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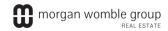






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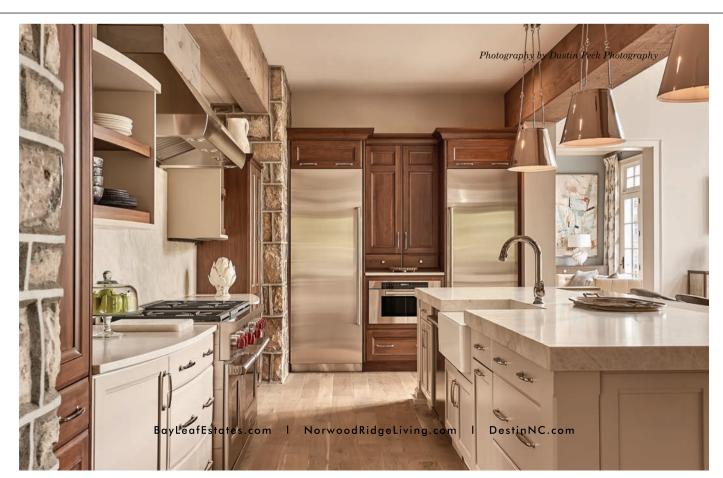


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MAY / JUNE 2023





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Christian Faur

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Spring has fully sprung, and, with it, Mother Nature's color palette in an intoxicating mix of vibrant and subtle hues; the world feels new and full of possibility. The timing of our annual color issue is no accident; the homes we chose to feature in these pages are an inspiring example of how differently color can be used in interiors, and the range of hues are just as thirst-quenching as drinking in the newly colored spring landscape.

From bold strokes of saturated color and pattern to more muted pastels and textured fabrics, color delights in all forms. Sometimes the subtlety draws us in just as much as the boldness.

After poring over incredible projects spanning the range, we selected stunning examples of expert use of color in designprojects that showcase not only gorgeous work, but also the unique and varied ways color can be employed. From small projects, collaborations, and new collections, to whole homes designed to the hilt, we've bathed this issue in color. Just as Mother Nature intended.

Blake & Anne Marie

Blake Miller and Anne Marie Ashley Co-Editors-in-Chief









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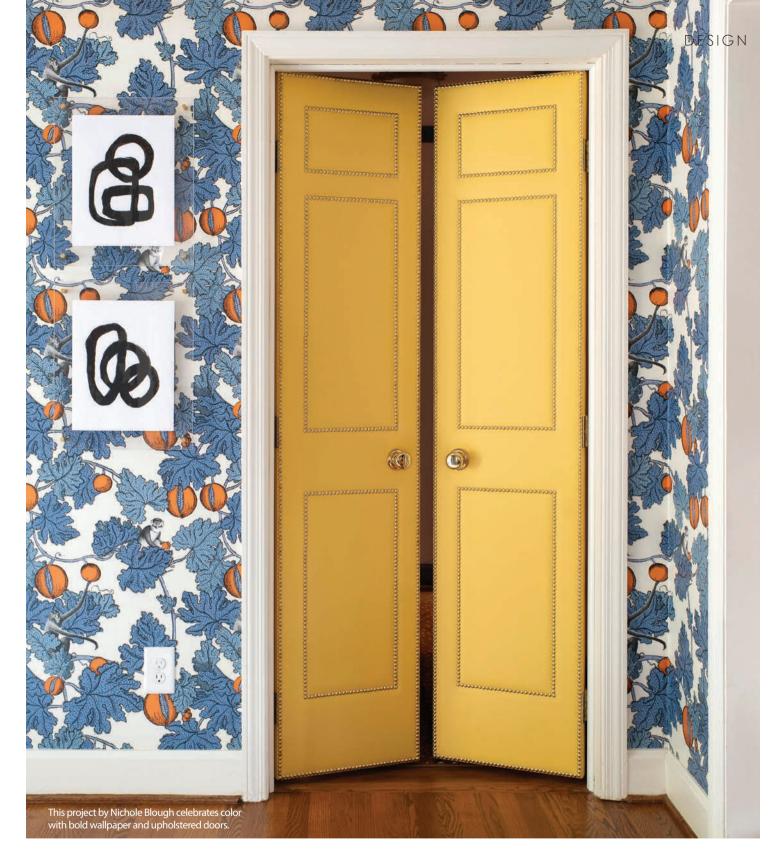


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COLOR THEORY

THREE DESIGNERS DISCUSS THEIR PERSONAL COLOR THEORIES WHILE HIGHLIGHTING PROJECTS THAT SHOWCASE THEIR CONCEPTS.

TEXT BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY







Nichole Blough's Color Theory

QUICK, FAVORITE COLOR!

Orange, no doubt! I am always drawn to any and all shades of orange.

HOW AND WHEN SHOULD **COLOR BE APPLIED?**

I don't think there's a limit on how color should be applied, but I do like to start with a neutral slate and add color with interchangeable things like fabrics, paint, wallpaper, and light fixtures. You'd be surprised how many people have certain color aversionsfor most, red and orange!

IS THAT ALWAYS THE CASE?

Absolutely, it's universal. For some, it may be bold paint color or bold drapes; for others, color is best in small doses, like pillows and lamps. I think how you apply color is one of the most interesting aspects of interior design.

THIS PROJECT IS FUN!

These clients wanted timeless and classic but were certainly not afraid of color. True to my form, the walls and drapes are neutral, with color in smaller doses, but the impact is large!

COLOR CONSERVATIVE OR ALL-IN?

Do I even need to answer this? Most would agree I'm a bold, all-in color designer! I have always been drawn to colorful, bold patterns. It's my favorite part of design (and clothes!).

SO, IS YOUR HOME LIKE YOUR WARDROBE?

I would wallpaper every single room with a colorful printed wallpaper if I could. I never tire of color; it invokes so much happiness and interest for me.

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Maggie Dillon's Color Theory

QUICK, FAVORITE COLOR!

It regularly changes, but mustard yellow remains at the top of my list. Pair with an olive green and you've got an unbeatable combo.

HOW OR WHEN SHOULD **COLOR BE APPLIED?**

If you're nervous about using color in a more permanent application, start with something that can be easily swapped down the road, like pillows or an accent chair. In my experience, you won't regret making a bold decision.

IS THIS ALWAYS TRUE?

Every project is different from the last, but it's our objective as interior designers to push clients, so adding in color stories they might not have chosen on their own is a goal of mine.

PURPLE IS SUCH A VIBE HERE!

These clients have three young kids, so we wanted to make the selections playful while also long-lasting.

COLOR CONSERVATIVE OR ALL-IN?

All-in, all the time. But! The overall aesthetic must still be cohesive. It's important to mix scale and tones, and to find a balance.

WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE IN YOUR HOME?

Wallpaper, all day long. It's a fun way to bring in patterns, and pairing with an unexpected paint for the trim is a go-to move.



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AMERICA'S BEST





BELOW: "My client fell in love with this Schumacher wallpaper as soon as I showed it to her. We actually picked a wallpaper for the interior and exterior of





Cameron Jones's Color Theory

QUICK, FAVORITE COLOR!

That's an impossible question! And it honestly changes with every new project I start, and every fabric and wallpaper I see. Red and blue are the colors I tend to gravitate towards the most.

