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As we get older, time becomes a bit arbitrary. It simultaneously moves at the speed of light while dragging on to the same distant drum beat. One day we're admiring how quickly our magnolias bloomed and the next, we're anxiously awaiting the start of a new school year; meanwhile, Christmas is only days away.

It's a roller-coaster of days, weeks, and months as we move through the seasons of life, and the only constant is that it's all precious; every slow and fleeting moment is precious. Our annual gatherings issue is intended to celebrate each of these moments through an expression of design, and giving, and gathering, and enjoyment.

Everything that makes life treasurable is a manifestation of something people produce, and we've put it into context in these pages. From retreating to the mountains for an ultra-stylish getaway, or, better yet, a family gathering, to drawing inspiration from skilled artisans in your gift-giving, we hope this issue brings you immense comfort and joy.

Blake & Anne Marie

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



ON THE COVER:
Designer Grey Joyner
invites us into her holiday
home (page 32).

PHOTOGRAPHY: LAUREN GRAHAM PHOTOGRAPHY; BRENDA RAMIREZ



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GREEN



Backdrop: Palm I Framed Mural / \$1,524 / shopabodehomedesign.com. VIS-À-VIS Paris French Cocktail Napkins / \$295 for set of 4 / rrunberg.com. Silvia Furmanovich Green Gem Marquetry Jewelry Box / \$1,650 / tinygods.com. Amber Bowl / \$138 / circainteriors.com. ester & erik Taper Candles in Wasabi / \$15 for a pair / lamaisonraleigh.com. Mignonne Gavigan Capri Medallion Necklace / \$150 / neimanmarcus.com. L'Objet x Haas Brothers Limited Edition Napoleon Fish Vessel / \$4,000 / elizabethbruns.com. Chamberlain Flutes / \$64 for set of 4 / anthropologie.com. Picasso Landscapes: Out of Bounds / \$45 / target.com. Stephen Sills: A Vision for Design / \$65 / barnesandnoble.com.



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Break Through Into Joy, Laura Berendsen Hughes

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BLUE



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PINK



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HOME *for* ENTERTAINING

SOUTHERN STUDIO'S OFFSHOOT IS A ONE-STOP SHOP FOR EVENTS, COOKING, AND ENTERTAINING IN STYLE.

TEXT BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY



If designer Vicky Serany, founder of Southern Studio, proves anything, it's that she's always evolving. Her latest venture, Home for Entertaining, is this evolution personified as an all-encompassing venue for everything her brand stands for: simple hospitality executed with expert style.

The downtown Cary design firm has transformed its downstairs space into a retail shop brimming with Serany's elite collection of entertaining goods, ranging from kitchen supplies to place settings and everything irresistible in between. The shop also hosts "experiences" for those who want to learn the art of entertaining, from cooking to flower arranging to tabletop design, and even a kitchen renovation class slated for the upcoming months.

"Our goal is simply to bring back entertaining in the home," says Serany. "Our clients have been coming to Southern Studio for years asking for help hosting their events. The time seemed right to expand our offerings." With more than twenty years of interior design under her belt, Serany has a unique expertise to bring to the literal table.

Also included in Home for Entertaining is an event space that can be reserved for special events, complete with a private chef, if desired. The sunroom can seat twenty-four guests, and local chefs will prepare a meal in the on-site demo kitchen. Serany's attention to detail and level of service make every facet of Home for Entertaining a true passion project for the designer and her team—one that she is eager to graciously share with the Triangle community. ♦

ON OCTOBER 1, Serany debuted the Found Collection—a selection of one-of-a-kind eight-piece place settings that she personally found while scouring antique shops and estate sales around the region. "Our Found Collection is dear to my heart because each piece is so rare," says Serany. "It really makes a place setting unique and adds that one-of-a-kind feeling to tablescapes."

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Home for the Holidays

DESIGNER GREY JOYNER OFFERS TIPS ON HOSTING FOR THE HOLIDAYS WHILE SHOWCASING HER PERSONAL HOME.

PRODUCED BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY



WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO MIX HOLIDAY DECOR WITH YOUR EXISTING HOME DESIGN?

Use decor to highlight your everyday palette! I use a lot of pink and turquoise, so I combine this amazing turquoise ribbon on the banister with some greenery, and on the outside, I mix pink and red ribbon.

TELL US HOW YOUR HOLIDAY AESTHETIC HAS EVOLVED.

I am big on tradition. This didn't become important until after my parents' house burned down in my early twenties. Since then, our family heirlooms or gifted ornaments are always incorporated, often in unconventional ways to intentionally highlight them. For instance, my husband's grandmother made us some ornaments that are now used on the napkins at each place setting at our dining table, while the holly balls on the backs of the chairs are gifts from my grandmother.

WHAT'S THE KEY TO CREATING A WELCOMING HOLIDAY HOME?

I tell clients to let their home tell a story about them: their travels, loves, collections, and heritage. These things make visitors feel closer to you. I display the kids'

handmade ornaments prominently on the tree, along with pictures from preschool and even my sweet husband's ornaments from childhood. And always, nothing says welcome like a lit fireplace.

WHAT'S YOUR GO-TO ENTERTAINING HACK?

