

A large graphic on a red textured background. It features the words 'ELLE DECOR' in a gold, outlined, serif font at the top. Below them is a large, stylized number '30' in a red, outlined, serif font. The entire graphic is set against a gold rectangular background. To the right of the graphic is a black diagonal ribbon with gold Egyptian hieroglyphs and gold circular accents. At the bottom right, a portion of a red circular object with a silver center is visible.

ELLE DECOR 30

RULES TO LIVE BY

SINCE 1989, **ELLE DECOR** HAS COVERED EVERY MAJOR TREND IN THE DESIGN WORLD IN OUR PAGES. TO MARK OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY, OUR INTREPID EDITORS SCOURED OUR ARCHIVE OF BACK ISSUES AND CANVASED HUNDREDS OF CONTRIBUTORS AND A-LIST DESIGNERS IN SEARCH OF THE ESSENTIAL FORMULA FOR CREATING THE PERFECT HOME. PRESENTING: THE 30 MOST IMPORTANT DECORATING LESSONS YOU'LL EVER NEED TO KNOW.

1.

“Red Never Goes Out of Style”

A-LISTER **MILES REDD** TOLD US IN 2018. WE’VE BEEN OBSESSED WITH THE COLOR SINCE OUR FIRST COVER.

Vanity Fair chair, 37" w. x 36" d. x 39" h., \$6,850; poltronafrau.com. Silk Petal dress, \$17,000; marcjacobs.com. **PREVIOUS PAGE:** Calfskin Leather Rouge notebook cover, \$335; hermes.com

2. Taste Is Subjective

Fads have come and gone—and in some cases, come back again—over the past 30 years. Here are some of our favorites. Isadore embroidered trim in Cadet by Michael Aiduss, to the trade; houles.com



1989
The Berlin Wall falls; ELLE DECOR is born.

1990
Gold, silver, and bronze decor all take first place.

1991
Everyone needs a loft—the more exposed pipes, the better.

MODEL PHOTOGRAPH: TED BELTON; HAIR: MICHIKO BOORBERG; MAKEUP: HONG WANG; MODEL: CHUYAN HE; RIBBON: KEVIN SWEENEY



3.

A Little Patina Goes A Long Way

ED CONTRIBUTING EDITOR **BUNNY WILLIAMS** TELLS US THE RIGHT WAY TO DECORATE.

YOU HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR house just like you take care of yourself: Keep it fit and in good spirits. Part of my obligation as a decorator is to make people feel at home. You design a place for living in, not for a photo shoot. I'm always thinking about the furniture arrangements and proper lighting. Everything that goes into the design has to be comfortable and welcoming.

I grew up in Virginia, in Albemarle County. We lived on the same street as my cousins, and everyone entertained at home. When I was little, I would get excited about going to Aunt Berta's for Sunday lunch or to my godmother's for a party. That was one of the reasons I wanted to be a decorator: to work on residences because I care about how people live.

People make such a production out of entertaining. If you have a well-appointed bar and a can of peanuts and maybe some salsa and some chips, you can say, "Come over!" And if you know how to set a table, the food can just be a big salad and cold chicken. Everything should seem effortless.

When I was working at Parish-Hadley, you'd see people who lived on a totally different scale. I remember Babe Paley had a book in each of her houses that detailed all of the tablesettings she'd ever done, so that if she had guests coming for dinner, she could call her staff and say, "Set style number three." I thought that was unbelievable.

It's easier to live well now than it was 30 years ago, when it was more formal. I want a very clean, beautiful-smelling house, but I'm never going to say, "Take your shoes off!" A little patina never hurt anything.

In our March 2011 issue, Williams flanked the entry to the study of a New York City penthouse with a pair of 19th-century fluted columns.

4.

It's All in the Details

ED A-Listers know that a signature flourish can make a room—or an outfit.