HOW OR WHEN SHOULD **COLOR BE APPLIED?**

Use color generously but be strategic in how and where. I almost always suggest investing in larger neutral furniture pieces and bringing in color with rugs, textiles, and art. Furnishings don't have to be devoid of color-small-scale pattern or texture work great—just pick options that allow flexibility with accompanying accents.

SPEAKING OF GENEROUS COLOR, THIS PROJECT!

This client's underlying goal was that the home feel cozy. Color, to me, evokes happiness and playfulness, so injecting color was the perfect way to ramp up the cozy factor for this family.

COLOR CONSERVATIVE OR ALL-IN?

I think I'm relatively conservative when it comes to color; I like to use it to tell a story. However, I'm an all-in kinda gal when it comes to mixing patterns and textures.

MORE ABOUT YOU, PLEASE!

My name is Cameron Jones, and I'm a pillow addict! Beds, couches, chairs—nothing beats killer pillows to totally make a room pop. And for the color-anxious, they're perfect because they're not a permanent fixture.



COLOR-COPIA

APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS, AND THE WORLD BURSTS OPEN WITH COLOR—AMPLIFIED BY THE BRIGHTEST COLLECTIONS OF THE SEASON.

> PRODUCED BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY WRITTEN BY CHRISTINA SPRATT SPENCER



VINTAGE *ROMANCE*

Brand-new boutique textile brand Rhinne is turning heads with colorful designs with a vintage twist. Their first collection of wallpapers, fabrics, and pillows is made with designs from twentiethcentury mill archives, meticulously drafted and painted by hand by master craftsmen from the predigital age. Rhinne's goal is to celebrate this lost craft of slow design and connect the past with the present through meaningful, collected, and joy-inducing patterns with optimistic color. rhinne.us

INTO THE WOODS

Abstract artist Liane Ricci debuts two new mural wallpaper collections, Bosco and Plank, through her Durham-based atelier, Ricci Studio. Inspired by the deep woods, Ricci's transformative process melds the worlds of fine art, interior design, and the wonder of the forest together for an immersive experience steeped in rich blues and spicy neutrals. lianericci.com





COLORFUL BACKDROP

The new Backdrop IV wallpaper collection from sustainable paint house Backdrop Home inspires a painterly reverence toward wallcoverings with the exploration of techniques from light fluid whispers of watercolor to richly dense brushstrokes. Grandiose geometric forms, fantastical florals, the sensibility of linear simplicity, and eccentric calligraphic movement are all translated in their signature edited color palette, with each design adapted from original artwork. backdrophome.com

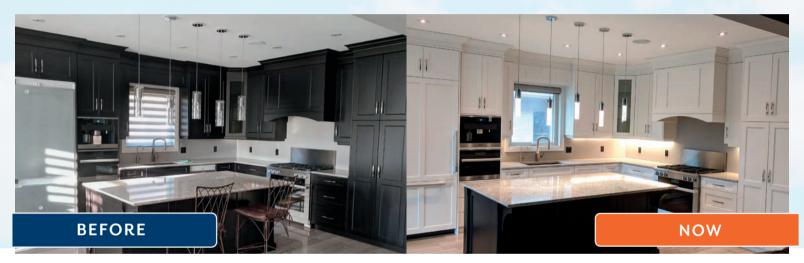


In a collaboration with Taylor King and Woodbridge, world-renowned interior designer Celerie Kemble brings her playfully spirited and colorfully feminine designs to this exclusive furniture collection. Sculptural shapes are refined with traditional flair and lively details saturate the delightful gesthetic, all with a nod to Kemble's Palm Beach roots. woodbridgefurniture.com

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: BACKDROP, WOODBRIDGE, LIANE RICCI, RHINNI

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Famed London-based designer Wendy Morrison is known the world-over for her artisancrafted colorfully designed rugs and quality-driven materials, both inspired by her time spent as a fashion designer. Once only available online in the U.S. and shipped from London, Couture Knots in Charlotte is now the sole carrier of Morrison's line here in America. coutureknots.com







COLOR COLLISION

Designer and artist Cassie Adams debuts her collection of joyfully vibrant pillows crafted of artful patterns digitally designed by hand. Her textiles, artwork, and interiors fuse the imaginative juxtaposition of nature and urban landscapes with classic and modern sensibility. The new collection presents these energetic designs with a vivaciously colorful and joy-filled textile palette that's suitable for the everyday. cassieadamsdesigns.com



EXOTICA

Award-winning designer Angela Harris strikes a unique balance of art and nature in her second collaboration with Tile Bar for the Wilder Collection. Three tropical designs inspired by her international travels embody the enchanting dynamism of exotic wildflowers. Durable porcelain tiles designed in a matte finish create the look of a painted canvas and can be installed as extended murals for an enveloping and lush aesthetic. tilebar.com



UNASSUMING BEAUTY

Designer Victoria Larson and Stout, one of America's oldest family-owned interior design companies, collaborate for this third exclusive collection of floral-inspired fabric and wallpaper. The collection, Heritage II, features three new patterns and three new colorways in existing patterns, and is inspired by Larson's everyday walks in the garden observing the wild, relaxed, and less-showy florals like lilies, daisies, and coneflowers. The fresh color palette pairs new combinations of pinks and mint, complementing serene blues and greens. stouttextiles.com





BEAUTY **ABOUNDS**

EVERY FAMILY IS WORTHY OF BEAUTY IN THEIR LIVES, STARTING AT HOME.

TEXT BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY

Designer Leslie May was always looking for ways to use her design for good and kept searching for a project that spoke to her heart. When a friend told her about Charlotta (Lotta) Sjoelin, founder of A Lotta Love in the Triangle, she felt certain this was it.

"Not only does a beautiful, cared-for environment impact your mood and outlook, but I think it is important that everyone know they are worthy of beauty in their everyday life," explains May. "After my first meeting with Lotta, and feeling Lotta's passion and excitement for transforming lives, I knew I had found the opportunity for which I'd been searching."

Lotta Sjoelin was inspired to help homeless shelters in 2014, after she walked into one in Chapel Hill to donate and felt a deep sadness for what she saw. "If a homeless shelter was supposed to be a safe space for transforming lives, I couldn't see how this environment could uplift anyone," she recalls. "I went home and cried; then I got to work." Eight years later, A Lotta Love has grown to include twenty-four shelters across North Carolina with hundreds of

volunteers—people like May, who were eager to use their talents for good.

"The house I worked on was in horrible shape—holes in the floors, flickering electrical, and a raccoon inhabiting the upstairs bath," recalls May. "I knew we needed a builder with patience and creativity, so I called on Steve English in Chapel Hill. He did a masterful job

of bringing the house back from the brink. With a fresh, clean slate, I could focus on lived-in spaces with personal touches, like enveloping wallpaper and bold light fixtures," says May. She layered the home with cozy furniture and designed multiple quiet spaces, as well as places to gather and maintain normal family life around dinner tables and TVs.

To say the results were fulfilling would be an understatement. May is already chasing that high with another A Lotta Love family shelter in Chapel Hill. Results for residents are even more satisfying. In a recent two-year study on Trauma-Informed Design conducted by A Lotta Love, shelter residents reported feeling 20 percent more hopeful and prepared, and up to 40 percent safer after the redesign of their space.

