

NEW YORK

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INTERIORS / ARCHITECTURE / INSPIRATION



GOLD
LIST

EYE ON
DESIGN
2018

AS PART OF OUR ANNUAL COMPENDIUM ON REGIONAL
STYLE, WE'VE TURNED TO THE MOST TRUSTED NAMES
IN LOCAL DESIGN TO DISCOVER TIPS, TRENDS AND
IDEAS ON WHAT DRIVES DESIGN AESTHETICS TODAY.



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GILLES CLEMENT DESIGNS

2 SETTING THE STAGE

FIVE TOP INTERIOR TALENTS IN THE NEW YORK CITY AREA SPILL ON HOW TO DESIGN HIGH-IMPACT LIVING SPACES WITH PERSONALITY.



ROBIN MCGARRY

Most important item to splurge on: Carpets. Buy as beautiful a rug as you can afford and as large as possible for the space. **What is an often-overlooked element of design that really matters?** Art. Look for pieces by local artists and friends, images of places you love, work that challenges you, artworks full of color—something that tells a little about who you are. robinmcgarry.com



GILES CLEMENT

Tips for bringing antiques into the home: They should be of heirloom quality, as no one wants to stare at a piece of furniture that is old and not exquisite. Louis-Phillipe, Napoleon III, Venetian empire or Art Deco are favorites of mine. **Don't forget about...** The rug. It is often regarded as nothing more than a functional piece, but it can be the most interesting design statement of your room. hocparis.com



THOM FILICIA

Design trend you're loving: Personalization! I love that people are more committed to making their homes feel like an extension of themselves. It tells the narrative of where they've been, where they are and where they're going. **Splurge-worthy items:** The sofa in the living room, the bed in the bedroom, the table in the dining room. These are the anchor pieces that help define rooms and serve as jumping-off points for the aesthetic. thomfilicia.com



MARY FOLEY

Impactful paint color: Benjamin Moore White Dove. It's not a pure white; there are subtle touches of cream and gray. It's a beautiful and soft background. **Important detail for a well-designed space:** Window treatment prices always surprise the client, but they are an important layer to finish a room. Accessories, including books, are overlooked as well. They complete the space. foleyandcox.com



ROBERT COUTURIER

How important is it to incorporate antiques? Very important. They give a sense of history and belonging—where we've been and where we are now. It's very personal. I tried to live without antiques; it lasted three months. I felt like something was missing. **Noteworthy design element:** The furniture layout. If your furniture and floor plans are not right, then your house will never be comfortable. robertcouturier.com

interiors

1 **a bold**
ENTRY

Manhattan-based husband-and-wife design duo Jesse Carrier and Mara Miller have a knack for mixing styles for a striking, original and personal effect. When asked about this bold entry in a Shelter Island vacation residence, they say such “visual excitement” can be achieved by implementing the three elements below.

carrierandcompany.com

Create drama with juxtaposition. Mix something old with something new, or light with dark, or try over-scaling or under-scaling an item. Here, the crisp-white wainscoting contrasts with a deeply tonal, textural re/fin.

Draw people in. A focal point, such as this nautical painting, gives the eye something to rest on when quickly assessing a new environment and can lead someone into the house.

Infuse personality. An entry is the first impression of a home and should reflect the style and vibe of its occupants. One hung picture or an umbrella stand can be all that's needed.

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PHOTO TOP: JESSE CARRIER AND MARA MILLER; BOTTOM: LEFT, GILES CLEMENT; MIDDLE, THOM FILICIA; RIGHT, ROBERT COUTURIER

3 **color**
POP

Strong color is making a comeback, as seen in this 1950s Dutch townhouse on Manhattan's West Side. In a room of English and Asian pieces, designer Laura Kirar asserted a contemporary edge with walls in an updated coral that references a classic Chinese red, while the lacquered finish is a nod to tradition. For balance, she advises, give the eye a rest. “The large sofa is upholstered in beautiful oatmeal Belgian linen,” she says. “If you're doing a lot of color on walls, you might want to go with white or neutral furniture.” **laurakirar.com**

4 **MIDCENTURY**
MARVEL

The cofounder of Design Miami and the former design director of New York's Lin+Weinberg Gallery, Amy Lau does midcentury with her signature pedigreed panache. We talked to the expert on why the genre has such staying power, as seen in this special Upper East Side apartment. **amylaudesign.com**

Why do you think midcentury design has a lasting effect?