NINA CAMPBELL

Her trademark heart specs are custom cut in London; these sunnies are equally chic. Chloé, \$357. farfetch.com



FRANK DE BIASI

The New York designer juggles appointments with the help of his Cape Cod watch. Hermès, \$3,050. hermes.com



RICHARD KEITH LANGHAM

The dapper decorator often sports these Cole Porter-inspired Night & Day cuff links. Verdura, \$8,500. verdura.com



THOMAS O'BRIEN

Leave it to the Ralph Lauren alum to craft the perfect leather tote. Aero, \$525. aerostudios.com

WILLIAMS INTERIOR: ROGER DAVIES; PORTRAITS, WICKER CHAIR: GETTY IMAGES



1992

White wicker is here. Get out your spray paint!



1993

Dyson reinvents the vacuum. Floors are now cleaner than ever.



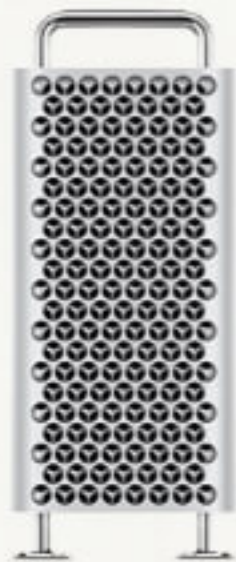
1994

Friends debuts; apartments become TV stars.



This petal-based cocktail table is by **Pierre Paulin**, the 20th-century design master whose furnishings graced our June 2019 cover. Rosace coffee table in orange, 55" dia. x 11.5" h., \$27,480. ralphpucci.net

Apple revolutionized the design world. Its new stainless steel Mac Pro processor is an object lesson in form and function. 18" w. x 9" d. x 21" h., from \$5,999. apple.com



Christopher Spitzmiller isn't resting on his laurels; instead, he continues to evolve his signature ceramic lamps in new finishes. Large Single Gourd shown in Matte Bronze and Matte White, 28.5" h., \$2,800. christopherspitzmiller.com

5. Icons Endure

WHERE TO INVEST YOUR DECORATING DOLLARS? **LOOK TO THE PAST:** THESE SHOWSTOPPING DESIGNS WILL STAND THE TEST OF TIME.



This **Braquenié** chintz, Le Grand Genois Rayure, is a perennial designer pick. Shown in Multicolore, to the trade. pierrefrey.com



The Togo by **Michel Ducaroy** for **Ligne Roset** is as popular today as it was when it was introduced more than 40 years ago. 52" w. x 40" d. x 28" h., available in other sizes, shown in Alcantara/Mandarin, \$3,335. ligne-rosset.com



Monogrammed linens are always in style—put your initial on this lily of the valley-embroidered Venezia dinner napkin by **Julia B.** 20" sq., shown in Ciel, \$85. juliab.com



In tribute to **ED** favorite **William Yeoward**, who died earlier this year, we are stocking up on his best-selling Corinne Coupe. 6" h., shown in Clear, \$55. williamyeowardcrystal.com



Beloved by Jackie O., the almost 100-year-old French bedding brand **D. Porthault** is still creating beautiful floral prints like Prairie. Boudoir sham, 16" w. x 12" h., available in other sizes, \$325. dporthaultparis.com



Hermès's Balcon du Guadalquivir porcelain pattern in red is a modern classic. 8.5" dia., shown in red/white, \$130. hermes.com

1995
John Pawson introduces "extreme minimalism" in his design for Calvin Klein's Madison Avenue flagship.

ebay 1996
EBay makes \$7.2 million in its first year. Decorators stay up all night pressing refresh.

1997
Oscar de la Renta puts ikat on the runway.



6.

Do It Once and Do It Well

GOOD DESIGN
LASTS FOREVER,
ESPECIALLY WHEN IT'S
KEPT IN THE FAMILY.



Nate Berkus (inset) and his Chicago apartment (September 2008), pre-husband and kids.



The first *ED* project by Kerry Joyce (Aug/Sep 2002), designed in conjunction with Barbara Barry.



Three generations of designers? We'll see! Mimi McMakin (top), her daughter Celerie Kemble, and Kemble's daughter, Zinnia.



Kathryn M. Ireland at her home in France, in her first *ED* appearance (Feb/Mar 2002).



Ireland's son Otis Wels is following in his mother's footsteps with his own textile line.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: PETER ESTERSON (2); CLAIBORNE SWANSON FRANK; TREVOR TONDRO; HENRY BOURNE; DOMINIQUE VORILLON; KOONS - HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY IMAGES



1998

Jony Ive's candy-colored iMac G3 replaces beige computers everywhere.