"We all know that the physical environment you live in directly impacts your physical and emotional health. It's even more imparative for homeless families," says Sjoelin. May adds, "I hope this encourages others to get involved. These families need and deserve love poured into them from their neighbors, and the design community can offer so much more than just 'pretty things."" ◆







Kristin THARPE

Designer Kristin Tharpe of Parker Tharpe designs with a discerning eye; you can almost see the wheels spinning as she steps into a space. Her inspiration comes in many forms, "simple as well as complex," she says, and it's different with each project. But the results are the same: a multifaceted design with a noticeable edge.

"There's balance in creating," says Tharpe. "Having a vision for the project is imperative to the process. It ensures both you and the client are in alignment with the direction of the space and communicating clearly, which is a must." A glimpse into this bedroom reveals Tharpe's inherent understanding of layer, texture, and detail.

"As often as I can, I strive for curated and authentic spaces, which is conveyed in this bedroom with clear forms of furniture, layered textiles, and carefully cultivated art," says Tharpe. "Ultimately, the space should reflect who they are and what's important to them. Again, a balance of beauty and function."

- 1. Quadrille Veneto Custom Pillow / \$450 / etsy.com
- 2. Small Globe Chandelier / \$1,269 / visualcomfort.com
- 3. Laurent Dining Chair / to the trade / hickorychair.com
- 4. Avalon Throw / \$1,750 / Hermes.com
- 5. Figure Study / \$198 / houseofjadehome.com
- 6. Tompkins Four Poster Bed / to the trade / hickorychair.com
- 7. Hallings Secretary / to the trade / centuryfurniture.com













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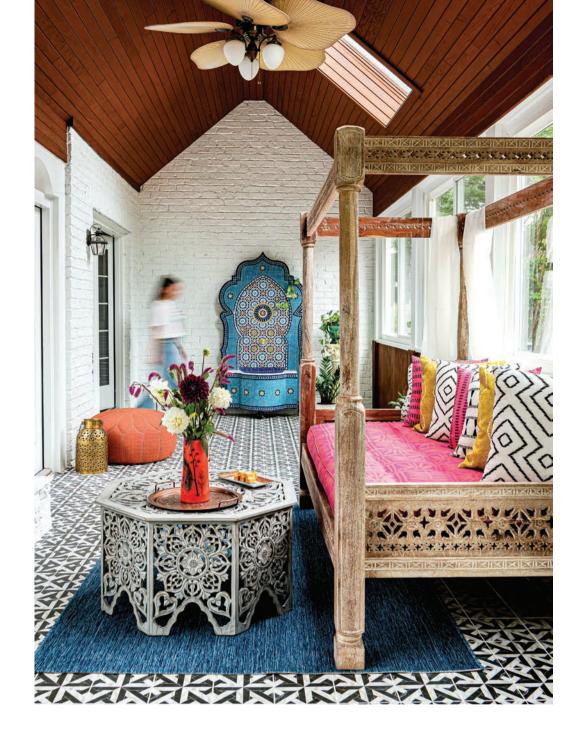
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BOLD NEW WORLD

DESIGNERS NUR SENDUR TOSUN AND MAYRA GARZA USE ONE FAMILY'S LOVE OF COLOR AND CULTURE TO CREATE A STRIKING & BOLD HOME.

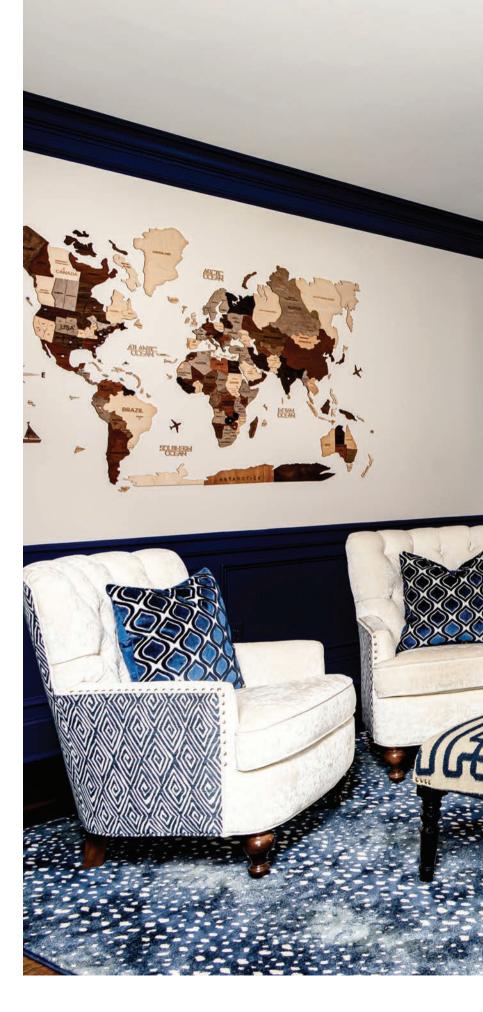
TEXT BY MARIA MASTERS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ABIGAIL JACKSON



In the entryway, Sendur Tosun and Garza kept the walls white for a muted, calm look, but added depth to the narrow hallway with a huge mirror from Arhaus.

"A DREAM PROJECT." That was what Nur Sendur Tosun and Mayra Garza, founders of Casa Vie Interiors, first thought when they were approached by their client, who was looking to redecorate her new home in Raleigh. The homeowner hadn't moved very far—just a few blocks away from her old home—but she was drawn to the house's open floor plan and bigger backyard, which was perfect for her two children. "It was more for the kids to be able to run around and play," the homeowner says.

A new house calls for a new design plan, and the homeowner was looking for a bolder, more modern aesthetic—one that showcased her love of color and her globetrotting lifestyle. One day while scrolling Instagram, Casa Vie Interiors popped up in her feed. She reached out to the designers for a meeting.







LEFT: Black trim frames the window in the family room, which is visible through the entryway. A Braylin hand-tufted rug from Pottery Barn adds interest to a more neutral color scheme. "We had to add something to make the room pop," says Garza.

OPPOSITE: Sendur Tosun and Garza paired the homeowner's existing dining room furniture with a kaleidoscope-papered ceiling from Cole & Son and a green glass chandelier from Currey & Company. On the walls are two shades of black paint: Sherwin-Williams Tricorn Black and Sherwin-Williams Iron Ore. "We wanted that dramatic, eye-catching look," says Garza.

Sendur Tosun, who is from Turkey, and Garza, who is from Mexico, jumped at the opportunity. Both designers hail from regions that feature bright, bold colors, graphic patterns, and rich textures; a style that can, at times, differ from the neutral tones that many homeowners favor. "Finding a project like this was a treasure," she says.

The homeowner had a few cherished pieces that she wanted to incorporate into the home, and those pieces drove much of the design. One item was a traditional wooden swing brought over from India—the basis for the aptly named "swing room." "The swing is something I grew up with at my parents' house, and I always wanted one in my house," says the homeowner. Sendur Tosun and Garza took inspiration from the brass chains, which are made of small peacock figurines, and created three wall panels using peacock wallpaper from Rifle Paper Co. Reupholstered armchairs in











bright coral fabric from Mill Outlet Village round out the high-contrast look.

The designers took a similar approach to the sitting room, where they incorporated a beloved red chinoiserie hutch into an eclectic color scheme. Sendur Tosun and Garza embraced the boldness of the hutch, accenting the space with a blue animal-print rug, geometric blue wallpaper, and diamond-cut blue pillows in a traditional Turkish pattern.