Twentieth-century design is timeless. The gentle organic curves, clean lines, sleek look and minimal ornamentation feel effortlessly classic. The shapes are versatile, functional and ergonomic, and they mix perfectly with contemporary design. Ultimately, midcentury looks are about subtlety and style.

Tell us about that dramatic artwork.

The Abstract Expressionist painting is by Sydney Butcher. I did a studio visit with my dear friend Rosemary Halgarten, whose mother was a late friend of the artist. From the moment I saw Sydney's work, I fell in love. I thought this one was a perfect fit, with its hazy gradients of blue, green and terra-cotta orange.

What about the strength of that seating?

I wanted to work with lines and textures, so I selected the sculptural Warren Platner chair and ottoman, then covered them in a burnt-orange suede. The sweeping silhouette of the chair is graceful, and the pieces are slightly decorative, with the hundreds of metal rods on the bases. They mimic the undulating shapes of the wooden sculpture shown in the background and the cowhide.



outdoor



5 OUTWARD FLOW



With indoor-outdoor living becoming more popular these days, it's no surprise that a seamless integration of inside and out is a main objective. For this Southampton vacation home, architect Stuart Diston's wood-framed pool house recalls the living area's exposed beams, while landscape architect Timothy Rumph's perennials are focal points from inside. Here, the duo share three important elements for gorgeous and hospitable outdoor spaces. epdarchitects.com, araysdesign.com

Think of the exterior area as an escape.
SD: A successful pool house evokes a mini-vacation from your home: a kitchenette with a refrigerator, changing rooms and bathrooms, and even a sauna or gym. There should be a shaded outdoor dining area, like the pergola here, and terraces for entertaining.

Coordination between the architect and landscape architect is essential.

TR: Views from inside-out (and outside-in) need to be considered and studied from schematic design to final construction.

Form gathering opportunities.

SD: If the property is large, the outdoor spaces allow a visual experience from afar, a different perspective. It's a place to physically and mentally disconnect from a busy household.



6 POOL READY



At a Southampton home built to look like a modernized older structure, the aesthetic continues outdoors with the clean lines of a cedar pergola and the modern rim-flow pool. No matter what style, beautiful backyard spaces are as good as their materials, and advancements in design make for a wider offering. Below, builder Phil Pipe offers insider industry tips. papeconstruction.com

Use wider tiles for the band below the coping: For maintenance and a sleeker finish, we're doing 6-by-24 inches—there's a lot less grout showing. This pool has limestone, moving with a more modernist design.

Consider structures made of cedar: The pergola here is made of cedar, which will age naturally and turn a beautiful gray—like the color of driftwood—as it weathers. There's not a lot of maintenance required, and it blends into the landscape nicely.

Surround a pool with Valders limestone: Valders will finish a number of ways, like smooth or sand pebble. It's nice around a pool, because you can put a sandblast finish on it, and it's not slippery when it's wet.

Avoid marble dust inside the pool: The newer version is Diamond Brites, one manufacturer of aggregate pool finishes. They have aggregate natural quartz in them, almost like terrazzo.



7 outdoor ART

Designing outdoor spaces around exceptional architecture "is a subtle art," says landscape architect Janice Parker. At this Greenwich, Connecticut, home, Parker planned the site, including the hardscape, around the client's want of water views, a garden, and a pool and entertainment areas on one level. "We then designed the landscape with native, salt-tolerant plants," she says, "and in the protected areas, more flowers and romance." We asked Parker for more details on how she designs outdoor living spaces that highlight a home's architectural beauty. janiceparker.com

How do you design a landscape around a home with a striking silhouette? It's crucial to work with the volumes of space—all three dimensions—from the very start. Sketching on paper is essential, but is only two-dimensional. Individual parcels of land are each unique,

and the slopes, views, vegetation and orientation to the sun are also always different. My job is to completely comprehend this full-dimensional aspect.