1999

Hiring a decorator for your Y2K bunker becomes imperative.

2000

The world doesn't end! Jeff Koons's Puppy sculpture takes its perch at Rockefeller Center.





Design icon Lee Radziwill in her Paris apartment (Apr/May 2009).



Fashion designer Johanna Ortiz's salon at her home in Cartagena, Colombia (September 2018).



We love Gil Schafer's bedroom in his Dutchess County, New York, weekend house (May 2001).



Taking turns in the chair—Simon Doonan and Jonathan Adler in November 2004 (inset) and April 2019.



ED international design editor Cynthia Frank calls this Hampshire, England, estate (April 2014) one of her all-time favorites.

7. Buy Antique (Houses)

"It always strikes (and delights) me how much decorating is like writing. You take a blank, empty space (or house or room or page) and create an entire universe in it—a story, a history, a look, a feel, a mood. You fill it with beautiful things you love, you design it just the way you want. You breathe life into it, and it comes alive; it has a soul either by the time you decorate it or create it in a book, and it becomes real. I love designing and decorating. So far I've only decorated 19th-century (and turn-of-the-century) houses, and never a modern one. I love the challenge, charm, and legends of old houses, the aura of the people who once lived there, whether in a book or a home." —Danielle Steel

Steel is the best-selling author of 162 books, including her latest novel, *The Dark Side*.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: RICARDO LAROUQUE; WILLIAM WALDRON; DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN; SIMON UPTON; FERNANDO BENGOCHEA; ERIC BOMAN

2001

In the wake of 9/11, a renewed interest in Americana.

2002

New York City's billionaire mayor, Michael Bloomberg, hires Jamie Drake to renovate Gracie Mansion but never moves in.



2003

Everyone covets Diane Keaton's all-white kitchen in *Something's Gotta Give*.

8. Statement Chairs Make a Room

NINE DESIGN LEGENDS (AND THEIR FANS) REVEAL THE SECRET TO THEIR MOST ENDURING PIECES.

9. DIY? D-O-N-T

ED's A-Listers opened their black books and shared some of their most trusted sources and trade artisans.

- CONTRACTORS**
 Petrit Coma, New York City, pccassociatesgroup.com
 Plant Construction, San Francisco, plantconstruction.com
 Shay Construction, Philadelphia, shayconstruction.com
- WOODWORKERS/CABINETMAKERS**
 Kevin Brown, Baltimore, sunnyfieldscabinetry.com
 Matthew Steel, Brooklyn, builtbysteel.com
 Larrea Studio, The Bronx, New York, larreastudio.com
- DECORATIVE PAINTERS**
 Olivia Raeburn, Los Angeles, 213-618-8180
 Mark Giglio, Oakland, California, markgiglio.com
 The Alpha Workshops, New York City, alphaworkshops.org
- CUSTOM-FURNITURE MAKERS**
 Atelier Violet, Brooklyn, atelieriviolet.com
 Mongiardo Studio, Great Barrington, Massachusetts, mongiardostudio.com
 Pollaro Custom Furniture, Hillside, New Jersey, pollaro.com
- PLUMBERS**
 Roger Botto, Hicksville, New York, bottobros.com
 Golds Plumbing Corp., Long Island City, New York, 718-392-0690
- PAINTERS**
 Ted Brady, Houston, bradypaint.com
 Brother's Painting, Glendale, California, brotherspaintingca.com
 Guy Brothers Decorating, Cleveland, 216-469-4226
- UPHOLSTERERS**
 Anthony Lawrence-Belfair, Long Island City, New York, anthonylawrence.com
 Jouffre, Long Island City, New York, jouffre.com
 Luther Quintana Upholstery, New York City, lqupholstery.com
- WALLPAPER HANGERS**
 John Nalewaja, New York City, scenicwallpaper.com
 Joseph Shea, Ridgefield, Connecticut, jmshea.com
- TILERS AND STONEMASONS**
 Complete Tile, New York City, completetile.com
 Paul Martin Tile & Stone, Camarillo, California, paulmartintile.com
 Marble Onyx Granite & Terrazzo, Brooklyn, marbleonyxny.com
- FLOOR INSTALLERS**
 Eric Herman, New York City, sotafloors.com
 I.J. Peiser's Sons, New York City, ijpeiser.com —Kate Bolick

