

WOLFF ON MICHAEL EISNER: TOUGHER THAN SADDAM?
TOMASKY ON TORRICELLI: FLAMEOUT IN JERSEY

OCTOBER 14, 2002

NEW YORK

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HOUSE TOUR

Keith McNally's Country
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East Meets West in an
Elegant Modern Duplex

BY WENDY GOODMAN



(CANADA \$4.99) \$3.99





David Ling



Pierce Allen



M (Group)

flock of decorators with a fresh take on the colored walls, classical structures, and prints that were that firm's signature. He has an eye for accessories, modern and vintage, and is considered excellent company. **Clients:** Robert and Maria Tuttle, David Dangoor, Alexander Roepers

McMillen Inc.

155 East 56th Street, fifth floor (212-753-5600) Designer Betty Sherrill leads this legendary firm, the last bastion of old-money taste since Parish-Hadley closed its doors. "We lean toward natural materials, rich textures, and a wide range of color palettes," the firm's Louis A. Rey says, "and we always keep in mind that we're designing for the client and not for ourselves." **Clients:** Carl Icahn, Robert Zoellner, Thomas Harris

Richard Meier

475 Tenth Avenue (212-967-6060) Honed over a more than 30-year career, Meier's delicate spaces are showcases for views and art, carefully sited and crisply detailed. "I like to create environments that are uncluttered and soothing," he says. The longtime New Yorker recently claimed a prime piece of real estate with the apartment towers at 173-176 Perry Street—Nicole Kidman just bought a spot there. **Clients:** Bill Joy

MESH Architectures

115 Mercer Street, third floor (212-625-1446) Eric Liftin enjoys pushing his limits: "I like active environments that encourage investigation and experimentation." His intelligent designs for folding, rolling, and light-emitting walls allow him to create flexible rooms with a space-age feel. **Clients:** Karl Sims and Pattie Maes, Liz Garbus and Dan Cogan

Richard Mishaan Design LLC.

150 East 58th Street, 22nd floor (212-223-7502) Mishaan works with the eye-catching shapes and smooth edges of the great twentieth-century French designers, surrounding all that good taste with eclectic vintage objects and bright, savvy contemporary-art pieces. **Clients:** Jacqueline Krueger, Tiffany Dubin

Henry Mitchell

368 Broadway, Suite 504 (212-587-6340) This young architect is fast making his name via budget-conscious, clever renovations and redecorations of brownstones and apartments. "In general, my style is classic, not dated," he says, "elegant but still fun." Mitchell's enthusiasm is infectious—as are his whimsical, functional kitchen and bathroom designs. **Clients:** Gordon Chambers, Meredith Marshall, Roger Black

Juan Pablo Molyneux

29 East 69th Street (212-628-0097) "My sense of classicism is consistent," says Molyneux. "It has nothing to do with the pedigree of the furniture. It has to do with how things relate to each other." He orchestrates spare, geometric spaces, articulated with art and architectural detail, deepened with old-world finishes like lacquer, scagliola, and verre eglomise. **Clients:** Richard Feigen, Dolores Smithies

"I like each room in a house to have a 'wow' factor," says Katie Ridder.

Juan Montoya Design Corporation

330 East 59th Street (212-421-2400) *Light, lean, and Scandinavian* are Montoya's watchwords, though, as he says, "I never repeat myself." The designer eschews the dark and carved in favor of the antiques of the recent past, placing pieces by Jean-Michel Frank and his ilk in modernist arrangements, letting the slim, sculptural furniture breathe. **Clients:** Edgar Bronfman, Jr., Fernando Botero