Make sure that every room has a small snack or something to nibble on. I also love to set up mini bars where people can serve themselves a drink.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FOOD/ DRINK TO SERVE AT A HOLIDAY GET-TOGETHER?

I am famous for my Christmas toffee. I always keep it around for those who stop in during the holiday season.

WHAT MAKES THE HOLIDAYS FEEL MAGICAL IN YOUR HOME?

Every year since the boys were in preschool, we go to the mountains to cut down our Christmas tree. We also have a collection of English Byers' Choice Carolers displayed in our game room, given to us by my husband's mother. I can just see her singing right along with them every time we put them out. Inspired by this, we created an English feel with greenery, using eucalyptus, pheasant feathers, and pine cones. ♦



Grey Joyner stands on the staircase of her home. Holiday decor is infused with her everyday palette of blues, pinks, and yellows, mixed with heirlooms and cozy touches.



Heidi DONAHUE

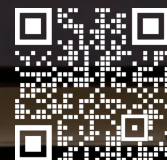
Photo stylist and professional gardening designer Heidi Donahue of GTHRD is constantly collaborating with interior designers in the Triangle. Whether a client needs gorgeous plant life or arrangements for their home, or a styled table for their photo shoot, Donahue curates a collection tailored to each client. Her unique services can even be seen on HGTV's *Tough Love with Hilary Farr*.

For our Great Gatherings issue, Donahue partnered with Lori Moscato of Casual Elegance Designs to create an outdoor tablescape for the cooler months. "We really wanted to showcase Lori's beautifully designed outdoor room transitioning for fall entertaining," explains Donahue.

To that end, she pulled the client's Laura Park dishware and vintage-inspired pink tumblers and paired them with earthy pinks and muted plums. "I feel like the vibrant orange grill and graphic black-and-white Annie Selke rug really amp up the autumn," she says. "We added dried orange wheels to our Aperol Spritz to cozy it up, and paired it with fall thriving plants like heuchera, ajuga, and bronze carex mixed with the remaining ferns and caladium of summer." The organic wood bowl and a clay crock neutralize summer and welcome cooler weather.

1. Zerophilo Salad Servers / \$18.99 / amazon.com
2. Skandia Zephyr Stainless Steel Flatware in Gold / \$104 / wayfair.com
3. Essential Food Bowls / \$50 / hawkinsnewyork.com
4. European Flax Table Runner in Elegant Pink / \$69.95 / crateandbarrel.com
5. Dried Orange Wheel Garnish / \$14 / cocktailgarnish.co
6. Estelle Wine Glasses / \$175 for set of six / roomandboard.com
7. Festival Napkins in Grape and Aubergine / \$69 / sferra.com
8. Lanai Woven Placemat / \$14.95 / crateandbarrel.com
9. Teak Bowl With Flared Rim / \$250 / etsy.com





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WRITTEN BY **BLAKE MILLER**





High Hampton Inn Guest Suite

Those who are very familiar with the cozy mountain town of Cashiers also know that the peak is worth the climb.

Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Cashiers' remote setting is one of its biggest draws. Its location, coupled with a small-town feel, makes Cashiers the ultimate escape from reality. (Even Charlotte native and model Brooklyn Decker and her husband, tennis star Andy Roddick, built a home in Cashiers.)

Rent a guest cottage at **High Hampton Inn**, a popular destination for Southerners since it opened in 1933. The historic property was acquired by the owners of famed Blackberry Farm in Tennessee in 2021. And what followed was an interior upgrade that maintained High Hampton's rustic charm while modernizing its overall aesthetic. The small but mighty tweaks to the decor, the dining, and the grounds elevated the Inn's one-time campy feel into an upscale getaway.

For breakfast, grab a coffee at **Bucks Coffee Cafe** before walking down the street to the **Elevated Kitchen**, a food truck serving scratch-made biscuit egg-and-cheese sandwiches. Walk off breakfast while browsing stores like



Cashiers Farmers Market



High Hampton Inn

Zoller Hardware and Interior Enhancements, Inc. A must stop is the **Cashiers Farmers Market**, which is chock-full of locally and North Carolina-made provisions.

At night, unwind with a glass of wine at **Hotel Cashiers'** wine bar, which features a retro, midcentury-modern vibe and an array of wine selections. For a casual dinner, grab a burger and a draft IPA at nearby **Whiteside Brewing Company**. For a formal option, High Hampton's dining room is a must, with its revamped menu courtesy of Blackberry Farm. The finishing touch is a round of s'mores by the outdoor fire overlooking the Inn's pond. ♦