1990



POWER PLAY BY FRANK GEHRY
 "People ask if I'm an artist or architect. I think they're the same."
 \$9,158 with ottoman. knoll.com

1990



CORNER BY DONALD JUDD
 "He used color like Mozart played the piano."
 —Rudi Fuchs, art historian
 \$6,900. judd.furniture

1991



S BY TOM DIXON FOR CAPPELLINI
 "I didn't know design when I started. I discovered it through chairs."
 \$1,500. tomdixon.net

2000



BUBBLE CLUB BY PHILIPPE STARCK FOR KARTELL
 "A great chair never should have to be recycled."
 \$825. kartell.com

2001



SMOKE BY MAARTEN BAAS FOR MOOOI
 "There's so much more to chair design than 'It must have four legs.'"
 \$2,106. moooi.com

2005



FELT BY MARC NEWSON FOR CAPPELLINI
 "It's really important to design things with a kind of personality."
 \$11,890. 1stdibs.com

2008



BLUFFER BY INDIA MAHDAVI FOR RALPH PUCCI
 "She has brought much-needed fun to the design world."
 —Ralph Pucci
 \$7,920. ralphpucci.net

2010



PICCOLA PAPILIO BY NAOTO FUKASAWA FOR B&B ITALIA
 "Great design is a multilayered relationship between human life and its environment."
 \$3,198. bebitalia.com

2019



BELGARD SWIVEL BY DMITRIY & CO.
 "It's like a bespoke suit. These are made to last."
 —Donna Feldman, founding partner
 \$5,250. dmitriyco.com

2004
 The Toile de Jouy revival brings storytelling back to wallpaper.

2005
 Bunny Williams's book *An Affair with a House*, about her country home in Falls Village, Connecticut, flies off bookshelves.



2006
 Lindsey Adelman opens her eponymous studio, as LED bulbs and statement lighting are all the rage.



Dress the Part

THE ETERNALLY CHIC
DIANE VON FURSTENBERG
 MUSES ON THE CONNECTION
 BETWEEN FASHION AND HOME.

FASHION AND HOME ARE LINKED BY THE CONCEPT OF image. Both are about the idea of designing your life: You dress to project who you want to be, and you decorate your home as you want to live. But sometimes a person's fashion sense can be different from their interiors aesthetic. For example, I was surprised when I visited the fashion designer Dries Van Noten's castle country house, designed by Gert Voorjans, in Lier, Belgium. It was so lavish—not at all what I expected based on his richly printed yet restrained clothes. And the acres of gardens, landscaped by Erik Dhont, were exquisite.

When it comes to my homes and surroundings, I like things to be comfortable, eclectic, and utilitarian. I love huge sofas and lots of books, photos, and art that I am passionate about, usually from my contemporaries. It's great to support my friends who are artists. I prefer bold prints—wearing them and in my environment.

I have done home-decor pieces at various points in my career. I've designed fabrics for interiors and decorated suites at Claridge's in London and other hotels around the world. The surroundings I create are not traditional, but then again, neither am I.



From the *ED* archives. **CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Diane von Furstenberg, Aug/Sep 1997. Lulu Guinness, October 1999. Naomi Campbell, Dec/Jan 1993. Sander Lak, September 2018. Yves Saint Laurent's Marrakech bedroom, September 2018. Cindy Crawford, Oct/Nov 1997. Ralph Lauren's New York apartment bathroom, October 2010. Ralph Lauren at his Double RL Ranch, on the November 2018 cover. Giorgio Armani, November 2000.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FERNANDO BENGOCHEA (2); ANDREW ECCLES; TINA BARNEY; MIGUEL FLORES-VIANNIA (2); THIBAUT JEANSON; WILLIAM ABRAMOWICZ; RICHARD PHIBBS; GUILLAUME DE LAUBIER; MAD MEN: AMERICAN MOVIE CLASSICS (AMC)/RADICAL MEDIA/ALAMY; HIRST: CORBIS/GETTY IMAGES



2007

Mad Men airs on AMC, popularizing the American midcentury-modern look.



