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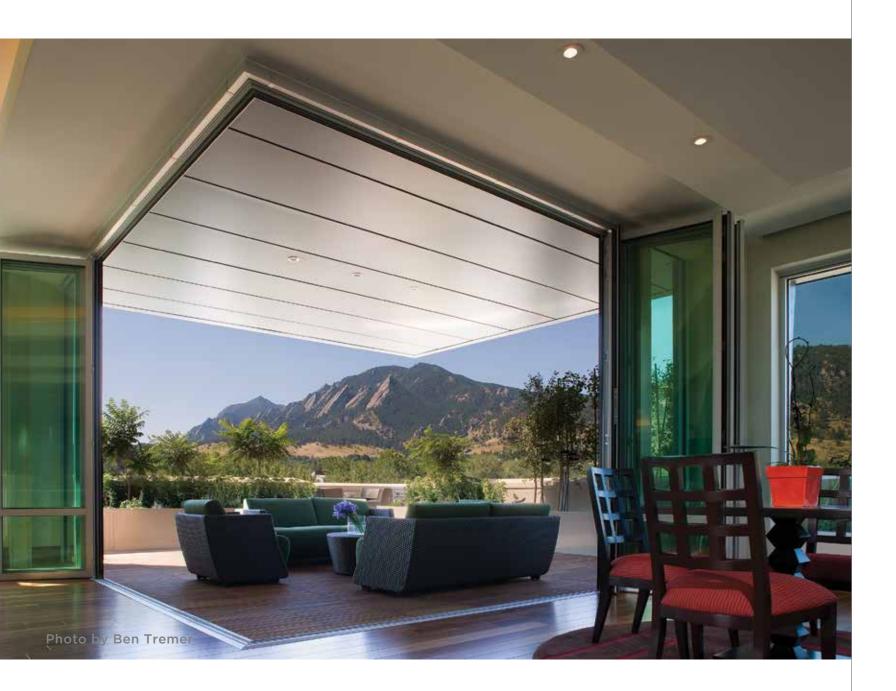
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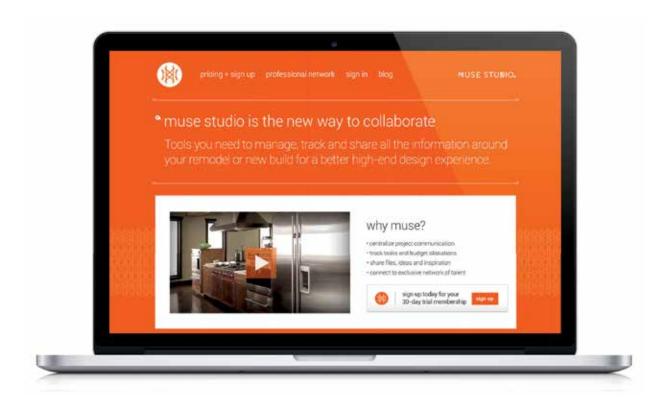
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SPRING 2013

SPRING IS TRANSFORMING. SPRING IS TRANSITIONING. SPRING IS HERE.

Most spring issues focus on the warmer weather, the blooming flowers and the promise of summer right around the corner - which is great, but for me, the essence of spring is really about transition and transformation. The process. It's that center point when two images blur together and you can't tell where one ends and the other starts. I like that. Spring straddles the cold and the warm, the barren and the bountiful. This issue of Modern In Denver embraces that as we stand in the center of the season, looking in both directions for inspiration.

We feature a beautiful photo essay by photographer Andrew Pogue, who shot some of Colorado's best modern homes while they were covered in snow. The images capture the quiet coldness of a snow that erases everything around it and allows us to focus on the architecture in a unique way. Looking towards sunny days, we tour a renovated apartment building conceived around bike culture. So much so, that every new tenant receives a bike when they sign a lease. We also take a look at transformable furniture and learn how these multi-use pieces can not only save you space, but can be truly inspiring.

