. And if you need help with the process? “Use a designer to help you with your lighting—it makes a huge difference! I give special attention to make sure lighting choices marry well with other metal fixtures in the home, keeping the finishes consistent and pleasing. A designer will prioritize your ability to create different moods by using all the lighting options you have available.”

Melissa has designed and beautified homes across the New York area and beyond. Visit the Adams Interior Design website and browse Melissa’s impressive portfolio for insight, inspiration or assistance designing and lighting your perfect home.

Resource:

Adams Interior Design
Melissa Adams, Owner
 917.886.6666
aidesignny.com

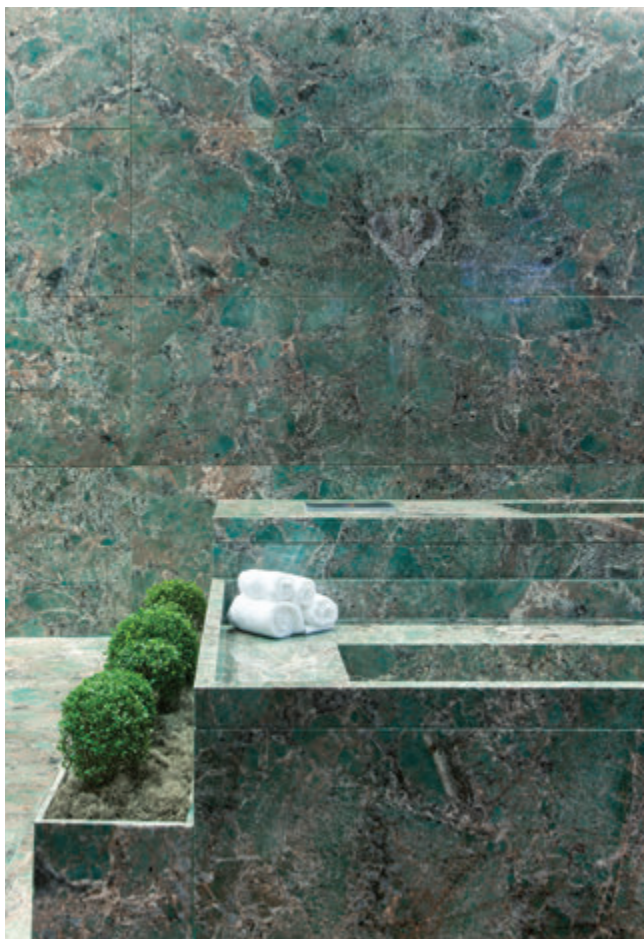
PROFILE



Book an appointment for February 27–29 at the Las Vegas Convention Center for the 2024 edition of the Kitchen and Bath Industry Show (KBIS), where Antolini will be exhibiting with a new design and exhibition concept.

The main idea was to connect natural stones and “gameplay” in an original experience for visitors, so they could enter the world of Mother Nature and get to know the power of Cristallo Vitrum “Wow,” Patagonia Vitrum and Amazonite up close.

The main stage involves Cristallo Vitrum “Wow”: Alessandro La Spada, inte-



rior designer of the new booth, has designed an articulated labyrinth that showcases the succession precisely between Cristallo Vitrum “Wow,” a natural stone part of the Natural Quartz geological family, and several mirrored surfaces. A succession of materials designed for the visitor to feel immersed among the natural stone and experience it intimately.

Alessandro La Spada explains the design process: “The semantics of the project was to have one main actor, Cristallo Vitrum “Wow,” whose characteristics are transparency and translucence. The goal was to make viewers perceive these properties, pause and reflect on the material, to highlight its sensory qualities. From this goal, the project took off. Its layout is inspired by the geometry of the labyrinth, and is designed to stimulate visitors to reflect on the sensations the environment gives them. The focus of the exhibition is a compulsory sensory path through which the visitor can estrange himself from reality to focus on the beauty of nature and reflect on the characteristics of the material and the perceptions it provokes. Antolini has constantly had an absolute devotion to Mother Nature and the sensations it evokes, going beyond the concept of mere surface materials.”

