

DESIGN MARKET DIGEST 2018

# SERENDIPITY

BONUS  
ISSUE!

## LUXURY'S NEW LOOK FROM MODERN TO CLASSIC

CHIC HOME  
PROJECTS  
TRAVEL  
INSPIRED  
DÉCOR

# DESIGN THEORIES

Here's what our previous Design Market Honorees are talking about now, from material trends to developments in technology.



A peaceful bedroom designed by Jody Myers-Fierz

"My latest inspiration is how I can integrate the exteriors and interiors of our homes without losing a sense of what a home feels like. My clients want open spaces with lots of light, without feeling like they're in a glass office building."

-DOUGLAS VANDERHORN,  
ON HIS LATEST INSPIRATION

"I love alpaca wool. It reminds me of pure luxury and gives a sense of warmth and comfort. Whether it's constructed as a rug or fabric, it is heavenly."

-AMY AIDINIS HIRSCH,  
ON WHAT MATERIAL SHE'S WORKING WITH LATELY

"A home's mood and theme can convey a lot about the homeowner's values and philosophy on life."

-CHARLES HILTON,  
ON THE FIRST THING HE NOTICES WHEN HE WALKS INTO A HOUSE

"Wood and steel, so varied and timeless."

-RICH GRANOFF,  
ON WHAT MATERIAL HE'S LOVING WORKING WITH LATELY

"I learned from a designer that you should go into a project not doing what you've seen but creating something never done. I embrace that theory and follow that rule."

-JODY MYERS-FIERZ,  
ON HER SIGNATURE/TRADemark

"I like working with antique materials. It takes more time and thought when using them. [It's] always a challenge to incorporate old with new and make it feel right and seamless."

-GEORGE PUSSER,  
ON WHAT MATERIALS HE'S WORKING WITH LATELY

"Proportions. All of the elements of a room should share a certain amount of 'mathematical harmony.'"

DINYAR WADIA,  
ON THE FIRST THING HE NOTICES WHEN HE WALKS INTO A HOUSE

“Let go and be daring. The goal in every design is to be the trendsetter, not the follower.”

-JODY MYERS-FIERZ, ON HER BEST DESIGN TIP

“The first thing I notice is the design and the finishes. Is the quality of the trim and millwork good? How does the house flow? Always notice symmetry. Are the lights, HVAC vents in the right place?”

-GEORGE PUSSEY,  
ON THE FIRST THING HE  
NOTICES WHEN HE WALKS  
INTO A HOUSE

“Hire a good architect.”

-RICH GRANOFF,  
ON HIS BEST DESIGN TIP

“LED lighting, and radiant heating and cooling. They create endless options. Don't knock it until you see how it works—beautifully.”

-DINYAR WADIA,  
ON A TECH DEVELOPMENT THAT HAS IMPACTED HIS WORK

“Lately, I am obsessed with accenting one wall with a bold wallpaper, leather or tile, high impact and adding a splash of color.”

-AMY AIDINIS HIRSCH,  
ON WHAT'S INSPIRING HER

“I still love working with natural wood; it's versatile and exudes natural warmth and luxury.”

-DOUGLAS VANDERHORN,  
ON WHAT MATERIAL HE'S  
WORKING WITH LATELY

“Authentic materials that are well-crafted. Beautiful hardwoods, interesting stones, hand-worked metals, and crafted glasswork are some of my favorites.”

-CHARLES HILTON,  
ON WHAT MATERIALS HE'S WORKING  
WITH LATELY

If you could design a house for anyone (historical or living), who would it be for, and why?

“**Elon Musk**, a true modern visionary.”—Rich Granoff

“That's such a fun question; one person that comes to mind is **Elvis Presley**. He was one of the most popular entertainers of his time and had such a great voice yet Graceland left a lot to be desired. I would have loved to work with him to get him a house in context with his success in life; a home where he could entertain his family and friends.”—Dinyar Wadia

“**Steven Tyler**. Love the eclecticism and boldness of how he dresses. Look at the colors and texture of the clothing he wears; could you imagine what the interior of his house would be?”  
—Jody Myers-Fierz

“**Bono**. I love the band U2 and find Bono's professional and humanitarian work inspiring. Designing a home for this icon would be insightful and stimulating.”—Charles Hilton

“**Iris Apfel**. A fashion icon, drumming to her own beat with confidence and totally unapologetic for her outrageous selections. I am fascinated how brazen she is. My own personal fashion style sense is much more conservative—definitely the total opposite end of the spectrum.”—Amy Aidinis Hirsch

## OUR EXPERTS

Rich  
Granoff  
Granoff  
Architects,  
2015 Honoree

Dinyar  
Wadia  
Wadia  
Associates,  
2015 Honoree

Douglas  
VanderHorn  
Douglas  
VanderHorn  
Associates,  
2016 Honoree

Amy Aidinis  
Hirsch  
Amy Aidinis  
Hirsch Interior  
Design,  
2016 Honoree

George  
Pusser  
Cornerstone  
Contracting,  
2017 Honoree

Jody Myers  
Fierz  
Color Concept  
Theory,  
2017 Honoree

Charles  
Hilton  
Charles Hilton  
Architects,  
2017 Honoree





Hilton Interiors, LLC is a full-service design firm and is a division of Charles Hilton Architects. The firm is the result of many years of successful, creative collaboration between interior designer Amy Andrews and architect Chuck Hilton.

**What's the first thing you do when you meet with a new client and see a home you'll be working on?**

I like to get a tour by the home owner and discuss the scope of the job, what works for them, what their lifestyle is. I ask a lot of questions, including if they have children or are empty nesters; if they like to cook and entertain; if they have certain hobbies or collections that might play a role in design decisions. Specific likes and dislikes are important. We initially meet to devise a general working plan or design program and we prioritize. We will take measurements and inventory, create plans and furniture layouts; we create a conceptual design with furniture ideas, fabric schemes, plans and elevations.

# Hilton Interiors LLC

170 Mason St., Greenwich, CT, 203-717-1005,

**In what context do you think going trendy is OK and when should a homeowner stick to the classics?**

I am eclectic by nature. I like so many elements of design, including contemporary, traditional, Asian, antiques, sleek modern, beachy, mountain and mid-century. I like a mix. I personally and professionally feel home owners should stick with classic upholstery pieces. They don't have to be your Grandma's camel back sofa or look like an English library, but should have good lines and good construction. If you have these pieces, they will stay with you for years to come. You can go trendy and have fun with lighting, pillows and accessories when you want to jazz up a space. Add a hip mirror or fashionable area rug to get that fun pop of wow!

**If you could bring one design trend back into vogue what would it be?**

The formal dining room. It does not have to be formal or fussy. So often you hear "but we only use our dining room twice a year" I find many clients are not interested in investing in these spaces, or repurpose them for other uses. Today lots of home owners are looking for that great room. I love the functionality too, but nothing beats bringing friends and family around the table in a room that is just for gathering. I love to set the table with candles and flowers, lingering over dinner and conversation. The best part about dining in another room? You are away from the mess! And who doesn't love a great dinner party, even if it is as simple as soup and salad.