We visit Boulder design studio Berger & Föhr and learn about their transformation into a highly efficient and effective two man studio that has generated some of the most exciting and fresh identity work in Colorado. We stop by another two man studio, F9 Productions, and learn how they propose our built environment should address the transformation and consequences of climate change. They call them Doomsday Dwellings, but there is a lot more to them and the conversation they start than the name suggests.

True Food is a new restaurant in Cherry Creek that wants to transform your diet and is well on its way to doing just that with bright energetic space and a terrific, healthful menu that is delicious.

We have a fun Q&A with an architect who transitioned from designing buildings to building bikes and we are lucky enough to get to visit Brian Tschumper, who transformed his Golden Triangle loft into a gorgeous, modern space, filled with amazing art that is mostly from Colorado artists and galleries.

So please enjoy this issue and celebrate the transformative beauty and power of spring.

Cheers!

William Logan

william@modernindenver.com twitter: @wtlogan

ON THE COVER



Photographer Andrew Pogue captured a family of Ugly dolls relaxing on a Mies Van Der Rohe Barcelona chair that sits in front of a brightly colored painting by Jorg Madlener ("Equus 15", 1999) in Brian Tschumper's Golden Triangle loft. Brian's art filled frand his passion for Colorado artists are featured on page 42.

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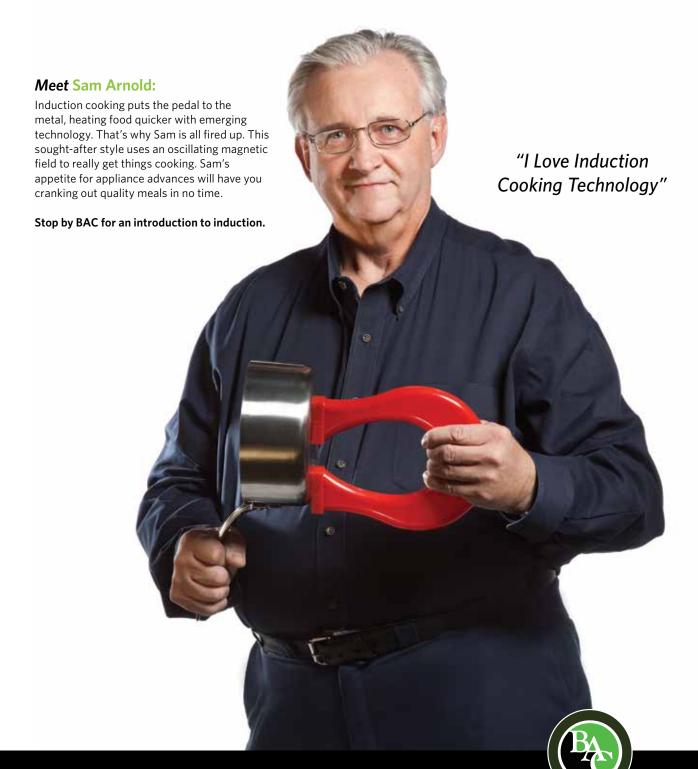


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FIELD STUDY | OBJECTS | etc.

WORDS: Tamara Chuang _____

WALL RACK

Bicycles tend to clutter interiors so most people keep them outside. But bike racks from Germany's MIKILI will make you want to bring your two-wheel transporter indoors. TÎAN, a geometric drawer attached to the wall, turns the classical diamond-frame bicycle into wall art and adds storage for cycling accessories. MIKILI hope to bring the racks to the U.S. this year.







POWER STRIP

Tables don't get much more minimalist than The Ledge from Urbancase, a Seattle design firm founded by Pueblo native Darin Montgomery. Ledge doesn't even have legs. It's mounted to the wall. But it's an extremely useful table, complete with a pullout work station, hidden storage and a cord management system. On top, there's a spot to keep keys or coins, plus a long, thin slot to hide a phone charger.