2008

The Sotheby's Damien Hirst auction brings in \$200 million. Lehman Brothers shuts the same day.



2009

With climate change an increasingly hot topic, LEED certification is now a must for new skyscrapers.

11.

Break Out the Good Silver

IGNORING BUDGET AND GUESTS' VITAL STATUS, DESIGNER **KEN FULK** THROWS AN IMPOSSIBLY FABULOUS HYPOTHETICAL DINNER PARTY.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY TUG RICE/ILLUSTRATION DIVISION

The Invitation

"An old-fashioned Western Union telegram that says, 'Please join me for the meal of a lifetime. Come to the Stork Club at 3 East 53rd Street. Tuesday at 8 P.M. Ken.'"



The Decor

"Frances Elkins dining chairs covered in Scalamandré's Le Tigre silk velvet around a classic Stork Club banquette. The skirted table would be covered in a Pierre Frey Tourmaline silk velvet trimmed in multihued bullion fringe. The tableware would be from Richard Ginori's Oriente Italiano collection in Malachite, with monogrammed napkins from Leontine Linens and engraved Buccellati flatware. To top it off, there would be a pair of vintage silver candlesticks with extra-long pink tapers. Animal-shaped place-card holders complete the scene."



The Guest List

"Elizabeth Taylor circa 1963 for beauty and some trouble, Oscar Wilde for his naughty wit, a young Paul Newman to stare at longingly, and a 19-year-old Barbra Streisand to serenade us."



Icebreaker

"The simplest but always intriguing question, What was your best kiss ever?"



Libation

"A 1995 Dom Pérignon P2 brut rosé served in a perfectly cut Baccarat coupe."



Centerpiece

"Mountains of deep-pink peonies arranged in a low crystal bowl."

Menu

"Tableside Caesar salad followed by Zuni Café's roasted chicken and shoestring potatoes. For dessert: Minetta Tavern's coconut cake."

INTERIOR: WILLIAM ABRANOWICZ



2010
Instagram is launched. Rooms become square.

2011
Nest gives the humble thermostat a high-design makeover.



2012
Queen Elizabeth II celebrates her Diamond Jubilee, sparking a run on English-country-house style.

2013
"Punk: Chaos to Couture" opens at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Tartan (plus or minus the safety pins) makes a comeback.

Style Sins

ED'S AESTHETIC DETECTIVE **KATE BOLICK** INVESTIGATES THE TOP DESIGN CRIMES OF THE LAST THREE DECADES.



The phone was ringing off the hook. I'd dispatched my deputies to round up every last style sin on the planet, and the results were anything but pretty. Now I've got more work than I can manage and a migraine that even a snifter of Cognac can't snuff out. Welcome to the agency that never sleeps.

12. Brass kitchen faucets. Please stop. —*Madeline Stuart*

13. Pullout sofa beds have been breaking backs and fingers for more than a century! —*David Kaihoi*

14. The ongoing friendship of **dusty rose and mauve**, with their gummy undertones, hurts my feelings. —*Mary McDonald*

15. Curtains that just graze the floor tend to curl up over time and look mingy. —*Ellie Cullman*

16. A room without dimmers is social suicide. —*Martyn Lawrence Bullard*

17. Cluttered shabby-chic rooms that make you want to wipe your feet on the way out. —*Jim Aman*

18. The term chef's kitchen. Does Daniel Boulud or Jean-Georges Vongerichten come with the sale? —*Jamie Drake*

19. Framed photographs of family on every possible surface. —*Brian J. McCarthy*

20. If more is more, it had better be more quality, more collectible, and more taste than money can buy. —*Richard Mishaan*

21. Dried flower arrangements.

How, exactly, does one clean them? —*Nate Berkus*

22. Icon-itis. A Mies van der Rohe with a Herman Miller with a Saarinen is too much information. —*Joe Nahem*

23. Leather sofas in a family room. Some guy's butt stuck to a leather cushion? No thanks. —*Estee Stanley*

24. Beveled glass on anything. —*Celerie Kemble*

25. Fake fancy. Would you swing around a fake Fendi? If you can't afford the name brand, don't buy the knockoff. —*Young Huh*