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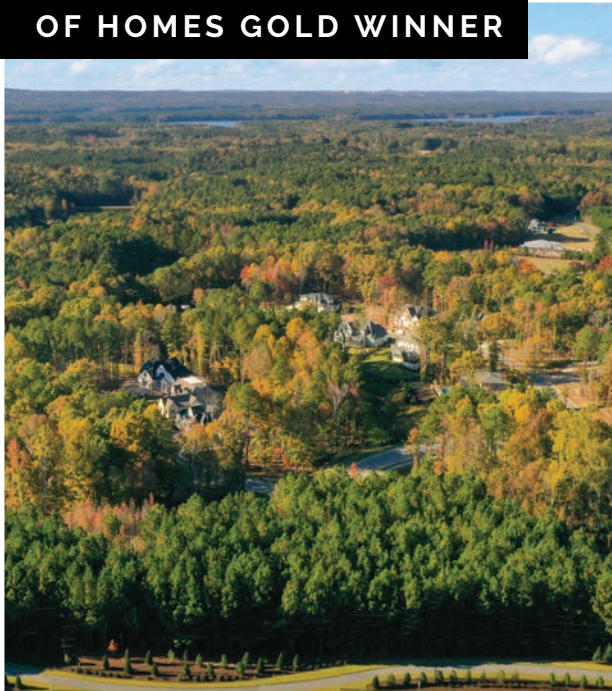
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INTERIORS



This den pulls double duty as an office and Janie Jordan's personal retreat. The green linen wallpaper by Omexco and matching custom cabinetry echo the natural foliage visible through the expansive windows. Crisp ripple fold sheers and a luxe mohair desk chair add elegance to the space.



IN THEIR ELEMENT

TEXT BY **BRANDY WOODS SNOW** | PHOTOGRAPHY BY **ANNA ROUTH BARZIN**

A RE-IMAGINED URBAN RETREAT PROMOTES GATHERING
BOTH INSIDE AND OUT FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

AS A REAL ESTATE BROKER, Janie Jordan has seen a lot of homes, and her family has lived in quite a few of them too. Twenty years ago, when she and her husband Carter found their current property on two hilly, wooded acres just off the beltline, they knew the established neighborhood was a gem. The “off the beaten path” feel with a convenient location was ideal, even if the two-story Colonial was not a great fit for their modern tastes. The family completed three renovations through the years, the most recent in an effort to get the property market-ready. But after looking with no success for similar lots in the area that offered the acreage they wanted with the convenience they needed, the Jordans decided to raze their Colonial and build their dream home on the existing lot.

“We wanted a forever home where our kids and grandkids could visit and gather with us, both inside and out,” says Janie. “I created ten pages of dos and don’ts to ensure this build was everything we dreamed it could be.” Builder/architect Dixon/Kirby put the Jordans in touch with interior designers Robert MacNeill and Brittany Roux of Roux MacNeill Studio, and together they collaborated with landscaper Gardens to Die For to create a modern retreat in the heart of Raleigh tailored to the family’s lifestyle that embraced a seamless flow between outdoors and in.



The Jordans' grandchildren love spending time in their own bunkroom, complete with a fun ceiling-hung chair by Kenneth Cobonpue and nature-hued, mobile "river stone" ottomans that allow the kids to explore the limits of their imagination. **OPPOSITE:** The adjoining dining and living room spaces are a feast for the senses, combining luxe fabrics and cowboy-style leather against an impressive double-story stone fireplace. Above the table, a dramatic blown glass and hand-forged metal fixture by Hammerton offers rustic elegance.



The stone fireplace beckons family and friends to sit, dine, and chat in front of a warm blaze. The mix of natural woven elements, wood, and stone give the patio a modern yet earthy ambiance. Dining chairs, chaises, and umbrellas are all from JANUS et Cie.

Roux and MacNeill focused on creating interesting interior spaces that highlight the natural landscape by using neutral, earthy tones and organic materials. “The home is a study in natural textures: stone, leather, wood, bronze, and more,” MacNeill says. “These elements work hand-in-hand with the home’s expansive windows and lush landscaping to create a seamless vibe we dubbed Modern Mountain.”

Various shades of green throughout the interior echo the view from the windows, from the organic tones in Janie’s den to the moody hue of the owner’s bedroom. The kitchen’s steel hood with natural patina juxtaposed with handmade tiles, linen wallcoverings in the den, and cowboy-style leather in the living room impart rustic flair in the modern home. An open-ceiling outdoor shower with a natural privacy “forest” of bamboo and ferns exemplifies the convergence of outside and in.

Oversized statement lighting serves double duty as sculptural artwork; dramatic Visual Comfort pendants in the kitchen, a hand-woven ribbon fixture in the guest room, and the stunning three-story LED staircase fixture add interest, movement, and wow moments in the home.

Gathering spots abound, ranging from intimate nooks to entertaining areas, speaking to the Jordans love of quality time with friends and family. The owner’s suite’s





The blue-green hue of Sherwin-Williams Mediterranean on the owner's bedroom's walls and ceiling give the space a cozy, almost nest-like ambiance. The leather bench, upholstered in an eggplant colorway, adds sophistication and a pop of color to the moody room. **OPPOSITE:** Simple and functional, Janie's personal art room is the perfect backdrop for inspiration. Canvas curtains, a nod to her artistry, frame large windows, allowing plenty of natural light and a ledge to dry flowers. A cast-iron sink, selected by Dixon Kirby, eases paintbrush cleanup.





This midcentury-modern guest bedroom employs warm salmon and gray tones to evoke a cozy yet refined feel. A vintage watercolor by Evan Reid hangs over the bed, and the chaise by Precedent is covered in a Kelly Wearstler for Groundworks Fabric.