MR Architecture & Décor

150 West 28th Street, Suite 1102 (212-989-9300) David Mann has a very quiet, almost scholarly intensity that he focuses on arranging the practical aspects of his clients' lives into exquisite modern vignettes. He set up a single mother, for example, with a home office on one wall of her living room, with slots for every last pencil and disk, and a beautiful curtain that hides the whole

works in an instant. **Clients:** Ruby and Lofton Holder, Joyce and Tim Shavers

David Netto Design

270 Lafayette Street (212-343-7415) A Park Avenue native, Netto offers décor by and for Bright Young Things: young, jet-set couples ready for grown-up homes. "You have to tell a story, get into character to add to—but not distort—who your clients are," he says. Netto makes savvy mixes of eighteenth-century reproductions with real antiques, shiny white lacquer with matte sand-blasted oak. **Clients:** Eliza Reed Bolen, Mark and Renee Rockefeller

Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz, LLC

75 Spring Street (212-343-9709) Noriega-Ortiz's palette tends to the celestial—silver, white, aqua—though the objects in his constellation are as likely to come from eBay as from a tony antiques shop. He pulls together beads and

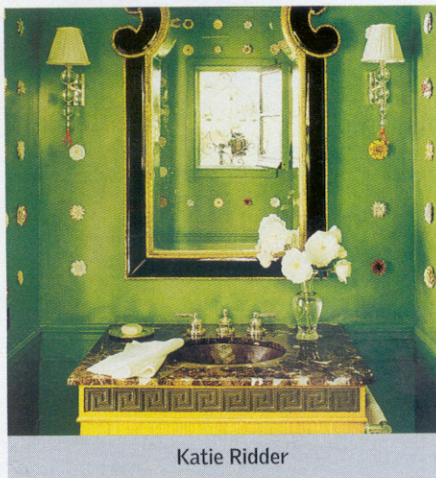
Biedermeier, curves and crisp edges, via clever color choices and a bit of humor. "I have grown fond of acrylic, feathers, and crystal, which I have been using lately to give sparkle to my interiors," he notes. **Clients:** Lenny Kravitz, Laura Esquivel

Pierce Allen

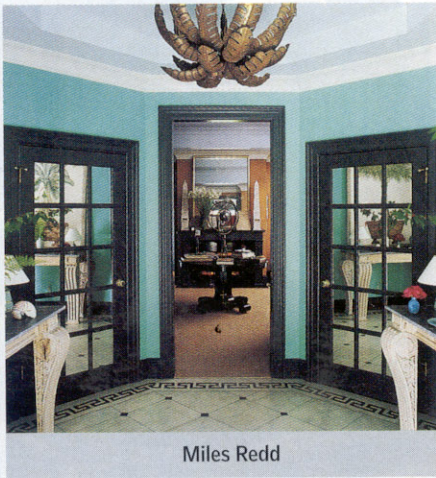
80 Eighth Avenue, Suite 1602 (212-627-5440) Architect Michael Pierce and designer DD Allen make an energetic team, injecting projects large and small with "tight plans, relaxed furniture, color on walls, and a balance on luxury and simplicity in fabric and materials." Accustomed to movie-star budgets, Allen still likes to scavenge, adding textiles that range from burlap to silk. **Clients:** Gwyneth Paltrow, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Ann Tenenbaum, Matthew Marks

Campion A. Platt

152 Madison Avenue, Suite 900 (212-779-3835) *Simplicity* is Platt's mantra, a modern (not min-



Katie Ridder



Miles Redd



Alison Spear, AIA

imal) aesthetic. "With the stresses of the city, we provide an unstylized and quiet home environment," he says. The discerning may note a classical sense of proportion, but Platt's balanced rooms typically have a contemporary feel, thanks to "metal, Lucite, resin, and lots of natural woods."

Clients: Al Pacino, Meg Ryan, Russell Simmons

Miles Redd

300 Elizabeth Street (212-995-1922)

Known for exuberant color, usually in the form of paint, Redd has freshened up blah kitchens with a coat of Tiffany blue, tacky floors with two-tone patterns borrowed from classical Greece. Though his painting technique works for small budgets, Redd's taste in furniture (like his choice of colors) is traditional, and travels uptown with ease. **Clients:** The Frelinghuysen family

Katie Ridder Inc.