26. I am not very sentimental. Your grandmother's **Hummel figurine collection?** Torch it. —*Miles Redd*

27. Square Footage Is Just a Number

My career truly began in the pages of ELLE DECOR. When I was about to turn 30, the great Marian McEvoy published my first two-room apartment in ED. Margaret Russell was the sittings editor; William Waldron took the photographs. I was so excited that I'd had much too good a time the night before, and for my portrait shoot, let's just say I was in agony. By the time the issue came out, the architectural office where I worked was partnering with Jacques Grange on a project. In a meeting Jacques picked up the magazine, grinned at me, and shouted, "Sweet chici!" I had never felt like that before in my life. —*David Netto*

28. Never Forget

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE **AIDS EPIDEMIC**, THE DESIGN WORLD RESPONDED.

IN 1989, THE YEAR *ELLE DECOR* WAS first published, the number of AIDS cases in the United States had reached 100,000 and was climbing at an alarming rate. Before the mid-'90s brought hope in the form of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), a positive diagnosis was almost always a death sentence. Legendary interior designers Angelo Donghia and Michael Taylor, as well as architect Horace Gifford, are among the giants of design we lost to the disease during those early years.

I'm proud to say that the design community never stayed silent or inert during that terrible period, a fact we should all know and remember. It's time to celebrate the brave and compassionate people who stepped up and created organizations to help combat the devastating effects of AIDS, including the Alpha Workshops, Bailey House, Housing Works, and Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS (DIFFA), along with Design on a Dime, which I founded in 2004 and which has raised more than \$18 million for men, women, and children living with HIV/AIDS in neighborhoods throughout New York City.

There have been many advances in care since the late '80s, but AIDS is still a very real threat. As long as people around the world continue to die from it, the world of design will be there to help those in need. —*James Huniford, interior designer and founder of Design on a Dime*

Background: Oh So Faux in Lagoon by the Alpha Workshops. alphaworkshops.org

2014

Amazon introduces the Echo, featuring Alexa. Homes become a little too smart.

2015

432 Park Avenue, Rafael Viñoly's luxury megatower inspired by a Josef Hoffmann trash can, rises 1,396 feet in Manhattan.

2016

Bill Cunningham dies. Street photography will never be the same.

29. Hire a Decorator!

JUST ASK MRS. TEPENDRIS, THE BOUFFANT-HAIRED CREATION OF ILLUSTRATOR **KONSTANTIN KAKANIAS**. A LOYAL SUBSCRIBER SINCE THE BEGINNING, SHE KNOWS BETTER THAN TO DECORATE A ROOM WITHOUT THE HELP OF AN *ED* A-LISTER.



A custom plate in honor of ELLE DECOR's 30th anniversary by artist Konstantin Kakanias. gavlakgallery.com

PLATE: KEVIN SWEENEY/STUDIO D



2017
Wiener Werkstätte returns, on the heels of the Neue Galerie's blockbuster exhibition.

2018
Hygge is the word on everyone's lips—even if no one can pronounce it correctly.

hyg•ge
/'h(y)ooge, 'hoõge/

2019
ELLE DECOR turns 30!



30.

Make It Built to Last

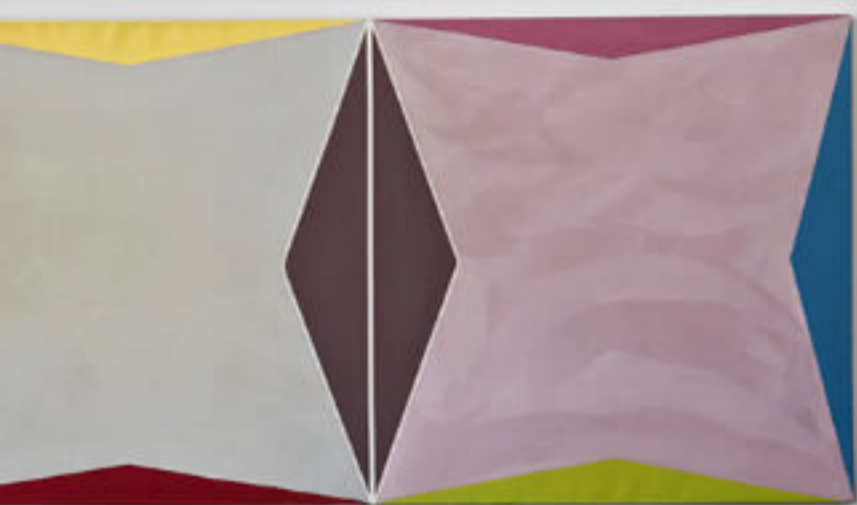
ELLE DECOR HAS SPENT THE LAST THREE DECADES SHOWCASING THE BEST HOMES IN THE WORLD. NOW, ON THE OCCASION OF OUR **30TH ANNIVERSARY**, WE PROUDLY UNVEIL ONE OF OUR OWN.