Green marble tile with glints of satin brass plumbing work hand in hand with rich wood cabinetry to create a quiet serenity in the owner's bath. Sophisticated linear glass sconces warm the space while mirrors reflect natural light throughout.

luxurious sitting room offers solitude with a resort-like poolside ambiance, and the private patio off the family's den is the perfect place to enjoy a cup of tea while soaking in nature. Larger crowds can gather around the outdoor fireplace, take a dip in the pool, or spend hours talking at the dining room table after a great meal. There's even a fun bunkroom where the grandkids can

play and stretch the limits of their imagination in a kid-inspired space.

When asked about her favorite spot in the new home, Janie says she doesn't have one—she loves them all. “There are so many indoor and outdoor retreats built into this home, it's impossible to pick a favorite. From the nature-inspired spaces to the lush landscaping, our forever home is a true paradise.” ♦



The theme of embracing nature is demonstrated in the kitchen's use of raw materials: the steel hood with natural patina, the quartzite countertops, and the Zellige handmade tile backsplash. Dramatic Visual Comfort pendants along with walnut and dark green cabinetry provide depth and elegance.

Whether reading a book or taking a spot of afternoon tea in the Feature Flora matcha tea set, the private upstairs balcony provides solitary refuge in nature. Seating from the Hay Palissade Chaise and Lounge series in an elegant geometric design in green blends seamlessly with the view.





Restoration *Cottage*

TEXT BY BLAKE MILLER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ABIGAIL JACKSON

DESIGNER TRINITY HOLMES BREATHES LIFE AND
LOVE INTO A HISTORIC PROPERTY.



To impart the cottagecore aesthetic, Holmes incorporated timeless patterns like gingham wallpaper by McGee & Co. and coupled them with antique pieces like the bench from SuzAnna's Antiques in Rolesville. **OPPOSITE:** Holmes salvaged much of the home's original wood ceiling knowing that it would provide a cozy, cocoon-like feel to the home.



The owner's downstairs bedroom was transformed into a true sanctuary for guests with the addition of an en suite bathroom (pictured, right). The vanity, while not antique, offers a timeless feel to the space, while blush millwork in Benjamin Moore Flax coupled with the wallcovering by Morris & Co. provide an elevated farmhouse look.

TRINITY HOLMES has a penchant for cottagecore aesthetic. "I really love a country living look—lots of antiques, pattern, color," the designer says. "I'm very big on cozy and collected and making it look like somebody's lived there. I love antiques. I love to make something feel like it's not run of the mill."

When the designer and owner of Circa 34 was presented with the opportunity to assist with the restoration and interior design of her friend's early 1930s home located on a former tobacco farm outside of Raleigh, she did not hesitate. "I love old homes, things with innate character," she says. One of five properties on the land, the home was particularly special to the homeowner. "It was his grandparents' house and he used to visit them there while growing up, so he really wanted to make this space as special as the memories he has of it," says Holmes.

Though the home would not be the primary residence for Holmes's client but rather a charming Airbnb, the goal was the same: salvage the character and existing architectural

details of the home while modernizing it with cottagecore interior design elements. "I made some tweaks and changes to the floor plan that was originally designed by my client's architect," says Holmes. But she knew that as a short-term rental (and possibly her client's eventual primary residence years down the road), it needed modern-day amenities such as a separate owner's suite and a downstairs powder room. The upstairs attic was cramped, "like a dungeon," laughs Holmes, who suggested taking the roof off and building up the second floor for a more bright and airy living space with two bedrooms, a full bathroom, and a loft lounge area.

Downstairs, the one-time tiny and cramped laundry room was transformed into the kitchen, and the home's original wood ceilings were either salvaged or repurposed. And for the ultimate farmhouse aesthetic, a large wraparound porch was added to the home's exterior. "Those changes really transformed this home into something special," she says. The interior design, though, is where Holmes went to work pulling together a classic modern country living aesthetic







The small living room posed a challenge for the designer, who had to be especially intentional about the seating. "It needed to be comfortable enough to sit in for long periods of time, but it couldn't be too large," she says. She relied heavily on antiques and vintage finds to furnish the space. The pair of swivel chairs is from Home Goods and the loveseat is a Facebook Marketplace find.

The laundry room is admittedly one of Holmes's favorite spaces. Her husband, Jason, fabricated the sink and counter area. To soften it, the designer added the gingham curtain to complement the wallpaper by York Wallcoverings alongside brown beadboard. **OPPOSITE:** In lieu of a traditional tile backsplash, Holmes chose beadboard and a kitchen hood, also designed and fabricated by Jason.









The renovation transformed the dark and cramped attic into a bright and airy space with two guest bedrooms and a loft. Holmes outfitted this guest room with a pair of vintage-style twin beds from Wayfair.

with various plaids and gingham coupled with antiques, millwork, and reimagined pieces that feel rustic and charming at once.

The kitchen showcases Holmes's knack for reinvention; the dining table is a place to gather for meals and entertaining, but it also doubles as a kitchen island, where she transformed an old barn door into the surface. A weathered bench from SuzAnna's Antiques in Rolesville slips underneath, allowing for more space. A gingham wallpaper by McGee & Co. coupled with the beadboard backsplash and oversized farmhouse sink add to the cottagecore vibe.