+urbancase.com





SECOND WILD LIFE

Trained architect and industrial designer Nishi Chauhan brings to modern life the art of craftsman in Channapatna, a craft district in India known for making wooden toys. The New Delhi native's interest in the toy makers stemmed from finding a second use for numerous bottles accumulating at home. The collaboration resulted in Animal Farm lights, where playful creatures named Peeves (the penguin), Ellie (the elephant) and Humf (the hippo) turn into lamps, giving bright, new life to old bottles.







SOLITARY SLURP

The Anti-Ioneliness Ramen Bowl by Miso Soup Design pokes fun at today's reliance on mobile phones. Even when slurping soup, when two hands really are necessary, a solitary diner couldn't put down his phone. "For some people, that is absolutely the most normal thing to do - stay connected to the world. A phone gives a purpose to the user, and brings the lonely guy to an undisturbed, secured bubble," says creator Daisuke Nagatomo. Adding a spot for the phone allows addicts to "restore the proper table manner while eating ramen." Laugh at it or eat with it-just don't splash that pricey phone!

+misosoupdesign.com

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SOLID SHELF

The Agnes Wall Shelf by furniture designers Kay + Stemmer is built for those with modern sensibilities but no discernible handyman skills because this sleek shelf requires no assembly. It's a solid one-piece item meant to showcase the forgotten art of classical furniture making. But you still may need some skills - Agnes Wall Shelf needs to be attached to the wall.

+scp.co.uk

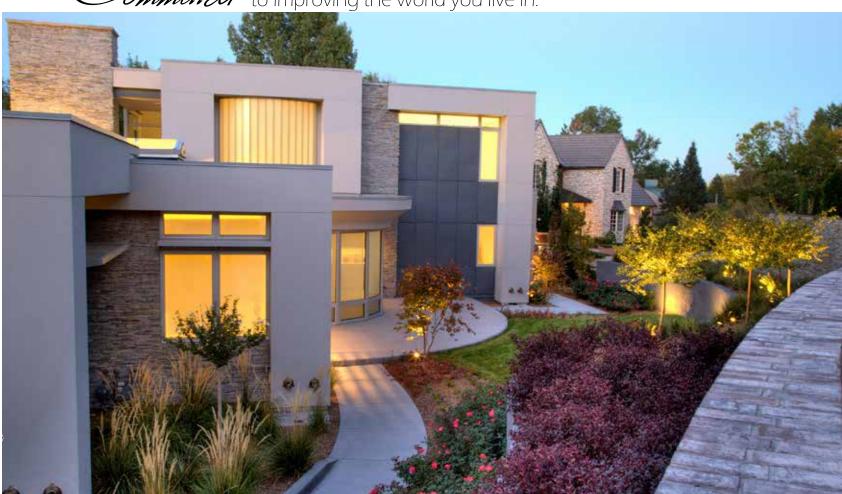
LOVE LETTERS

The precocious Letter Trays will put a thaw in spring chills while its story will warm your heart. Keir Kurinsky, who worked in the silicone molding industry, was eating dinner with his girlfriend in 2007 when she suggested he make alphabet ice-cube trays. Six months later, he had the prototype and used the first one to spell out "Will you marry me" in ice letters. She rearranged the letters to spell, "Yes." Awww... Sillycone Inc. launched and quickly found an adoring crowd at stores nationwide.





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FIELD STUDY | OBJECTS | etc.



ART FOR HOME

Suddenly, art enthusiasts everywhere have access to 3,000 pieces of new art to lavish on duvet covers, clocks and other home accessories. Deny Designs, the brainchild of Denver couple Dustin and Kim Nyhus, launched in March 2011 with 12 artists. Today, there are 90 artists with a couple of new ones added monthly (users can submit their own favorites online). "We love art," says Kim, "Especially when it doesn't follow the rules." Artists, meanwhile, earn a commission on each purchase.

+denydesigns.com



HOT POT

Described as Zen simplicity meets Scandinavian function, the Norm Kettle Vacuum Jug by Norm Architects fits in with most anyone's style. But the real design significance is that it keeps beverages piping hot. In tests, the filled Jug with a beverage at 203°F will still be 172°F hot after 6 hours in a 75°F room.