What's most important when figuring out a plant palette? I think about planting in terms of light and color, how the same scene can be perceived, what the garden would look like in the evenings and at high noon, and how the light will change all year. Once a color scheme is established, I start with the complementary "back bones" (evergreens, usually). Then, I use "the divas" (focal points) in key locations.

Why do you think hydrangeas are such a staple in the Northeast, such as in the Hamptons and here in Connecticut? Because they are so happy in the temperate climate—they enjoy salty, misty wind and love water, so the moist air helps them flourish.

8 ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

FOUR LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS DISCUSS THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENTS IN OUTDOOR LIVING.



CHRISTOPHER LAGUARDIA

For me, the most important thing to consider is privacy—visually and acoustically. Environmental factors such as sunlight, wind, noise, views and topography also come into play. It starts with privacy and enclosure, moving on from that, the five essential elements of good design are: plan, space, light, materials and details, like the vanishing edge of a swimming pool, the handle on a gate or the coping on a stone wall. laguardiadesign.com



DEBORAH NEVINS

I think people are aware of the importance of nature and the healing effect of its beauty. In his 1882 book, *Specimen Days*, Walt Whitman writes that trees helped him heal after having a stroke. The most important elements for a successful outdoor living space are shade and aromatic plants, which help to provide structure in the design of the space. dnlandscape.com



EDMUND HOLLANDER

I think people appreciate living outside dining outside, cooking outside, multigenerational interactions outside. In an era of disposable architecture, where people buy and tear down properties and hire the best architects to rebuild, they're buying for the land, which you can't replace—the landscape, the trees, the views. With all of the problems we have in the world, the outdoors bring a sense of peace and tranquility. hollanderdesign.com



HALSTED WELLES

A solid outdoor living plan is one that underlines the program needs of the client with the natural system. If the homeowners have five children and 10 dogs, and they barbecue every Friday, then the garden should address those aspects. The biggest compliment I can get is, "If we were to do this again, we would not change a thing." Then I know I've hit it on the head; it meets the clients' needs, and they're enchanted. halstedwelles.com

architecture



9 CURB appeal

A beautiful entry not only creates a sense of order when approaching a house, but also sets the stage for what's behind the front door. John B. Murray, the New York architect of this Georgian Revival in Greenwich, Connecticut, shares three important tips for establishing curb appeal: [jbmarchitect.com](#)

Give your entrance a clear definition. The path should be well-defined with low-level lighting. Another way to distinguish an arrival is by giving the door a distinct color. In this particular case, we used a sort of dark green-black hue that demarcates the entry in a pleasant way.

Broaden the scale of the entry door. This makes it grander and more gracious. Here, we also designed a bronze screen door—the beautiful material is inviting.

Invest in quality lighting. It should feature good, solid hardware and not be some low-level fixture. These patinated brass lanterns we fabricated, for example, boast hand-drawn glass, giving it character.

10 DRAFT PICKS

FIVE DIVERSE NEW YORK-BASED ARCHITECTURE TALENTS DIVULGE THEIR TAKES ON DESIGNING HOMES WITH STYLE.



ROGER H. SEIFTER

Most important exterior element: We take cues from the neighborhood, the site and our clients as we design. But in the end, a successful house strikes a balance between the functionality of its plan and the evocative nature of its exterior detailing. **Favorite material:** I like stone for its versatility. Depending on its selection and detailing, it can make the most formal villa or the most rustic cottage. [ramsa.com](#)



CAROLINE WHARTON EWING

What is your favorite material to design with lately? We often use wood on ceilings or to wrap interior volumes. This can help provide definition in an open floor plan as well as add texture and warmth. **Trick for successful interior architecture:** A perfect floor plan should feel intuitive. The rooms should unfold in a way that makes sense and needs no explanation. [dberke.com](#)