Throughout the home, small touches of old with new, antique with modern, are subtle but combine for massive impact. Now updated, the home imparts a cozy, charming feel and is the ultimate welcoming place to gather—exactly what Holmes's client wanted for his guests at the property. "That's easily the best compliment my client keeps getting—that the house feels like a home," she says. ♦

LAKE EFFECT

TEXT BY ANNE MARIE ASHLEY | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ABIGAIL JACKSON

LAKE GASTON PROVIDES A STUNNING BACKDROP
FOR A HOME PLAYING HOST TO A REVOLVING
DOOR OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

The mudroom houses the lake-effect of visitors: wet bathing suits, fishing poles, and muddy shoes. It also has a full-size shower for dogs (and humans), and a custom bench drop-zone. **OPPOSITE:** Cozy corners abound with cast stone and antique wood doors to complement. Century and Artistica accent tables hold glasses poured from the custom bourbon cabinet, and a real wood-burning fireplace and a Jaipur rug amp up the comfort.



A custom ten-foot table resides in the dining room, perfect for consistent entertaining at the home. Custom upholstered Wesley Hall chairs surround, with a custom rug underfoot. The homeowner's own antique bench showcases pillows in the foyer, and sconces from Generation Lighting line the stairs.





PAUL AND ANGELA had been going to Lake Gaston for years, visiting their lake home and taking their respite in the comfort of nature's gaze. They wanted to build a larger home, so when the lot next door became available, they jumped at the chance to purchase the property.

Corbitt Hills happily took on the new build and recommended designer Rebecca Driggs for the interiors. The couple took the advice, hiring Driggs to bring their rustic luxury dreams to life in a gathering-focused lake home. "The homeowners wanted a Southern architectural style with a lot of outdoor living areas and gathering spaces," says Driggs. "With that Southern style, I wanted to bring in a rustic, classic, and modern aesthetic. They wanted a lot of luxe and I wanted to bring livable."

"Our vision was to have a place where family and friends could visit and feel as though they were in a resort," adds Angela. With an Italian background, Angela brought a sense of warmth and large family gatherings to the design board. Driggs ran with it, adding touches of "Italy" here and there, like a cast-stone kitchen hood and fireplace, which became the jumping-off point. A well-equipped cooking and entertaining kitchen was important to Angela, while Paul got his own heavy-duty kitchen hidden behind the walls in a scullery-style space. "Paul lives by the motto *Abundanza*, which means *abundance* in Italian," says Angela. "He loves to cook, so I felt he deserved his own kitchen. With Rebecca's help, we created one just for him."

"From there, we added reclaimed beams, handmade tile, warm paint colors, antique wood doors, lime-washed walls, and a mix of updated and antique furniture to create that classic, layered feel in the rest of the home," explains Driggs.

The project took place over the course of two years, but in the end, Driggs and her team were able to spend a full week installing the design and getting the home lived-in ready by washing sheets and towels, making beds, and adding blankets and accessories to complete the look. "There was a lot of crying at the reveal, but at the end we had a full pizza party in the outdoor space, making use of the new pizza oven and living area that evening. It was so lovely," recalls Driggs.

A home this size pleases everyone, with spaces each can call their own. "Paul's room," as he likes to call it, is a sunroom



In the family room, a cast-stone fireplace and mantle take center stage. Built-in window seats with custom Wesley Hall fabric add pockets of cozy, and coffee and end tables from Century Furniture are classic and rustic at once. **OPPOSITE:** The main kitchen, or Angela's kitchen, began with the cast-stone range hood and handmade Tabarka tile backsplash. A Waterstone faucet in Venetian bronze adds warmth to the neutral space, as do copper pendants above the island. The laundry room features a Newport Brass faucet and custom blue cabinets.



With lots of stonework, reclaimed-wood beams, and antique touches, the sunroom is unofficially dubbed “Paul’s room,” complete with a masculine but refined vibe. Bradington Young leather recliners are comfortable next to a Century wooden coffee table and a Wesley Hall sofa, and custom cabinetry adds sophistication to the bar, wine fridge, and media center.





The owner's bedroom brings some drama with vaulted ceilings and a killer lake view. An Old Biscayne Designs Chantilly bed anchors the room, with a custom rug and Sarreid Ltd. Swedish Commodes for nightstands. Window treatments are custom made with Kravet fabric.

complete with a bourbon cabinet, an eighty-inch TV, a wood-burning fireplace, and a wine cooler with two comfortable lazy boys. Angela loves the home's wide-open spaces, like the family room with a wall of glass facing the lake. The wine cellar is her second favorite space—it's cozy, made entirely of stone and brick in an Italianate cellar style, with a long, old, wood table and even a speakeasy window on one side that connects to the bar area of the family room.