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TIME STRETCH

The Lithe clock borders on being Dr. Seussian with one ridiculously long minute hand that quivers as it glides. At least in the video. The clock is on its way to becoming reality, thanks to a successful crowdfunded campaign by Studio Ve in Tel-Aviv. "The thought of it as a hand for a clock seemed absurd at the beginning - it is too long (too much space), and when it bends, the hour reading is difficult. But that is exactly the reason we liked it – it brings some other quality to time reading," says creator Ben Klinger. Lithe will be available later this spring.



PEEK-A-VIEW

Peel is one of those designs that delightfully entertains while still offering a purpose. This top corner wall light looks like it's peeking out from behind a folded-back piece of wall paper. Peel comes from the cheeky minds of Tokyo-based Naoki Ono and Yuuki Yamamoto, who together call themselves YOY. "Our theme is to create a new story between a space and products."

+yoy-idea.jp

























































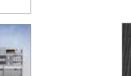












(click to enlarge)





















































SURFACES

Dutch designer Frederik Roijé has a knack for translating outdoor scenes into sophisticated interior design. One of his latest is Tablefields, a low-tiered table inspired by the terraced rice fields in Asia. The tri-level surface is made of a single piece of sheet metal and attached by lacquered ash wood legs.

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BAGGAGE FAST LANE

The Micro Luggage suitcase, which has a built-in scooter, is sure to cause attention at the airport. At least until the day when everyone realizes, this beats walking in the airport and buys their own! It's the latest in the long-running line of scooters from Micro Mobility in Switzerland, which launched its first scooter in 1996.

+kickboardusa.com



FIRE PATCH

Station Supply Co. turns used fireman's hoses into ruggedly smart-looking iPhone skins, complete with original stenciled lettering and even bits of grime. The adhesive back sticks to the back of an iPhone for a little extra protection. But remember, these are repurposed fabric fire hoses. If they fray, the company suggests snipping off the excess threads and using a lighter to char the edges to keep them from unravelling.

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RETHINK WATERING

Watering cans come in many shapes and colors. But most of the time, they are hollow, plastic and bulky. Imagine how much space they take up when shipped in bulk to local stores. That was a waste product Croatian designer Igor Juric aimed to fix. The result is the Keira watering can. Made of 100-percent recyclable materials, Keira cans are stackable so they take up less space when shipped to stores.







LEGS UP

As if dipped in a rich, golden oak, the svelte Beam Table is as sculptural as it is functional. Designed by Guatemalan artist Luis Alberto Arrivillaga for MDF Italia, Beam combines organic and composite shapes and materials. Solid wood legs support an unusually slender tabletop made of Cristalplant, a composite material better known for its use in bathtubs. Its curved edges gracefully connect to the streamlined legs, making Beam a subtle standout in the dining room.

+ mdfitalia.it





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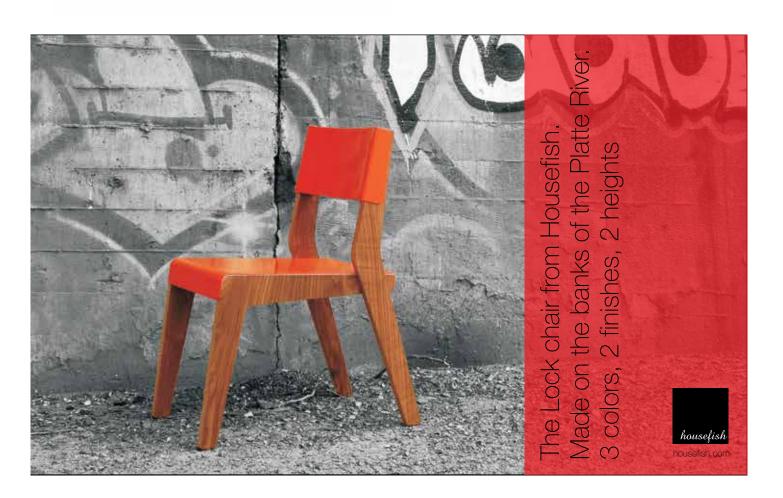
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STYLISH SCENT

Hakutan's organic shape offers an appealing sculptural design for any space. But it is what's inside that make Hakutan precious, functional, and a conversation piece. Hakutan comes from Korean oak turned into White Charcoal, which has extremely high carbon content. The higher the carbon, the higher the absorption of odors. A pleasant, peaceful way to clean the air indoors.