The biggest transformation, though, occurred in the sunroom, where the homeowner had requested a Moroccan look. "It was like being a kid in a candy shop," says Sendur Tosun. "You can be as creative as you want with that theme." She and Garza left the original wooden ceilings, painted the walls white, and laid a black-and-ivory porcelain tile for

the floor. But the pièce de résistance came in the form of a six-foot-tall handmade mosaic fountain, which was built by a talented artisan at Farah Décor in Morocco before being shipped to the United States. The designers rounded out the room with a colorful daybed and a wicker patio set, which the homeowner uses to have tea.

The project took nearly a year to finish, partly due to the designers' careful planning. For each room, she and Garza created mood boards for their client, complete with fabric swatches and tile samples. "The result may look spontaneous, but I think on each detail in advance," says Sendur Tosun. All the hard work paid off. "Every room is special. Having Mayra and Nur understand us was amazing," says the homeowner. "Everything flows, and we couldn't be happier." •







ABOVE: In the entry, Hood used a vintage bench found at local shop Union Camp Collective underneath original botanical artworks by Lia Burke Libaire. She recovered the pillow and cushion using fabrics from Lee Jofa and Kravet, and paired it with a vintage runner. An Alabaster light fixture from Visual Comfort hangs above.

OPPOSITE: A table by RH sits in the breakfast area, with Selamat chairs surrounding. Urban Electric pendant lights above the table and the island bring warm brass tones, and a neutral Lee Jofa grasscloth wallpaper offers a relaxing backdrop that makes the homeowner happy.

AS INTERIOR DESIGNER

Lauren Hood was winding down installations on her client Meghan Pyle's home, she got a call from her saying they had just purchased a new home. "We weren't intending to move," promises Pyle, "but we had always admired this home from afar. It was built by Dixon Kirby in 2008, and when it was listed for sale, the opportunity was too hard to pass up." The home was in move-in ready condition, but just needed some style updates including paint and new lighting.

With three young children under eight at the time, Pyle was looking for a home that appealed to her children but was also sophisticated and beautiful. "We knew going into it, and having just worked on their previous home, that any fabrics, furniture, and rugs would need to be durable and kid-friendly," says Hood. They started with the children's rooms, in fact, wanting to make the transition painless and exciting for them.

"My tendency is definitely more towards neutral and muted colors," admits Pyle. "I love the white walls in most of our house and prefer adding color with wallpaper and accents like









In the owner's suite bathroom, graphic Phillip Jeffries wallpaper calms in a neutral tone, mixed with a vintage rug and Visual Comfort lighting. Pindler fabric drapes provide privacy and are lined with Samuel & Sons trim.

fabric and accessories. I can definitely appreciate colors in fresh flowers and enjoy adding colors in my wardrobe." With that in mind, the bold designs reside primarily in the children's rooms, particularly her oldest son's blue bedroom, with some of the excitement dripping into main rooms through art, fabrics, and accessories.

But the den is one space where the color spill couldn't be contained. "The green room is absolutely my favorite," says Hood. Formerly an office and then a playroom for a short while, the den has morphed over the years. "It's perfectly suited for either adult cocktail hour or a family game night. The rich olive walls and trim make it chic and snug." Pyle

adds, "I love the den and am grateful for Lauren's suggestion to paint it entirely olive green—the walls, crown molding, ceiling, and built-in cabinetry. The framed painting is one of my favorite wall hangings."

With Hood's gentle nudging, the home came together in a dance of risky patterns and colors, and minimalistic and refined designs. "The house is spacious with high ceilings, so it needed layers to make it work for a young family," explains Hood. "We added grasscloth, linen drapes, a custom wool rug, and a large sectional to the family room, and it was quite the transformation." Hood injected color into this home without painting walls and trim, keeping most of













For the oldest son's room, Hood chose bold Blue Nose paint by Benjamin Moore and paired it with masculine touches like a leather chair, wool throws, a vintage rug, and shade fabrics by Schumacher. Custom artwork by Suzy Lindow dots the wall, and a large built-in bookshelf from Room & Board is perfect for all the boy things.

the common areas bathed in Benjamin Moore White Dove, and instead added art, fabrics, and wallpaper to most of the rooms for color moments.

Speaking of moments, the dining room is sneaky bold with custom de Gournay wallpaper filling one side balanced by a bookcase wall full of children's classics on the other. Like the rest of her home, Pyle weaves in a relaxed family feel with the occasional shell from a vacation or a handmade gift from the

children. "Sometimes I find a Lego man strategically placed, likely by a seven-year-old," she says.

In the end, this project spoke directly to Hood's heart, too, with the mix of neutrals and colors, bold and calm, de Gournays and old books. "I lie somewhere in the middle when it comes to color," says Hood. "I love a clean neutral room with layers of texture, but I also adore a room with bold colors and patterns. This home satisfies both personalities." ◆



GLOW UP

HOMEOWNER KELLIE FALK PUTS A COLORFUL, ONE-OF-A-KIND SPIN ON AN ORDINARY TOWNHOUSE.

TEXT BY MARIA MASTERS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY CATHERINE NGUYEN STYLED BY KELLY V. FLANAGIN, GOLDLEAF INTERIOR



KELLIE FALK and her husband had to wait a year before they could move into their four-story townhouse in Raleigh. Construction on the brand-new seventeen-home development was delayed for some time, but Falk saw it as an opportunity, not a setback.

"We were one of the first people to buy one of these townhomes," says Falk. "And since we bought it before the framing was up, we were able to change some of the layouts of the rooms and customize it for ourselves."

Falk, who did the interior design herself, started by moving the kitchen, dining room, and living room from the second floor to the fourth floor, where the home's only balcony and patio was located. "We really wanted the balcony to entertain our guests," she said. The











ABOVE: In the powder room off the family room, Falk lacquered the cabinets orange and dressed the walls in a gold fish-scale style adhesive wallpaper. A 1960s spaghetti chandelier, which she found in an antique store in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, hangs from the ceiling.

OPPOSITE: Falk designed the owner's bedroom, relocated to the third floor, around a silk rug she sourced from ABC Carpet & Home in New York City. She accented the space with violet floral wallpaper from SBC Decor.

builder not only agreed to the change, but he liked the idea so much that he incorporated Falk's design into the last three units in the development.

That change spurred more alterations, especially in the kitchen. The existing six-foot island felt too small, so she swapped it out for a nine-foot island complete with a waterfall marble countertop. She also chose her own backsplash: blue tiles from Byrd Tile Distributors. On the opposite wall, she balanced out the space with a row of navy-blue cabinets, which serves as a buffet, and accented the space with Cole & Son wallpaper.

When she moved the owner's suite to the third floor, she also enlarged the en suite bathroom to accommodate a soaking tub and chose her own floor file, also from Byrd Tile Distributors. "We were given an allowance for the tile, but we definitely went over it," says Falk.