Most weekends Angela and Paul host twelve to fourteen people, making pizzas in his authentic wood-fired pizza oven or serving fresh-caught fish and hush puppies. "Many Sundays we have guests who have caught what we call 'lake-a-tosis'—they never want to leave," laughs Angela. She adds that the most rewarding part of the past year in the home was being blessed with many wonderful and amazing memories with family and friends. "We recently had a family reunion, with a total of twenty-five adults and kids. We were together the entire weekend, and the house made it totally effortless. We are looking forward to many, many more memories to come." ♦



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HOLIDAY *READY*

A. HOKE LTD. HELPS DESIGNERS OUTFIT
CLIENTS' HOMES FOR A SEASON OF GATHERING.

WRITTEN BY BRANDY WOODS SNOW

As the holiday season arrives, many homeowners find themselves looking for a refresh. But in an industry where furniture lead times stretch out for weeks and lengthy backorders are common, implementing a new home design seems too little, too late once the summer ends.

That is, unless designers can source locally from a true partner-in-design that offers available products and accessories on the showroom floor. A. Hoke Ltd. has built their reputation on being such a partner, touting a highly trained and responsive staff and a stocked showroom loaded with floor

samples, art, and project finishers that can be touched, experienced, and ultimately purchased on site.

"Clients want to feel ready to host for the holidays, and we refresh and style for many of them each year around Thanksgiving," says Lauren Hood, owner of Progeny Interiors. "It is impossible to get new custom furniture at the drop of a hat. More than once, my clients have purchased items directly from the floor at A. Hoke Ltd., and it has worked out fabulously!"

The "shop the showroom" aspect is not only a lifesaver for quick holiday refreshes but has proven valuable to busy





“MORE THAN ONCE, MY CLIENTS HAVE
PURCHASED ITEMS DIRECTLY FROM THE FLOOR AT
A. HOKE LTD., AND IT HAS WORKED OUT FABULOUSLY!”

—LAUREN HOOD

designers working on deadline, no matter the season or the project scope.

Hood notes that she relies on A. Hoke Ltd. for the selection of quality lines and also for their staff’s expertise and her ability to source products directly when needed. “I began working with them in 2014 when I needed a local resource for custom furnishings and fabrics, and I’m a loyal customer to several of the furniture brands they carry,” says Hood. “Many clients prefer to see pieces in person, and there are typically several pieces of furniture on the showroom floor similar in size to what I’ve sourced for their project. This works well for busy clients who want a more active role in fabric and furniture selections.”

For one client’s living room, Hood sourced a sectional and leather ottoman by Lee Industries as well as Lee Jofa

wallpaper and Pindler drapes from A. Hoke Ltd. to create a layered, textured feel to warm up the large space and make it feel cozier for the family of five. In another project, she secured a custom-ordered Lee Industries chaise and gorgeous velvet Kravet/Lee Jofa drapes. In addition to an extensive array of furniture, fabrics, wallcoverings, lighting, and flooring, designers can also find a host of accessories, from traditional pieces to those that push the envelope. One of Hood’s favorite A. Hoke Ltd. purchases was a quirky gold serpent mirror for a client’s hallway that both she and her client fell in love with.

No matter the season or the project timing, Hood knows that A. Hoke Ltd. is her trusted go-to source. “They’re always helpful when I’m looking for specific pieces, and they partner with us to keep tabs on all orders and timelines for our clients.” ♦

PREMIUM WATERWORKS

R. JACOBS WOWS WITH A NEW SELECTION OF EXQUISITE DORNBRACHT FAUCETS.

WRITTEN BY DANA W. TODD

Try to throw a party without everyone ending up in the kitchen. It's an almost impossible task. The kitchen is the workhorse of the home, but it's also the rendezvous point where family and friends gather to celebrate or share a meal. With the heavy traffic and daily use a kitchen faucet sees, this fixture should be both decorative and durable.

"Fine luxury faucets and plumbing fixtures are a good investment in a kitchen, where we spend so much time," says Rick Jacobs of R. Jacobs Fine Plumbing and Hardware. "We source the most technologically advanced and beautiful kitchen products for our customers, displayed in a 5,200-square-foot showroom."

In its showroom, R. Jacobs has introduced nine new Dornbracht faucets in three modern finishes. A German luxury product manufacturer, many of Dornbracht's creations are a result of its collaborations with world-renowned designers and architects.

The ELIO, ENO, LOT, META SQUARE, and SYNC faucets operate with a single lever, but each has its own distinctive style. Dornbracht calls ELIO's circular ergonomic design "harmonious



and dynamic." ENO is designed with straightforward functionality in mind and is versatile, with three versions that fit kitchens with limited space. The LOT faucet is elegant yet minimalistic, with an extremely flat spout made of a single piece of metal. META SQUARE has a timeless profile with a square, arching spout. The SYNC faucet is a pull-down that is a hardworking addition to the kitchen.

Other newly introduced faucets feature graceful, curved spouts with softer angles. VAIA blends into many different interior styles with its harmonious, slim profile and

VAIA

MEM

COURTESY OF DORNBRACHT



TARA ULTRA

memorable cross handles. The MEM faucet is a symbol of simplicity, with an eye-catching widespread design and curves that are reminiscent of an organic spring. Its hidden, integrated aerator produces a gentle stream of water. Designers prize the classically styled TARA because of its ideal proportions, while the TARA ULTRA is a modernized spin on the TARA faucet with a high, slim spout suitable for washing large pots.