+ModMobili.com







WEATHER OR NOT

You could listen to the morning weather report but a quick glance at the Tempo Drop will tell you what you really want to know – is it going to rain, stay cloudy or clear up? Tempo Drop by Japanese design firm Perrocaliente is an updated version of storm glass, a 19th-Century weather forecasting device. Distilled water, camphor and ethanol inside the sealed glass transform into crystals based on the weather. Clear liquid? Clear day. Crystal flakes clinging to the glass? Not so much. No change? Well, it gives any space something beautiful to talk about.

+gnr8.biz



SWEET SEAT

The classic lawn chair gets a muchneeded update in The Belmont, thanks to designer Joe Gibson of Revolution Design House in Portland, Oregon. Gibson picked mahogany, stainless steel and aluminum because of their durability in rough weather. The vinyl seat cushion, also weatherproof, is a nod to its retro inspiration.

+revolutiondesignhouse.com

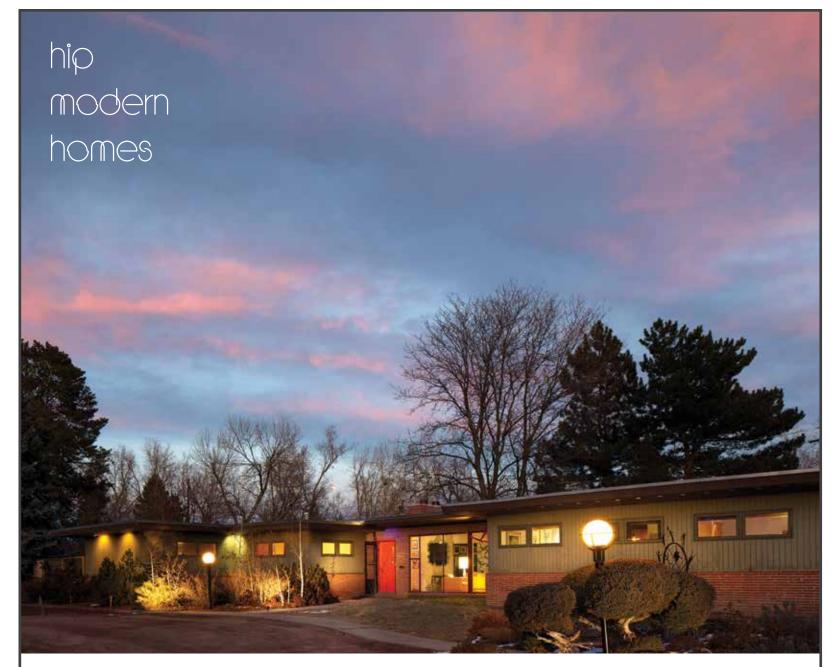




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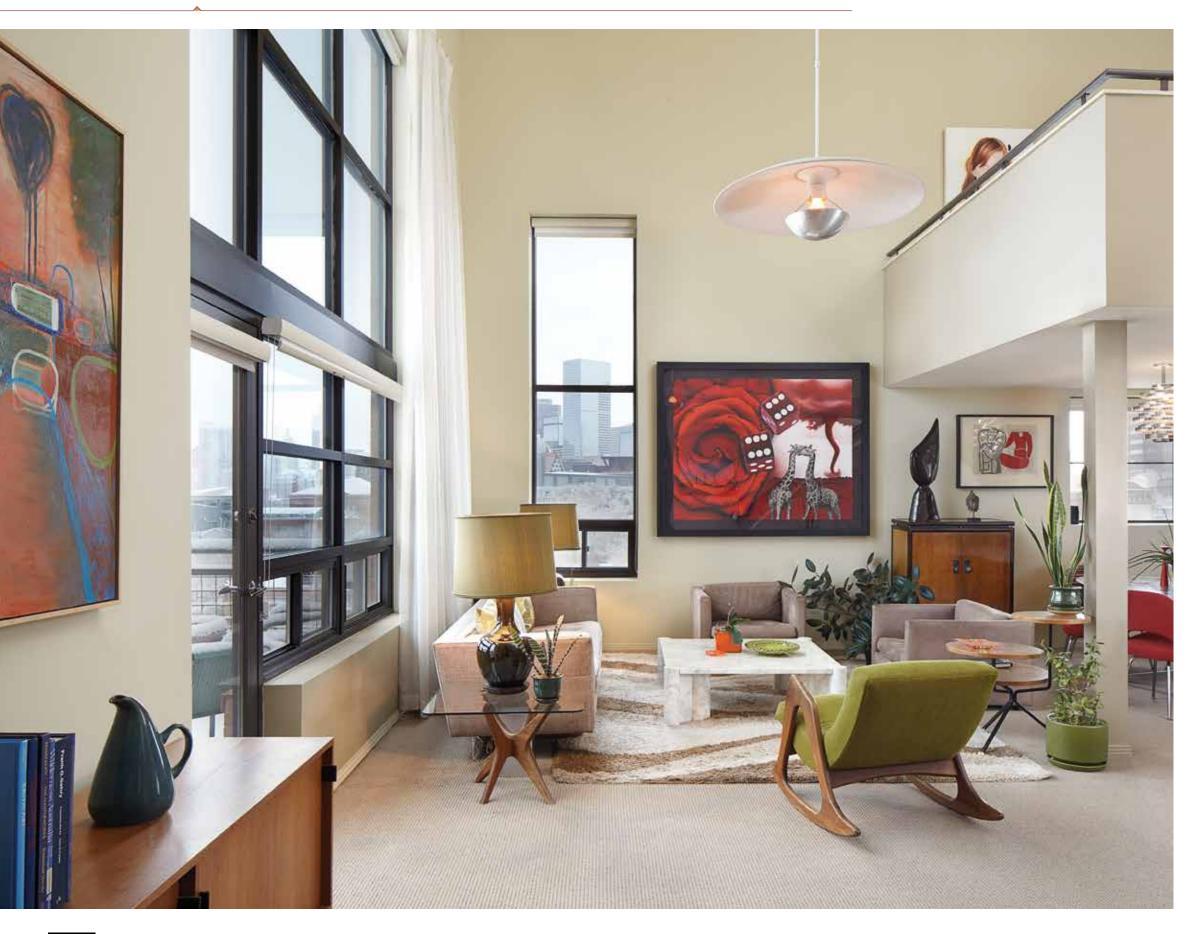
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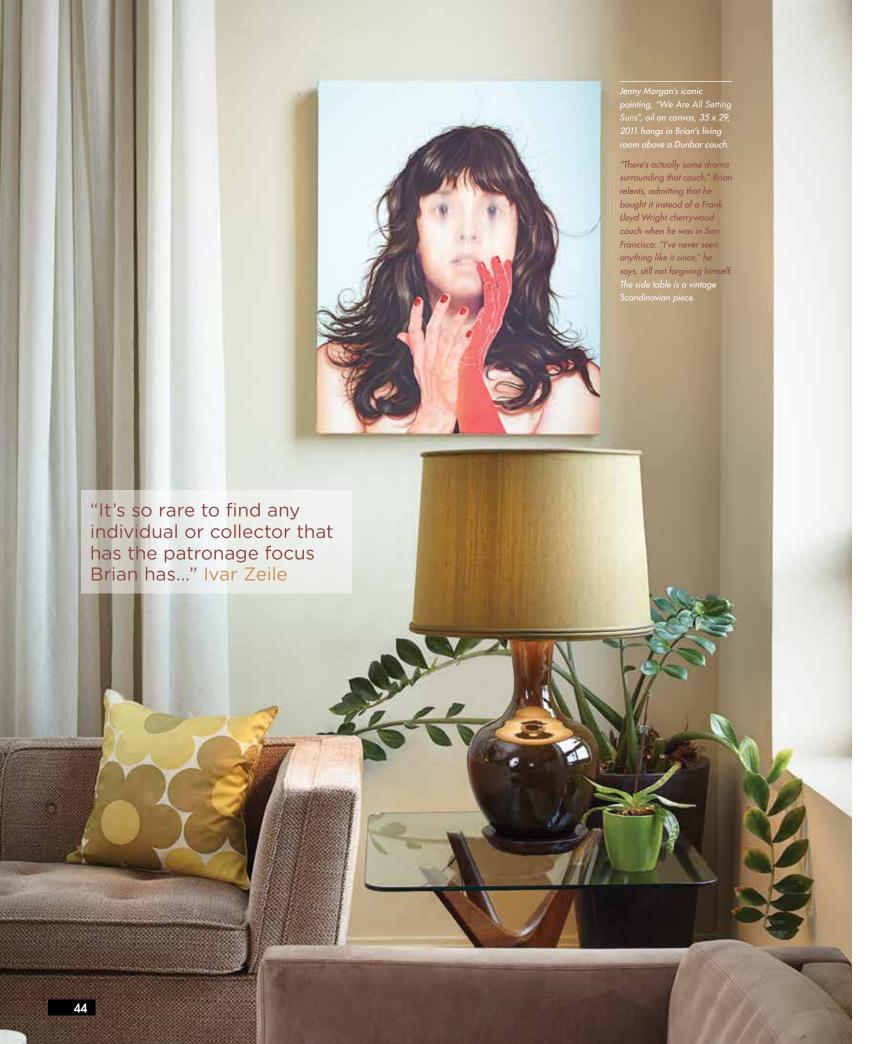
WORDS: ELEANOR PERRY-SMITH
IMAGES: ANDREW POGUE