BY CHARLES CURKIN PRODUCED BY PARKER BOWIE LARSON PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALISON GOOTEE

TO CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF THE best in design, we recently enlisted A-List decorator Neal Beckstedt to design the House of ELLE DECOR—an actual residence that embodies the style and finesse of the projects we feature in the magazine. The penthouse apart-

ment is located at 108 Leonard Street, a new luxury residential conversion in New York City's TriBeCa neighborhood with development managed by Elad Group.

Built in the late 19th century as the New York Life Insurance Building, 108 Leonard was >



The living room of the House of ELLE DECOR, in a penthouse at 108 Leonard Street in TriBeCa, which was designed by Neal Beckstedt with interiors by Jeffrey Beers. The sofas and cocktail table are by Minotti, the dining table is custom, and the vintage club chairs and Jean Protvé daybed are covered in Élitis fabrics. The Frits Henningsen wingback chair, Philip Arctander Clam chairs, and Louis XVI dining chairs and fauteuil are all vintage. The pendant and lamps are by Circa Lighting, the rug is from Mansour, and the artworks are by Larry Zox from Elizabeth Sadoff. The walls are painted in Strong White, and the ceiling cove is in Setting Plaster, both by Farrow & Ball.

In the wine room, the vintage sofa and armchair are upholstered in Élitis fabrics, the tables are by Molteni&C, and the ebony screen is by Liaigre. The brass wine display is by Amuneal, the lamps are by Circa Lighting, the rug is from Mansour, and the room is painted in Farrow & Ball's Picture Gallery Red. The Zox artwork is from Elizabeth Sadoff.



designed by the legendary architecture firm McKim, Mead & White, who also created Grand Central Terminal and the original Pennsylvania Station. The Italian Renaissance Revival-style facade, which is listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places, was restored by the architect Howard L. Zimmerman.

Jeffrey Beers, an architect known for his hospitality interiors, was tapped to transform the building into a condominium with more than 160 residences. "To complement the heavily ornamented original exterior," Beers says, "we designed them to blend old and new, with a light palette and a layout both functional and elegant."

For Beckstedt, whose aesthetic often blends past and present ("I love John Pawson and the king of France!"), the venue could not be more suited. "The interior archi-

itecture is traditional but in a modern way," he says. All of the vintage and antique furniture used came from Beckstedt's collection.

He designed the penthouse with a hypothetical client in mind: a well-traveled international couple with no children. For inspiration, he plumbed back issues of ELLE DECOR (he keeps years' worth of copies neatly stacked in his Brooklyn apartment and at his house in Sag Harbor on Long Island). The thread he found running through every issue was a layering of color, pattern, and texture. "The ELLE DECOR projects I looked at were very avant-garde," he says. "That's what I wanted to capture."

Here, those layers are immediately on display in the foyer, which is painted in three Farrow & Ball colors—Farrow's Cream on the ceiling, Pigeon on the walls, and Blue Gray on >



Beckstedt in the living room.



The study's chaise longue, pillows, and throw are by Hermès, the Gio Ponti armchairs and cocktail table are from Molteni&C, and the chandelier and floor lamp are by Circa Lighting. The carved tribal stool is vintage, the Floored wallcovering is by Phillip Jeffries, and the shag rug is from Mansour.