MICHAEL SMITH

Critical aspect of exterior architecture: Responding to the site conditions drives the planning of the whole design. If you don't get this right, it can help provide definition in the project. **Favorite material:** Lately, we have been using a lot of natural oak in our interiors. This can range from hand-hewn beams to rough-sawn planking and even finish cabinetry. [michaelsmitharchitects.com](#)



ROBERT CARDELLO

Is there a historical trend returning? Brass is back! I see people trending toward a more modern interior, even within a more conservative exterior, by using brass finishes. **Key to the perfect floor plan:** A creative collaboration between the architect, interior designer, landscape architect and builder. The success of a good plan lies in its simplicity. [cardelloarchitects.com](#)



CHARLES HILTON

What is the most important element of interior architecture? Consistency between the site, the exterior architecture and the interior architecture and design. Each should relate to the other. **Making a comeback:** Modernism. Convenience, expediency, durability and an overall increasing comfort level with technology seem to drive this trend. [hiltonarchitects.com](#)

THE HOME: DAVID J. PHOENIX; PHOTO: MICHAEL MONTANO; INTERIOR: ROBERT CARDELLO ARCHITECTS; EXTERIOR: JAMES HILTON ARCHITECT; COURTESY: CAROLINE WHARTON EWING; SHOWN: ARCADE; COURTESY: RAMSA; PHOTO: CHRISTOPHER COOPER; COURTESY: MICHAEL SMITH; PHOTO: JAMES HILTON ARCHITECT; COURTESY: ROBERT CARDELLO ARCHITECTS; EXTERIOR: JAMES HILTON ARCHITECT; COURTESY: CAROLINE WHARTON EWING; PHOTO: DAVID J. PHOENIX; PHOTO: MICHAEL MONTANO; PHOTO: STEPHEN MCKENNA



12 SMOOTH TRANSITION

For the Southampton residence of good friends, architect Mark Sluner started with a Shingle point of view. But contemporary flourishes to traditional architecture, plus modern interiors, made it a standout in the transitional style: cool and clean, warm and revealing. How did he pull it off? [mojosturner.com](#)

What materials did you use in this space and why? The interiors were actually quite simple: wood floors, white gypsum wall boards and black metal. We wanted to keep the palette of materials very simple to be a clean backdrop for the form of the architecture and the interiors.

How do you prevent the look from feeling too cold or staid? We keep our

transitional designs inspired by making sure the modern aspects are state of the art. We also blend the architecture with very warm, unexpected interiors.

Do you feel there is one vital thing to keep in mind when designing a transitional home? To not let one of the disciplines—modernism or traditionalism—overpower the other. You also have to know which elements you want to favor when adding that touch of creativity.

Why do you think residents are more open to this type of design? Homeowners embrace transitional architecture for one simple reason: They can have the best of both worlds. It's a win-win that provides plenty of interest.



11 MATERIAL WORLD

Oftentimes, the most interesting exteriors achieve a cohesive look not by adhering to one material but rather the opposite: mixing several, as seen here at a Belgian farmhouse in Connecticut. "The whole exterior is made up of warm greys that blend the material," says architect Vincent Falotico, pointing to the fieldstone, slate roof and steel-and-glass stair tower. The trim on the windows and doors, he adds, is painted to match the metal and "ties the front entry and stair tower into an assembly of steel and glass." Scale is key, too, with the large lantern reinforcing the home's grand proportions. [brooksandfalotico.com](#)

materials



13 TO THE TOUCH

HISTORY MADE

Architect John David Rose and general contractor Mark Himmelsbach relocated this 19th-century Shelter Island home, allowing the owners to build new on the property while turning this classic structure with its cedar shingles into a welcoming glaze house. jdrhomedesign.com ironwoodcontract.com



▲ EASY BREEZY

Builder Joseph Kelley clad the exterior of this Blaze Makoid-designed home in the Hamptons in a rich combination of laminated-limestone veneer panels, shop-painted aluminum and teak, which lends texture and warmth to its uber-modern lines. kafkeyconstruction.com; blazemakoid-architecture.com