Each of the faucets comes in several finishes, including three new metallic options. The champagne and brushed champagne finishes are 22 karat gold, and the brushed dark platinum finish accentuates modern faucets. “Dornbracht’s premium finishes provide depth of color and brilliance,” says Jacobs. “The manufacturer’s complex and precise finishing processes result in the highest-quality product.”

While a particular faucet can change the look and functionality of a kitchen, so too can other high-end products, such as Task Lighting’s under-cabinet and under-island ambient lights and Big Ass Fans’ custom-built fans that integrate with a smart home system.

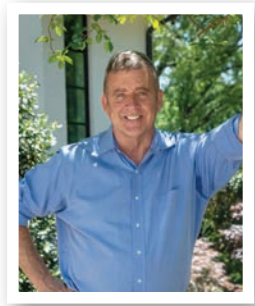
One visit to the R. Jacobs showroom provides an abundance of ideas on how to incorporate the latest modern-day hardware into your family’s primary gathering space. ♦

“FINE LUXURY FAUCETS
AND PLUMBING FIXTURES
ARE A GOOD INVESTMENT
IN A KITCHEN, WHERE WE
SPEND SO MUCH TIME.”

—RICK JACOBS



ENO



BACKYARD WILDLIFE

BY DAVID PAYNE

THERE'S NOTHING MORE ENCHANTING THAN WATCHING BIRDS, BEES, AND BUTTERFLIES GOING ABOUT THEIR DAILY ACTIVITIES AS WE SIT ON THE PATIO OR PORCH, TAKING IT ALL IN.

The colder months provide a chance to shift our focus, allowing us to take a break from the routine gardening chores that usually occupy our time. Make the best use of this short break to implement elements and plants that attract wildlife to the yard year-round.

Animals have three basic needs that must be addressed for them to feel comfortable in your yard. Every living being requires a food source, water, and shelter if they are to thrive.

Whether your lot is large or small, it's possible to provide all three necessities for our animal friends.

Food in the form of nectar, seeds, berries, and nuts is necessary to attract wildlife. If you choose to add a seed feeder, it works best near tall shrubbery or on the perimeter of a tree canopy. Sheltered spots help birds feel protected and out of the pathway of human traffic. It is equally as effective to lure birds, bees, and butterflies through plant choice. Evergreens such as Emily Bruner holly and Southern magnolia produce red berries that birds find delightful. White-eyed vireos and swallows enjoy the light-blue berries produced by wax myrtle trees, while butterflies are particularly partial to the flowers on blooming perennials such as lantana, salvia, and butterfly bushes.



PETER BLOTTMAN PHOTOGRAPHY



NO MATTER THE SIZE OF YOUR YARD, YOU CAN DESIGN IT TO BENEFIT WILDLIFE.

If your yard doesn't border a creek or pond, you can easily provide water sources for birds through garden art such as a bird bath or water bubbler. Even a large decorative stone or boulder with an indentation on it to capture rainwater will work. Just as with food sources, birds feel more comfortable using water features that rest under a tree canopy, which provides protection from predators.

Birds shelter in dense trees and shrubs. Native species such as hollies and magnolias are good nesting habitats in addition to being preferred food sources. Birds also enjoy large shrubs like Camellia Japonicas, in which they build their nests.

Once you provide the appropriate food, water, and cover in your yard, you can take it a step further and apply to The North Carolina Wildlife Federation to become a certified wildlife habitat. No matter the size of your yard, you can design it to benefit wildlife and help reverse any habitat loss. It's an easy and satisfying way to contribute to the local community and enhance the enjoyment of your own piece of real estate. ♦





WALKABLE URBAN LIVING

BY SHERI HAGERTY

THE RECENT RISE IN POPULATION AND POPULARITY OF RALEIGH BRINGS NEW RESIDENTS ACCUSTOMED TO WALKING TO THEIR FAVORITE LOCAL SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS IN LARGE METRO AREAS.

As a result, they seek out walkable properties in Raleigh's urban core so they can experience the pedestrian accessibility our city has to offer. Downtown and Five Points along with Glenwood South neighborhoods and infill development are attractive for this reason. Raleigh's urban neighborhoods are pedestrian friendly with a surrounding mix of retail and dining establishments that are available to suit families of all sizes. Here are a couple of the hottest urban properties on the market right now.

An exclusive townhome at 224 St. Mary Street in The Saint neighborhood is centrally located and walkable to the Village District, Glenwood South, and downtown. The four-level townhome has views of downtown through floor-to-ceiling windows, and most of its main spaces, such as the kitchen, the living room, and a private terrace, overlook the cityscape. A modern design with three en suite bedrooms, eleven-foot ceilings in the main living spaces, and notable features such as custom closets, a library, a gas fireplace, and a two-car garage for off-street parking make this new construction an unsurpassed urban home. A busy family will appreciate that it is a lock-and-leave property where the HOA takes care of all exterior maintenance and landscaping.

A generously sized family home located at 1812 Glenwood Avenue in Five Points has four bedrooms and four bathrooms





224 St. Mary Street

PROXIMITY TO CITY AMENITIES
IS PARTICULARLY EXCITING FOR
THOSE WHO WANT TO LIVE
AN URBAN LIFESTYLE.