The world is full of common things. Every now and then, someone acquires a notion, or a passion, or maybe a sense of duty that they should channel their efforts toward preserving life's uncommon things. Brian Tschumper knows how this feels. His home, situated in the Golden Triangle, is as uncommon as they come. Wall-to-wall collectables in every shape and size warrant a small museum—like the ones viewed beyond the windows of his living room.

"In 1997, this was the best new building in Denver," says Brian, a radiologist who befriended the builder Bruce Berger, also living in the Metropolitan Loft complex. Brian's loft was originally intended for Bruce's son, but he opted for another unit and Brian scored the two-story corner spot with unmatched northern views of the city. Together with his partner, the two moved in and began a very thoughtful decoration process. Brian knew where to start, "We needed some color."

In the living room, Riva Sweetrocket's eye-catching work "Twelve", soft pastel, 62 x 76, 2006 contrasts nicely with a green vintage rocker, other artwork and the natural hues of the loft. Downtown Denver peeks in through large windows.

MODERN IN DENVER.COM 43









In the zen room, Brian matched a rug and throw pillow to brighten up a vintage Florence Knoll daybed. The zen room features views of the front range and downtown simultaneously.

This is where most people paint a wall red. Instead, Brian purchased a vibrant set of floor-to-ceiling Robert Indiana Numbers Portfolio prints. "It was the first art in here and set the tone for the color palette," Brian explains. The bold primary colors stretch upwards of 15 feet and pop against the neutral walls and flooring. With the help of his partner's college friend, Jim Budman, Brian set to create a residential masterpiece, adding, "The luxury we had at the time was that mid-century furniture was just peeking through again."