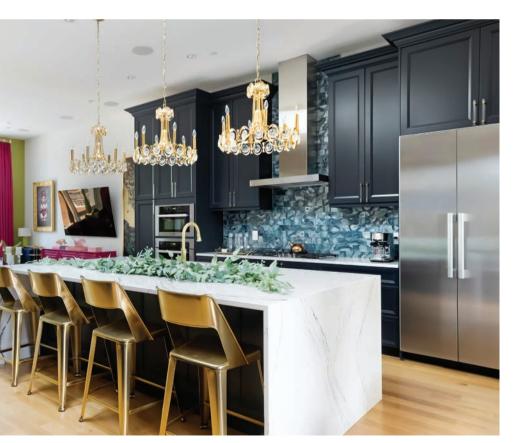
The hall closets allowed Falk to regain some muchneeded storage space. "We had to use every nook and

RIGHT: In the living room, a navy-blue velvet sectional sofa from ModShop sits opposite a hot pink credenza. Falk sourced the artwork by Daniel Merriam from a gallery in Sausalito, California. "I loved it because it was almost like a cartoon Alice in Wonderland," she says.

BELOW: Formerly the owner's suite, the kitchen features a nine-foot-long island with waterfall quartz countertops from Cambria Portrush. To complement the space, Falk added three Hollywood Regency-style brass chandeliers by Palwa Germany, which she purchased from 1stDibs.

cranny to house all of our stuff," she says. The townhouse is just as large as her previous home—a wide, open condo that Falk lived in for sixteen years—but the rooms are longer and narrower, and she couldn't accommodate many of the antiques she'd acquired from her grandparents or sourced from flea markets. To make sure the furniture was proportional to the rooms, she ended up ordering multiple custom-made pieces—including the blue velvet sectional in the family room, the desk in the office, and the bed in the owner's suite—all from ModShop in New York City.





Falk's favorite room in the home is the family room—or, more accurately, the girl cave, which she calls the "situation room," explaining, "It's because situations happen in there," and adds, "we try to name all the rooms in our homes." It's an apt nickname—the room contains a ten-foot projector screen and a fully-stocked wet bar. "It has so many functions," she says. "I can get my blanket and sit on the couch and watch a Disney movie really loud, or have parties in there where I hire a bartender and play music."

While the townhouse is tailor-made for Falk and her fun, lively personality, she still has one more move to make into her "forever home"—a project that's still in the early stages. One thing that Falk won't compromise on, though, is her bold, bright style. "I told my architect, 'We are going to have color, because I am not having a black-and white-house," she says. ◆



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DESIGN DESTINATION

COLEY HOME PREMIERES A NEW SHOWROOM FOR CUSTOMERS ACROSS THE SOUTHEAST.

WRITTEN BY BRANDY WOODS SNOW

When the pandemic hit in early 2020, it's safe to say the Coley Home team was a little nervous. After all, they were a new business just getting off the ground.

Fortunately, their business model was the right fit for homeowners sequestered indoors. "As the rest of the world was holed up at home and ready to tackle design projects they had put off for years, we had already created a



business that was built totally online," says owner Coley Collett Hull. "Plus, we were able to get made-to-order pieces of furniture to our customers faster than the vast majority of our competitors."

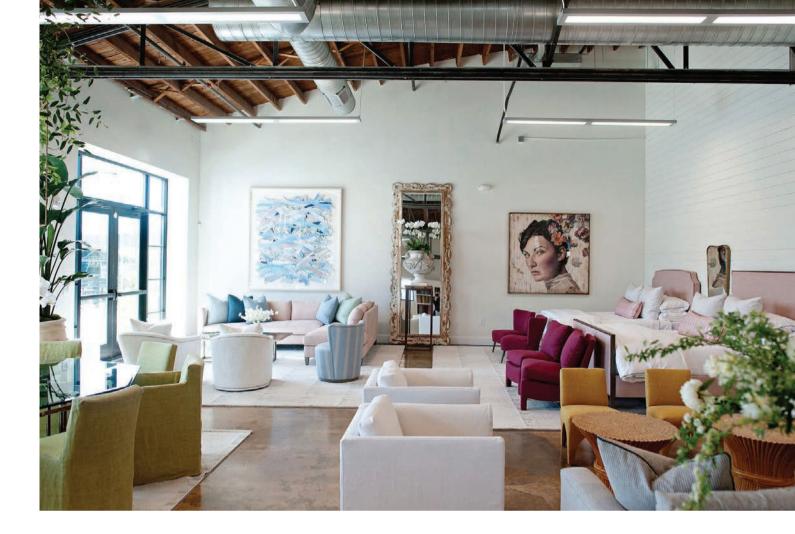
What began in fall 2019 with the introduction of their custom bed-in-a-box, the Crown Bed, grew to a larger variety of quick-ship and small-scale furniture the following year, and then another drastic manufacturing expansion the year after that.

Now in business for over three years, they have expanded again—this time with a new showroom.

"WE TAKE GREAT PRIDE THAT ALL OF OUR PIECES ARE PRODUCED RIGHT HERE IN NORTH CAROLINA AND THAT WE'LL BE ABLE TO PERMANENTLY SHOWCASE THEM."

—COLEY COLLETT HULL

"This was an obvious next step for our business. We constantly received calls from people asking where they could sit on our furniture," says Hull. "We didn't have a glamorous retail site, and we were finding that more people needed to experience pieces in person before purchasing." Additionally, the Coley Home team discovered a correlation between appearances at High Point Market and sales booms, which was attributed to the fact that customers were able to see products firsthand.



When the lease on their previous location was ending and the Wesley Heights development was coming available, they knew they needed to act. The new 1,500-square-foot showroom and 2,500-square-foot office space opened at the end of February and provides customers with a host of services and new product offerings, including a growing selection of sofas, sectionals, swivels, dining chairs, and beds. Now, this spring, Coley Home is introducing even more fun styles including bar stools, larger ottomans, and richly textured fabrics.

"For some, buying a piece of furniture online might be a little overwhelming. Now, anyone can sit on cushions and feel fabrics," says Hull. "Because we do offer a wide range of fabrics and models, it can be helpful to talk with one of our team members in person, walk through the showroom, and select pieces to suit a particular taste."

Customers visiting the showroom can utilize services such as in-store order placement and one-on-one design advice. They can also view the entire fabric collection, take home fabric swatches, purchase floor models for 25 percent off retail, and gain early access to all new Coley Home introductions.

"We take great pride that all of our pieces are produced right here in North Carolina and that we'll be able to permanently showcase them," says Hull. "We are excited to be able to engage directly with our customers and to be a resource for the design community. It is our hope to not only be a go-to source serving our immediate area, but to also become a destination for customers throughout the Southeast." ◆



THE NEIGHBORLY FARMHOUSE

THIS UNIQUELY DESIGNED MODERN FARMHOUSE COMBINES TOP STYLE WITH CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY.

WRITTEN BY EVAN BOST



Like the latest lighting fixtures and paint colors in vogue, custom home floor plans evolve through design trends, too. The sprawling yet compartmentalized layouts of the early aughts, dated and inefficient, gave rise to the open concept plans with eat-in kitchens and casual spaces. More recently, dedicated work-from-home offices have become standard, as many people work a hybrid or remote schedule. As we look to changing needs, which home design concepts are next? This farmhouse built by Bost Custom Homes offers a few suggestions.

"We packed an airy, naturally illuminated living-kitchen-dining space, a scullery, a pool bath, four bedrooms, a large rec room, a modern wine cellar, and a dedicated office into 3,682-square-feet that's no easy feat," says Eric Sherman, operations manager at Bost Custom Homes. "We accomplished this by using an unconventional layout best described as 'neighborly." In this design, the windows and patio doors positioned along the front facade reveal the daily living spaces of the home versus private spaces like studies or guest bedrooms typically arranged here. The key difference of this design is that the home embraces the sidewalk and passing neighbors. Simultaneously, the corner-lot shape of the home creates a private oasis for the pool and spa behind the home. "The net benefits are equally social and pragmatic," says Sherman.