▼ RIVER ROCKS

A sculptural triple-burnt teak chair by Andrianna Shamaris accents the living room fireplace of a couple's Hudson River Valley weekend residence that designer Sasha Bikoff updated with an edgy spin. She had the previously tan-and-gray stone surround lacquered with Benjamin Moore's Chantilly Lace, while the floors were given a custom glossy stain for a more modern look. sashabikoff.com



▲ HEAVY METAL

Thanks to a mix of materials, designer Joe Nahem gave the powder room of this Chelsea apartment a facelift. The wallcovering—Creze's Dolce Vita grass cloth—has aluminum studs, and the vanity boasts a vintage chrome base with a black Corian countertop. foxnahem.com

PHOTO TOP BY STEVE GRANITZ; PHOTO BOTTOM LEFT BY JACOB WELLS; PHOTO BOTTOM CENTER BY JACOB WELLS; PHOTO BOTTOM RIGHT BY JACOB WELLS; PHOTO BOTTOM RIGHT BY JACOB WELLS

14 KITCHEN AID

At this modern colonial retreat in Connecticut, a mix of textures within a wonderfully simple palette demonstrates just how important material considerations are for creating dynamic spaces. Here, designer Greg Shano reveals his tips. gregoryshano.com

Design around the feeling of the space. We wanted the kitchen to feel clean, classic, spacious and user-friendly. I infused a few subtle details you might find in a French bistro: the subway-tile backsplash with dark grout, the hint of rattan from those classic counter stools. I love how they bring in such a strong graphic element, some much-needed texture and a natural element to the room. **Inject touches that add warmth.** The dark-stained floors help to anchor the room and warm it up a bit, as do those rattan counter stools. We decided to keep the cabinets white and then introduce different shades of gray throughout so it didn't feel too flat—for example, the grout for the subway tile, the countertops and island base, even the island pendants. It helps keep the eye moving around the space and provides interest. **Be open to listening.** I've found it helps set a respectful tone with all the craftsmen I work with. At the end of the day, because of how much time we all spend together, you want to make sure you're creating a trusting, respectful and collaborative environment where everyone is encouraged to do their best work.



15 THE IT LIST

LUXURY BUILDING PROFESSIONALS SHARE WHAT'S ON THEIR RADAR AND INNOVATIONS TO WATCH FOR THIS YEAR.



JOHN PETROCELLI

Favorite materials to use in the home: Beautiful hardwoods—oak, maple, walnut, cherry. They're some of the hardest to work with, but they make the most beautiful millwork. Hardwood is rich; it gives you a feeling of quality. **What is the most important item for homeowners to splurge on when building new construction?** Stuff you can see, like finishes, tile, stone, millwork, even the paint job—a great paint job is key to making the house look great. petroco.com



SCOTT HOBBS

What are the tenets of a successful remodeling project? Assemble a team of good designers and construction professionals, and be very honest about what you're trying to achieve and willing to invest in the process. An open collaboration will lead to a solid process and a great result. **Trending now:** Transitional architecture. Blending key elements of classical proportion with more modern, "simple" design elements and materials is truly an art. hobbinscm.com



JAMES MANSFIELD

Preferred accent: Wallpaper. Gone are the old patterns of your grandmother's kitchen, and in their place are bold, masculine metallics, like silver leaf, and sensual grass cloths that have allowed us to transform the humble painted wall into the anchor of the room. **Tenet of success:** Accountability. As the contractor, we are accountable for the project being on time, staying on budget and having amazing quality. westvillagegc.com



DAVE DISUNNO

Building materials that are worth the investment: Given the Hampton's proximity to the ocean and winter weather, smart and maintenance-free exterior building products. **What's the key to a successful renovation project?** Maintain self-control and monitor your budget to avoid doubling or tripling the costs and blowing past the deadline of the renovation project. gdcbuild.com



FRANK POMPA

Why do you think kitchen and bathroom renovations add so much value to a home? They serve important functions, because they're used most in the home, and they're designed for an individual's use—although those needs may change over time. **Top design trend:** Transitional style. It's fun, because there are so many different elements: wood, stone, steel, glass. It's interesting what you can accomplish when you bring these together. pompaconstruction.com