—SHERI HAGERTY

and is walkable to restaurants, a Pilates studio, a movie theater, shops, a food market, and a wine store. Despite its location in a bustling central city neighborhood, its solid construction blocks out all street noise. With a dreamy backyard oasis, a large screened porch with cathedral ceilings and natural stone fireplace, and a guesthouse, this home is a place for entertaining guests both at home and at nearby retail destinations. The home is filled with customized, luxury details such as quartzite and marble countertops, high-end appliances, a butler's pantry, lots of built-ins for storage, and ceiling beams and a wet bar countertop milled from a sycamore tree that came from the property. With a walkway that connects to the sidewalk that runs steps from the front door, a family can walk to dinner at a local restaurant in seconds.

While these homes are beautiful in any setting, their proximity to city amenities is particularly exciting for those who want to live an urban lifestyle. ♦



224 St. Mary Street



1812 Glenwood Avenue

ARTS & EXHIBITIONS

SPOTLIGHT



KING NOBUYOSHI GODWIN: 5 POINTS GALLERY FEATURED ARTIST

5 POINTS GALLERY
November 16–December 23
5pointsgallery.com

King Nobuyoshi Godwin is an artist who embraces neurodiversity, bearing the unique gifts of autism and synesthesia. This extraordinary blend of sensory experiences accounts for the scattered numbers that grace his paintings. Through his art, Godwin discovers a tranquil refuge where his unspoken voice and soul find expression. It is a place of revival, where the act of creation transcends words, bringing him closer to his essence.



LYLE ASHTON HARRIS: OUR FIRST AND LAST LOVE

THE NASHER MUSEUM OF ART
Through January 7, 2024
nasher.duke.edu

Drawing together photographs and installations from both his celebrated and lesser-known series, *Lyle Ashton Harris: Our first and last love* charts new connections across the artistic practice of Lyle Ashton Harris, exploring his critical examination of identity and self-portraiture while tracing central themes and formal approaches in his work of the last thirty-five years. Harris's art engages with broad social and political dialogues while also speaking with revelatory tenderness to his own communities, and to personal struggles, sorrows, and self-illuminations.



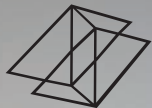
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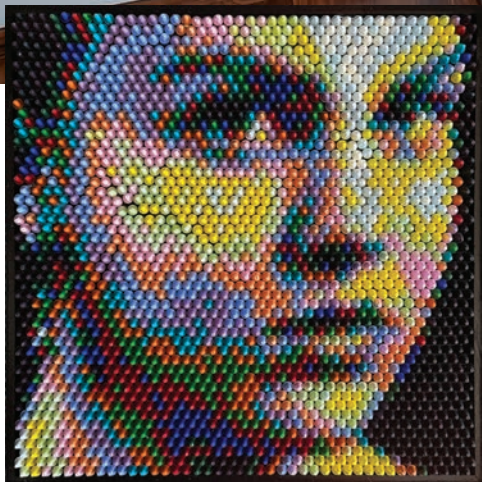
Ella West Gallery champions underrepresented artists and cultivates a new era in the world of art. Gallery founder Linda Shropshire's mission to provide a platform for emerging and established regional, national, and international

artists continues this fall with *Exceptional PERSISTENCE: On Our Terms*, the gallery's latest exhibition featuring artists Maya Freelon of Durham and Sachi Rome of Atlanta. Nestled within the heart of Black Wall Street's Parish Street in the building that once housed the printing presses of *The Durham Reformer*, a 1920s-era Black newspaper, the gallery is once again a destination for raising marginalized voices.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: ART BY LYLE ASHTON HARRIS; ART BY KING NOBUYOSHI GODWIN; LINDA SHROPSHIRE; ELLA WEST GALLERY; PHOTO BY MORGAN CRUTCHFIELD

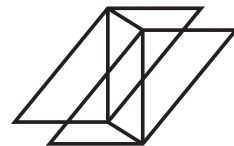


MOMENTUM
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Christian Faur

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Samantha Keely Smith

SCENE + SEEN

Three exciting events bring the Carolina design community together to celebrate beauty, purpose, and, of course, interiors.



1. The Green Chair Project's annual *Charity* event. Megan Spillars, Chrissie Spillars Meadows, Beth McNally, and Maria Spillars.
2. ADAC: The Best of Charlotte Design. Mark Phelps, Kelly Perry, and Greg Perry.
3. The Green Chair Project's annual *Charity* event. Maria Spillars and Chrissie Spillars Meadows.
4. The Green Chair Project's annual *Charity* event. Jackie Craig, Astra Ball, and Gabie Craig Frantz.
5. The Green Chair Project's annual *Charity* event. Lauren Burns, Blake Miller, and Daniela McShane.
6. Schumacher for Claudia Josephine Design. Hector Hernandez, Claudia Ricciardone, Ana Dudley, and Drew Dudley.
7. The Green Chair Project's annual *Charity* event. Vicky Serany and Blake Miller.
8. Schumacher for Claudia Josephine Design. Christina Drogaris, Claudia Ricciardone, Tracey Chagnon, and Natalie Fey.
9. The Green Chair Project's annual *Charity* event. Bailey Plymyer and Sue Haberberger.
10. Schumacher for Claudia Josephine Design. Ana Dudley and Marsela Green.



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