"THE NET BENEFITS ARE EQUALLY SOCIAL AND PRAGMATIC."

—ERIC SHERMAN

To the right of the front entry, four-panel patio sliding doors integrate the family room to a gracious front porch, mirroring an identical door unit between the back of the family room and the rear phantom screened porch. This gives the family room natural light from the front and rear while orienting the space to be fully opened to the sidewalk when feeling friendly, to the private pool and spa when not, or both. Being a corner house, the garage protrudes from the back left of the main house body and is accessed from the side street, creating abundant privacy for the backyard pool, spa, and firepit area.

The kitchen, dining, and scullery spaces enjoy natural light and visibility from the front of the home as well, further supporting a sense of connection to the community. "By using the family room, kitchen, dining, and scullery spaces to fill out the front facade, the design wastes no space," says Sherman. "The front door enters between the kitchen and family room, making the

foyer an extension of useful spaces instead of an unused transition zone; the stairwell is tucked between the back wall of the kitchen and the dual-use powder room/pool bath that packs tons of functionality and livability into a small space; and an eight-by-twelve-foot corner office grants the homeowner a wonderfully lit work-from-home facility that offers visibility to the neighborhood should the homeowner want it."

This duo of benefits—increased connection with the community and square-footage-conserving design—may just be the trend we need as we head into tighter financial times. There is a pragmatic reason home designers of the early twentieth-century addressed the street with large front porches and small setbacks: neighbors recognized that orienting homes to public square was a net benefit to the home and community. "The Neighborly Farmhouse blends a modern open concept with those timeless sensibilities, saving square footage along the way," says Sherman. •

OUTDOOR LIVING, **OPTIMIZED**

TURN HOT SUMMER PATIOS, DECKS, AND PORCHES INTO YEAR-ROUND ASSETS.

WRITTEN BY DANA W. TODD

This time of year, getting outdoors is surely top of mind. It's possible to maximize your outdoor living space without upsizing its square footage. When you add motorized exterior shades, awnings, or shutters, you can enlarge the "usable" footprint of your entertainment and relaxation spots quickly and easily by making them even more comfortable, cool, and protected.

A beautiful screened porch or deck can feel like the most exciting aspect of a new home, but sweltering summers, lack of privacy among neighbors, or pesky bugs often keep the fun inside.

"With outdoor living and entertaining as a huge aspect of people's lives, we have shades and awnings that make outdoor spaces much more enjoyable," says Budget Blinds' owner Dan









Parlin. "Motorized exterior shades and awnings can remove some of the barriers to your open-air enjoyment, like excessive heat and bothersome bugs. They can also help to protect your furniture from rain and wind while keeping cold temperatures out during the winter."

Budget Blinds design consultants listen to a customer's specific needs and match them with the appropriate exterior motorized shades, retractable awnings, or weatherproof shutters to provide the best solution, with benefits that include:

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- Enhanced bug protection
- Protection from the elements in inclement weather
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- Custom-fit applications for the size of your space
- Hundreds of high-quality fabrics and unique design options

Ongoing guidance from a design consultant helps customers choose the right product based on their goals and style. With convenience at the forefront, motorization and automation allow homeowners to control the shade or awning with a wireless remote control or smartphone app, including setting movements on a pre-programmed schedule to raise and lower shades for a set-it-and-forget-it experience.

"WE HAVE SHADES AND AWNINGS THAT MAKE OUTDOOR SPACES MUCH MORE ENJOYABLE."

—DAN PARLIN

Budget Blinds has twenty-four years of experience helping customers find the right window coverings for their home's unique needs. From the initial in-home consultation to professional installation, lifestyle is a top priority when choosing the perfect solution.

While your design consultant will bring samples to you, the showroom is a place to get inspiration. "We have the Triangle's largest window treatment showroom, with hundreds of designer-level custom fabrics from which to choose, and displays set up for hands-on exploration," says Parlin.

Although Budget Blinds is the nationwide window covering leader, the Durham, Cary, and North Raleigh team is focused on supporting the local community. Last year, it donated more than \$40,000 to nonprofit organizations serving the Triangle through its \$1 Per Window Campaign. This year, the company is grateful to its customers who enable the opportunity to continue giving back.

It's time for homeowners to reclaim their porches and patios from heat and pests. Budget Blinds can help create an outdoor space you'll enjoy all four seasons of the year. ◆



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WITH FLYING **COLORS**

BY MICHELLE HARDY



AS A REACTION TO THE STRESS OF COVID. WE HAVE SEEN A RISE IN POPULARITY OF SOOTHING AND MEDITATIVE GREENS AND BLUES—THE COLORS FOUND IN NATURE.

Thankfully, the pandemic is behind us, and this year, the color forecast includes deep saturated colors like those beautiful blues and greens, along with softer pinks, corals, and earth tones.

New color trends translate to new fabric options. At Furnish, we're lucky to have thousands of fabric and leather options at our fingertips. And every spring and fall, we replenish old fabrics with new, so there are always fresh choices for our customers to work with when customizing their space.

An easy way to bring color into your home is with throw pillows or rugs. While rugs can have a wide range of price points, it's definitely possible to find a budget-friendly rug that showcases some of today's beautiful trending colors. The same applies to throw pillows. Take advantage of the gorgeous fabrics that are available and use them to echo the intriguing splashes of color in your rug!

Next, consider the walls. I'm a fan of experimenting with wall color to define the mood of a room. For example, most of the walls in my home are quite neutral, but in my dining room, I went bold with black walls. I found a fun wallpaper for the







COLOR IS THE FIRST THING YOU NOTICE IN A HOME, AND IT ALSO EVOKES THE MOST EMOTION.

powder bathroom and then accented with dramatic lighting in both rooms. In the kitchen, I like to keep it clean: honed marble on the kitchen countertops and walnut on the island top, neutral cabinets, elegant yet unique lighting, and gold hardware (gold faucets and fixtures are still a hot color combination). My color pop in the kitchen comes from fresh flowers or greenery found at local farmers markets.

Speaking of keeping it clean, we're seeing a trend of light and neutral walls, even white, and accenting with natural woods and dark grays on cabinetry and around fireplaces. And if you missed the gray paint bandwagon, you're in luck—beige is the new neutral, replacing the cooler gray tones that have dominated the past decade.

In any case, creating an aesthetically cohesive home doesn't have to cause anxiety. Some people find it overwhelming to think about how one design choice will invariably lead to the next room, but this is where the designers at Furnish shine. Color is the first thing you notice in a home, and it also evokes the most emotion. Our designers will help you define your personal interior color palette, and we can use that information to create rooms that have their own identity yet complement each other.

With custom, made-in-America furniture for the living room, bedroom, dining room, and office, plus rugs, art, and accessories, we have everything you need to furnish your home. ◆

MICHELLE HARDY is the owner of FURNISH. Learn more at FURNISHNC.COM, call 919-670-4400, or visit 8724 GLENWOOD AVENUE in Raleigh.