1239 Broadway, Suite 1604 (212-779-9080)

"I like each room in a house to have a wow factor," Ridder says, whether it is an unusual texture (horsehair for walls) or color (bright lacquered floors). Currently she's in an Oscar de la Renta mood: Luxurious materials turn into leather tiles; folk-art inspirations like peasant embroidery show up in overscaled wall stencils.

Clients: Timothy Collins, Ann Harrison and Vicente Madrigal

Randall A. Ridless, LLC

315 West 39th Street, Suite 1101 (212-643-8140) Ridless and associate Beth Martell add a fantasy element to crisp, classical interiors, working in a touch of Morocco, for example, or a Gaudí flair. Ridless is currently developing a fabric and rug collection that highlights a few of his favorite things: taffeta, cat-scratched velvet, embroidered jute. **Clients:** Terry Lundgren

Daniel Romualdez Architects

119 West 23rd Street (212-989-8429)

Romualdez seems to have a direct line to such early-twentieth-century greats as Sir Edwin Lutyens and Jean-Michel Frank, but he wears his architectural knowledge gracefully. His in-

teriors might pair his own designs with eighteenth-century Swedish pieces, setting a scene that is timeless, refined, and unpretentious.

Clients: Matt and Annette Lauer, Marina Rust, Tory Burch, James De Givenchy

Ruby

41 Union Square West, Studio 1036 (212-741-3380)

Young talents Alysa Weinstein and Bella Zakarian don't turn up their noses at modest budgets or square-footage. Problem solvers par excellence, they will work with what a client already owns, editing, rearranging, freshening. "Our clients are often time- and budget-conscious, seeking to improve their surroundings through smart design," Zakarian says. **Clients:** Jennifer Chambers, Stacey Reiss and Ross Intelisano

"No two houses are alike," says Robert A.M. Stern, "just as no two clients are alike."

Saladino Group Inc.

200 Lexington Avenue, Suite 1600 (212-684-3720)

A New York fixture, John Saladino is known for magnificent rooms. He balances Italian furniture with his own designs, always establishing the structure of a space beneath the curlicues and gilt. Current favorites include "limestone in a warm beige color from Oklahoma, mouth-blown seeded glass, and sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Italian antiques with a strong architectural nature." **Clients:** Susan Harris and Paul Witt, Michael and Mary Jaharis

Joel Sanders

515 Canal Street (212-431-8751)

Sanders's apartment designs push the capabilities of computers and clients alike, as he creates fully functioning homes out of one continuous surface. A concrete floor may dip to form a padded conversation pit, then rise up to turn into a countertop. As he puts it: "Flexible living environments for fluid lifestyles." **Clients:** Scott Metzner, Martin and Ann Gallagher

Steven Sclaroff

801 Greenwich Street (212-691-7814)

"A reduced number of elements and contrasting pieces and materials can make a house full of museum-quality art and furniture still look comfortable enough to put your feet up and your drink down," says Sclaroff. His relaxed approach encompasses anything from rococo to Perriand, but he lets cool colors, a tight edit, and luxurious materials take the edge off contemporary and the fussiness off antiques. **Clients:** Kate and Andy Spade, Tony Kushner, Edward Klein

Selldorf Architects

62 White Street (212-219-9571)

Annabelle Selldorf deserves her reputation as a minimalist; her interiors often run the spec-

trum from black to white, with brief stops for stainless steel: "well-proportioned rooms," she says, "with ample lighting." Jolts of color come from Selldorf's impeccable taste in art, which could explain why she's a favorite of gallery owners. **Clients:** Eberhard Müller and Paula Satur

Roderick N. Shade Interior Design

P.O. Box 1797 (212-681-7942)

Shade's Harlem practice includes a custom-furniture line in deep colors and African-inspired shapes. His taste is eclectic, a rich combination of art, textiles, and modern furniture. "I like to see the hand-wrought against the highly stylized," he says, "and I enjoy drawing from ethnic sources." His book *Harlem Style* was published this month. **Clients:** Star Jones

Shamir Shah Design

10 Greene Street (212-274-7476)

This two-and-a-half-year-old firm is quickly making a name for itself, with functional planning and a luxurious stable of materials, giving mod-