Once through the labyrinth, visitors will reach other areas of the booth, where they will encounter both a display of Antolini’s different natural stones—including the Amazonite quartzite and Natural Quartz Patagonia Vitrum—and examples of their applications. Among the most striking is the backlit Cristallo Vitrum “Wow” counter, which illustrates how natural stone is suitable for building stunning architectural scenarios.

Resource:
Antolini Italy
antolini.com

PROFILE



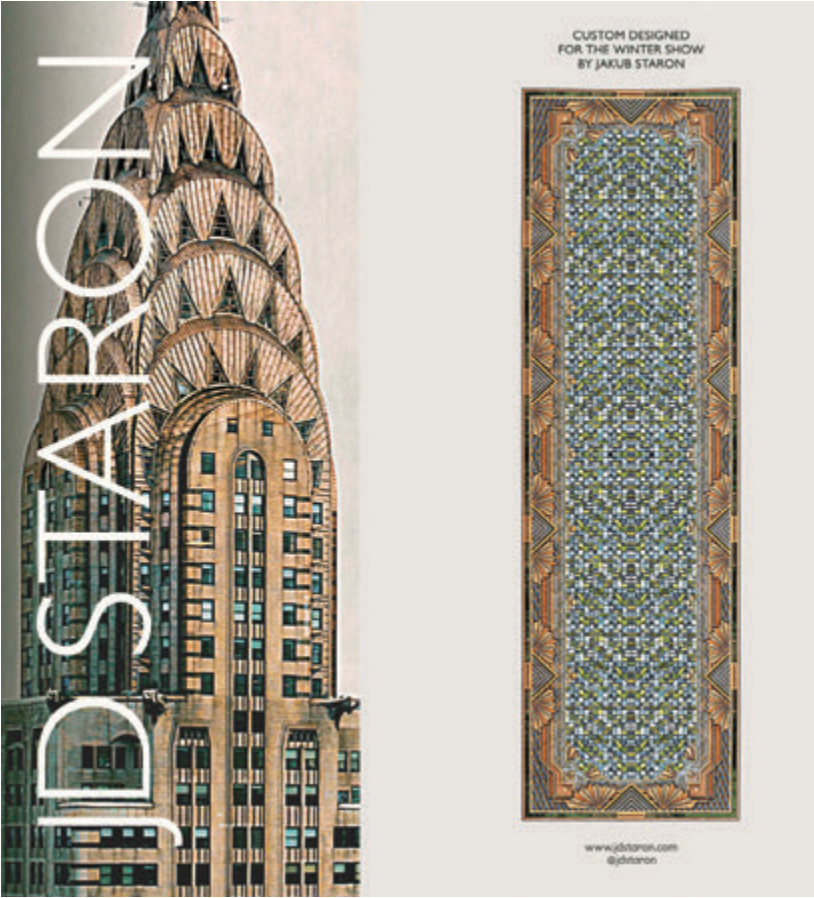
J.D. Staron unveiled a 70-foot bespoke floor covering, custom-made to celebrate The NYC Winter Show's 70th anniversary. Inspired by the architectural details and stained-glass windows throughout the Park Avenue Armory, the showstopping piece blends artistry with iconic New York City design, and was a focal point of the entryway, greeting guests upon their arrival at the show.

This marks yet another milestone for Jakub Staron, co-founder of J.D. Staron and artist behind bespoke floor covering, it continues the brand's legacy of creating original floor coverings through a blend of centuries-old craft techniques and a decidedly more modern aesthetic vision.

The Winter Show 2024 brought together more than 70 internationally renowned exhibitors in the fine and decorative arts, presenting museum-quality works from around the world, spanning 5,000 years from antiquity to today. All proceeds from the event benefit the East Side House Settlement, a non-profit organization that provides critical services and resources to over 14,000 residents of the Bronx and northern Manhattan.

Resource:

J.D. Staron
jdstaron.com



fresh design

concept to completion



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