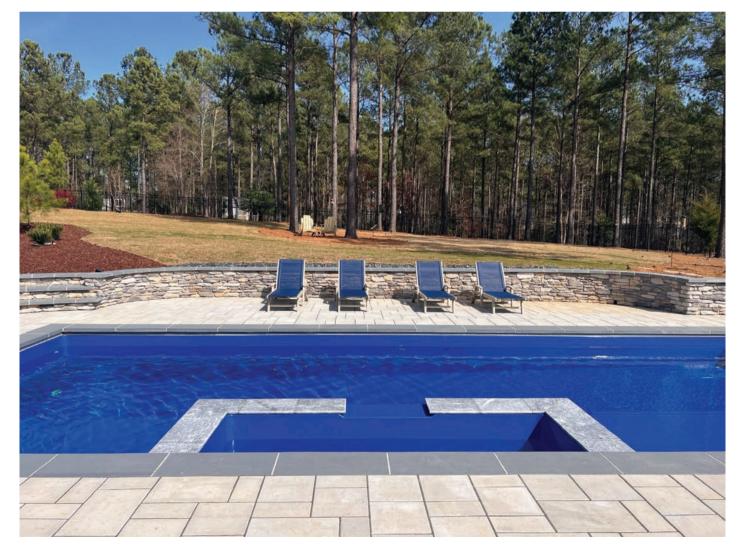
OUTDOOR EXTRAORDINAIRE

BY DANIEL GODFREY

ARE YOU DREAMING OF A BACKYARD TRANSFORMATION? HOMEOWNERS OFTEN HAVE A WISH LIST OF FEATURES THEY WANT IN AN OUTDOOR OASIS.

Their ideal sanctuary may consist of a pool, a spa, a patio, a sport court, a fire feature, and an outdoor kitchen. They frequently need advice on what they can fit into the available space and how to tie it all together for a designer-level look.

To plan an effective outdoor space, we start with an interview with the homeowner to determine not only their wants, but also how they plan to use the area. Do they like to throw parties? Do they expect everyone in attendance to mingle on the patio, or will people move throughout different "rooms" in the backyard? Do they need an activity zone for kids while parents relax in another part of the yard? The interview results provide us with invaluable insight into what type of finished project is right for the





OUR GOAL IS TO HELP EVERYONE VISUALIZE THE BIGGER PICTURE.

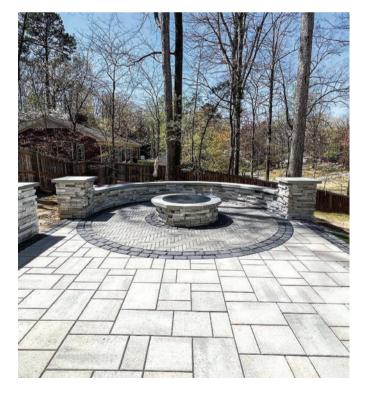
family so we can develop a comprehensive space plan for the entire backyard.

We ask homeowners to consider the possibilities. Are they looking for a large pool for working out, or are they more interested in relaxing with a smaller plunge pool and adjacent Jacuzzi for hanging out? Perhaps they have children and want bubblers for fun play dates or a pool that is five-feet deep for teenagers who enjoy playing water volleyball.

Families who have caught the pickleball bug have asked us to install pickleball courts at home so they don't have to wait for a reservation when they want to organize a quick game. By designing courts as multiuse zones, we create a space that doubles as a patio or driveway when not in use. When family members finish the game and are ready to party or relax, they simply pull the patio furniture into place on the court.



Our goal is to help everyone visualize the bigger picture. How does the landscape look from the living room window while inside the house? How will the pool fit into and connect with the patio and outdoor kitchen? Is there room for a firepit? In a resort, half the fun of walking to the tiki bar is traveling down the beautiful pathway that leads to it. It's possible to capture that vacation mindset by fully integrating all the different components of a space plan into a new backyard. •





THE MAKER'S MARK

BY KELLY SCHUPP

IN A WORLD FILLED WITH MASS-PRODUCED ITEMS, I LOVE THE DESIGN AND WORKMANSHIP OF VINTAGE FURNITURE AND THE UNIQUE BEAUTY IT BRINGS TO A HOME.

At Rail & Stile, we specialize in bringing new life to vintage furniture through lacquer or refinishing. Our customers choose from a curated inventory of rare vintage pieces, or they bring in one of their own cherished items to have our team renew.

Increasingly, we find that homeowners want furniture with the same style and quality as vintage but with modern-day sizing and updated functionality. To address this need, we have expanded our offerings to include handcrafted in-house

furniture we call Vintage Modern. Each piece celebrates vintage design but is sized for today's living. Our debut collection, Modern Ming, was launched this spring to the High Point design community and is now available in our retail showroom. The collection is inspired by midcentury chinoiserie profiles and, like all of our furniture, can be customized with your choice of lacquer color, finish, and hardware.

In our retail showroom, we have added an extensive selection of decor from around the world. By adding a treasure trove of bespoke furniture and decor items from artisans and craftsman, we are bringing in the heirloom quality for which Rail & Stile is known. We take pride in enhancing the furnishings category in new and creative ways. Shoppers can





I LOVE THE DESIGN AND WORKMANSHIP OF VINTAGE FURNITURE AND THE UNIQUE BEAUTY IT BRINGS TO A HOME.

choose from hundreds of artfully crafted handmade furnishings such as textiles, tableware, rugs, lighting, pottery, and blankets.

I'm particularly excited about the custom lampshades and pendant lighting from Helen Rutledge of Bibelot Home in Charleston. She uses vintage fabrics and trims to create showstopping lampshades of all shapes and sizes customized to shoppers' needs. Raleigh-based designer Cameron Jones of Cameron Jones Interiors incorporates designer fabrics into hand-sewn pillows sold here, and MaryMar Keenan, a San Francisco designer, designs handmade ceramic tableware.





Kaylynne Leggett of The Houseplant Hippie brings the energy and vibrancy of plants and florals to the showroom, and we showcase several more artisans—many local but some from as far away as Morocco (rug makers) and Africa (textile producers).

We added these makers to Rail & Stile because they inspire us. Their products immediately elevate any space in which they are placed. Visit our renovated showroom to shop for a gift, purchase a standout piece of furniture, or spend your Saturday afternoon browsing. You will find a vast selection of items to decorate every room in your home. •



ARCHITECTURALLY DRIVEN LANDSCAPES

BY DAVID PAYNE

MOVE OVER FRONT-DOOR DECOR. BLOOMING FLOWERS AND SHRUBS ARE THE EYE-CATCHERS DURING THE WARM SPRING AND SUMMER MONTHS.

Installing the appropriate plants is the number one way to add curb appeal, but what suits one type of house may not flatter another's architectural style.

A traditional Southern-style home cries for magnolia, crepe myrtle, loquat, fig, cabbage palmetto, pindo palms, and dogwood trees, many of which offer sustained blooms or fruit at some point during the growing season. While some of these trees have been available for decades, others are newer introductions but integrate just as well with plants from the last century. The period perennials that work well with a home







in this general architectural category, like Georgian, Federal, Queen Anne, Italianate, and Southern Colonial styles, are well-established plants their owners may have chosen one- to two-hundred years ago, such as azaleas, camellias, climbing roses, Carolina jessamine, holly, gardenia, and hibiscus. Foundational plants integrate the house with the land and include Japanese yew, boxwood, and rhododendron. To look authentic, historic and reproduction homes need large specimens; that is, mature trees with expansive canopies that have a "been there all along" look.