ABOVE: In the foyer, the Pierre Jeanneret chair is vintage, and the console table is by Liaigre. The ceiling fixture is by Circa Lighting, the jute rug is from Mansour, and the Donald Traver painting is from Ralph Pucci. The wall is painted in Pigeon, the wainscoting in Blue Gray, and the ceiling in Farrow's Cream, all by Farrow & Ball.

In the kitchen, the Edward Wormley rosewood bar cart is vintage. The plates, decanter, glasses, vases, ice buckets, and flatware are by Christoffe. The brass switch plates and dimmers are by Forbes & Lomax, and the wall is sheathed in gold leaf.



The kitchen's custom cabinetry and hardware are by Scavolini, and the vintage barstools have seats covered in an Élitis fabric. The pendants are by Circa Lighting, and the speakers are by Sonos.



“I love a Louis XIV chair, but I’m a **minimalist.**”

NEAL BECKSTEDT

the wainscoting—and furnished with a vintage Pierre Jeanneret chair and a contemporary Liaigre console. It’s a cozy prelude to the soaring adjacent living room, where large-scale abstract Color Field paintings by the late Larry Zox vibrate against stark white walls. The space contains a veritable Tut’s tomb of timeless furniture: modern sofas from Minotti, Louis XVI dining chairs, and 20th-century classics by Philip Arctander and Jean Prouvé, all upholstered in Élitis fabrics of

wild blues, purples, oranges, and whites. The seating arrangement is held together by an orange-and-pink vintage Oushak rug from Mansour; overhead, an oversize lantern by Circa Lighting is large enough to make a statement dangling from the room’s 16-foot-high coved ceiling.

The living room leads into what is arguably the boldest space in the penthouse: a wine room with walls lacquered a high-gloss red. Most of the room’s ingredients—a Napoleon chair, a vintage sofa, a Mansour rug, and another Zox painting—match the bold color. For contrast, Beckstedt added black accents from Liaigre and Molteni&C and floor-to-ceiling brass-and-glass wine racks. “You want that drama,” he says. ▷



ABOVE: The Toto tub in the master bathroom has fittings by Fantini. The Frits Henningsen chair is vintage, the pendant is by Circa Lighting, the custom window shade is in an Élitis sheer linen, and the Turkish rug is from Mansour.

In the master bedroom, a custom four-poster bed is topped with an Élitis fabric. The custom sofa and vintage armchairs are covered in fabrics by Élitis, the cocktail table is by Ralph Pucci, the chandelier and lamp are by Circa Lighting, and the rug is from Mansour. The upper walls are painted in Strong White by Farrow & Ball; below the molding, the Suede wallcovering is by Phillip Jeffries. The trimming on the wall is by Samuel & Sons.



There's certainly no dearth of drama in this world he's created. The levels of intensity ebb and flow from room to room, as deep red turns to a more earthy mood in the study, where a birch wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries is paired with a Mansour shag rug. Then light hues return for a breath in the master bedroom suite, where the bathroom is clad in Calacatta Mandria marble and the serene bedroom is anchored by a minimalist four-poster knotty pine bed designed by Beckstedt.

And then it's back through the living room to the kitchen, where a wall framing views of midtown Manhattan is covered in a patchwork of pure gold leaf. "There is a surprise around every corner," Beckstedt says.

Meanwhile, the penthouse is available for \$12.1 million, and all of the furniture and art is for sale, too. What better way is there to live than in a home that has been published in ELLE DECOR? ■



LEFT: A closet's custom cabinetry and hardware are by Scavolini.

ABOVE: In the guest room, the headboard and nightstand are by Ligne Roset, the custom bedding is of an Élitis velvet, and the coverlet is a vintage central Asian tapestry from Mansour. The vintage Renzo Rutili chest is from Aero, the chandelier is by Circa Lighting, and the curtains are of a Mitchell Denburg fabric. The Dan Christensen artwork is from Elizabeth Sadoff, and the wall is painted in Red Earth by Farrow & Ball. **RIGHT:** In a master closet custom designed by Scavolini, including cabinetry and hardware, the chair and blanket are by Hermès, and the ceiling fixture is by Ralph Lauren for Circa Lighting. For details, see Resources.