WHAT SUITS ONE TYPE OF HOUSE MAY NOT FLATTER ANOTHER'S ARCHITECTURAL STYLE.

Trees with angular lines and a tall, columnar form work best for modern, midcentury modern, and Craftsman houses that feature simpler lines. These homes look content nestled into loblolly pines, weeping blue cedars, junipers, and Japanese maples, which work with the complementary restful lines of an Oriental Zen garden. Lower-growing and mounding plants are appropriate for this architectural style, including needle palms,

DAVID PAYNE is the owner of HOME & GARDEN LANDSCAPES and can be reached at 919-801-0211 or HOMEANDGARDENLANDSCAPES.COM.

Japanese holly, and feathery perennial grasses. This style, often inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright or the Bauhaus School, calls for landscapes with clean lines and geometric shapes complemented with low-growing creepers such as sedums and creeping thyme or shorter plants like mondo grass and lavender to slightly soften the lines.

Choosing architecturally complementary landscape plants is akin to selecting the right furniture to highlight interior architectural features. The right plants ensure the exteriors harmonize with the home's intended style. And while there can be crossover specimens, some trees and plants are simply better suited to a specific architectural style.

The goal of any landscaping plan is to enhance the architectural beauty of a home without distracting from it with dissonant plantings. The right professional can help a homeowner achieve this goal. ◆

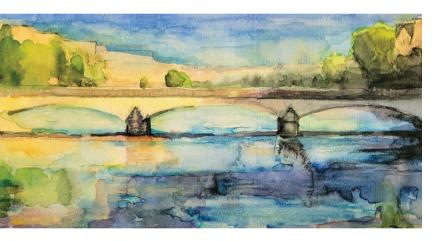


SPOTLIGHT

VOYAGER C'EST VIVRE

THE CENTERPIECE Through May 31 thecenterpiece.com

In his solo show, Voyager C'est Vivre, artist Joshua Smith works in a vortex of color and often on more than twenty varying sizes of canvas at a time. Not unlike the dreams he credits with inspiring his work, Smith paints in a fever of remembrance, memory, mysticism, and metaphor. Through the medium of painting, he developed his own language, which speaks of dreamlike imagery and nature, blending surrealism into the physical world with fragments of playful subject matters. Smith brings new work—both oil and watercolor—inspired by dreams and travels. Opening reception and meet the artist on May 5 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.





MICHAEL RICHARDS: ARE YOU DOWN?

NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF ART Through July 23 ncartmuseum.org

Michael Richards's visionary sculptures and drawings, created between 1990 and 2001, engage Blackness, flight, diaspora, spirituality, police brutality, and monuments. Michael Richards: Are You Down? takes its name from one of the last pieces the artist created. In his sculptures and installations, Richards gestures toward both repression and reprieve from social injustices and the simultaneous possibilities of uplift and downfall, often in the context of the historic and ongoing oppression of Black people. Flight and aviation were central themes for Richards as an exploration of freedom and escape, ascendance and descent.

DONNA STUBBS: FEATURED ARTIST

5 POINTS GALLERY May 18-June 10 5pointsgallery.com

Featuring Chapel Hill artist Donna Stubbs, this exhibit includes mixed media paintings that combine collage, photography, drawing, and unexpected color combinations. Stubbs's process is fueled by searching for ephemera and deconstructing it, as she lovingly unearths discarded items in thrift stores and photographs her surroundings. Working with abstraction allows her to intuitively play with materials. Collage and fabric are integrated as if they are painted. Bright colors, images of the body, and vintage ephemera become unexpected partners. It's an archeological approach to building up a painting. You don't need to know exactly what it is, but there's a history there. Reception and meet the artist on May 19 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.







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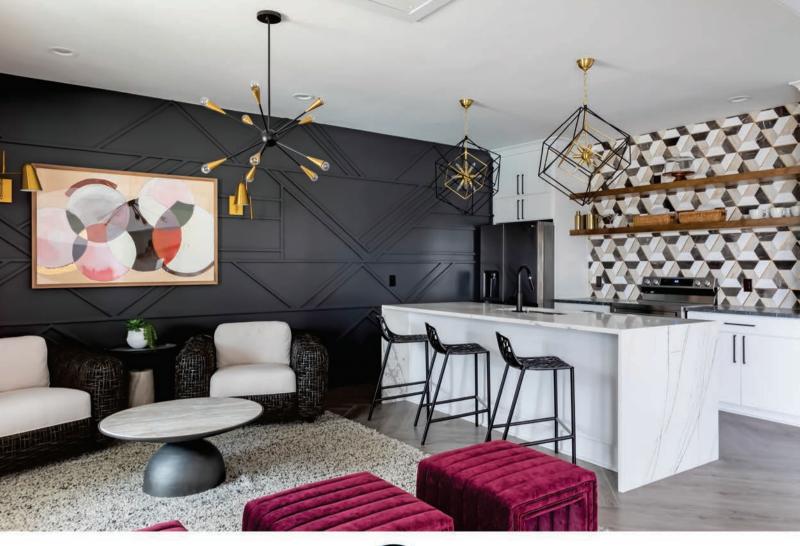
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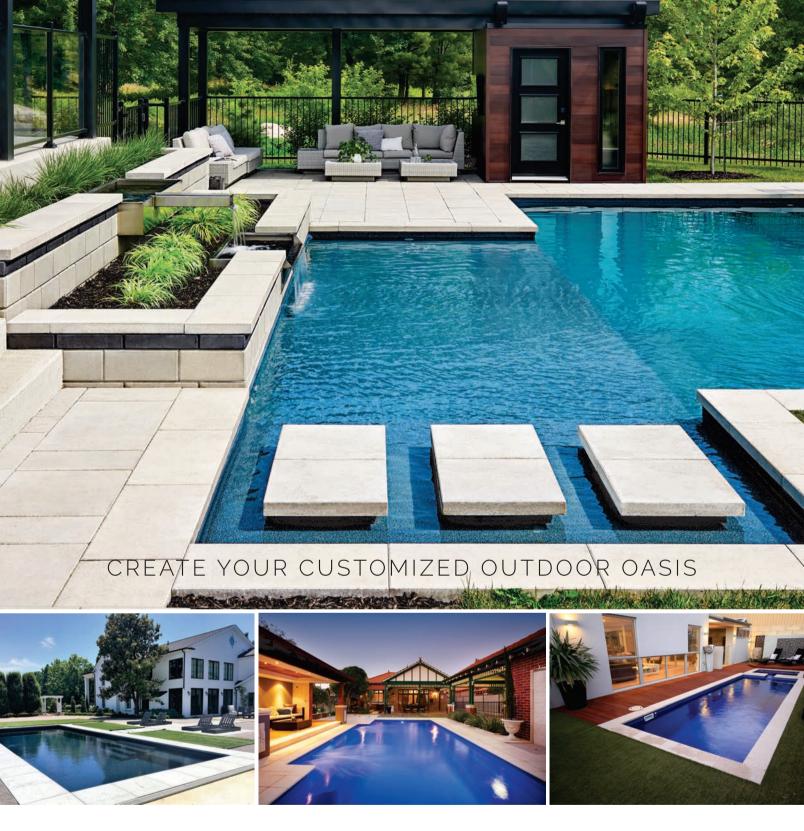


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