They began acquiring rare furniture pieces of American and Danish design. For lighting, Brian adopted Jim's philosophy: The world is over-lit. Natural light pours into nearly every room

THE TSCHUMPER COLLECTION



Two Plus Gallery standout artists have work leading into Brian's kitchen. "Pool I, Miami Beach, October 6 2010-3:10 pm, No 2", 2011 by William Betts leads the way as Jenny Morgan's "Fabricator", oil on canvas, 29 x 22, 2009 sits to the left. "The day I received it, Ivar and I were down at Sputnik when he spotted the person in that painting," Brian laughs about the fortuitous encounter that he'll never forget. A Brad Miller vertebrae sculpture sits atop a vintage cabinet beneath the painting.

during the day, and city lights illuminate them in the evening. In time, Brian's collection of furniture and art grew to the point where he needed more space, not to mention a guest room. Then luck struck again. One afternoon he took some lilies to his next-door neighbor, only to discover that she was planning to sell her loft. He jumped at the chance to expand without having to move, and ten months later gazed upon double the square footage he'd had before. "It was work," Brian recalls, but allowed him a more permanent home with room for visitors and entertaining. But once again he had empty walls crying out for character.

Brian's strength has always been of the visual realm. In medical school, he struggled to find a path that resonated until he took a radiology elective. He could easily sit in a dark room for hours interpreting x-rays. "At the end, we took a test and I blew everybody out of the water," he reminisces. Radiology became his life's work and has enabled him to support aspects of Denver he feels are most important. Around 2008 when the economy tanked, Brian felt a call to

THE TSCHUMPER COLLECTION

The main bedroom has views of Mt. Evans and displays a Butler Bed by Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams. The Brendan Tang pottery in the cutout was purchased at Plus Gallery's Denver Biennial Of The America's exhibition. "It was out of character for me," says Brian, who mainly likes to buy work from local artists, but the Canadian creator's work lured him, "It was so stunning." The piece was borrowed by the Denver Art Museum for last year's "Marvelous Mud" exhibition and is titled Manga Ormolu Version I, 16 x 11, 2009.



action. "My career was doing fine. It wasn't as much of a landslide," he says. "I thought the people who were going to get hit the hardest were in the creative community." Interest in music and visual art have been leading factors in his life, so Brian set out with unique intentionality to uphold the aspects of Denver that needed support.

"It's so rare to find any individual or collector that has the patronage focus he has," remarks Ivar Zeile, owner of Plus Gallery, where Brian has been a committed supporter for nearly a decade. "The profile we maintain has secured that loyalty," he adds. That, and of course the personal friendship they've developed over time. With Ivar's trusted guidance and his own convictions and tastes at hand, Brian has amassed a collection of leading contemporary artists. Jenny Morgan, William Betts and Patti Hallock, to name a few, fit comfortably with the previous pieces he'd collected from Aspen and beyond. Other standouts are the Higgins glass collection that adorns an entire entry wall leading to the bar. A crimson Riva Sweetrocket leaps out in the living room.



A splash of summer graces the path between the living room and lounge area. Jean Arnold's painting August, oil on canvas 48 x 44, 2004 hangs above a Florence Knoll credenza. "We designed all the cabinets around that piece," Brian points out, which includes the bathroom and bar cabinetry.



A Barcelona Chair by Mies van der Rohe makes some little monsters comfy beneath a Jorg Madlener painting, Equus 15, 62 x 68, 1999 hanging in the second bedroom. Brian picked up the piece in Aspen on a trip with Bruce Berger and his wife Barbara. "This was one of her recommendations," Brian explains.







But nothing is set in stone. The landscape shifts as Brian moves paintings and furniture at will around the loft and between his second home in Crested Butte. It's all a part of the mood he's creating. The art describes the aesthetic of his life.

"To me, it just makes sense to support the local artistic environment," Brian says, and if more followed his lead, Denver would be better for it. "We've got the talent but it's hard to get people to pay attention to it." In a city so celebrated for its sports culture, the balance that Brian is

trying to maintain with the arts is an ongoing endeavor. Aside from his altruistic nature and devotion to celebrating the more ethereal elements of humanity, Brian has created a home unlike any other. "In the end, the meaning of the art is something I'm living with and enjoying," Brian concludes from his vintage Dunbar couch overlooking Denver. And that's exactly what uncommon things are for. The joy of the beholder, and it's a joy that benefits all.



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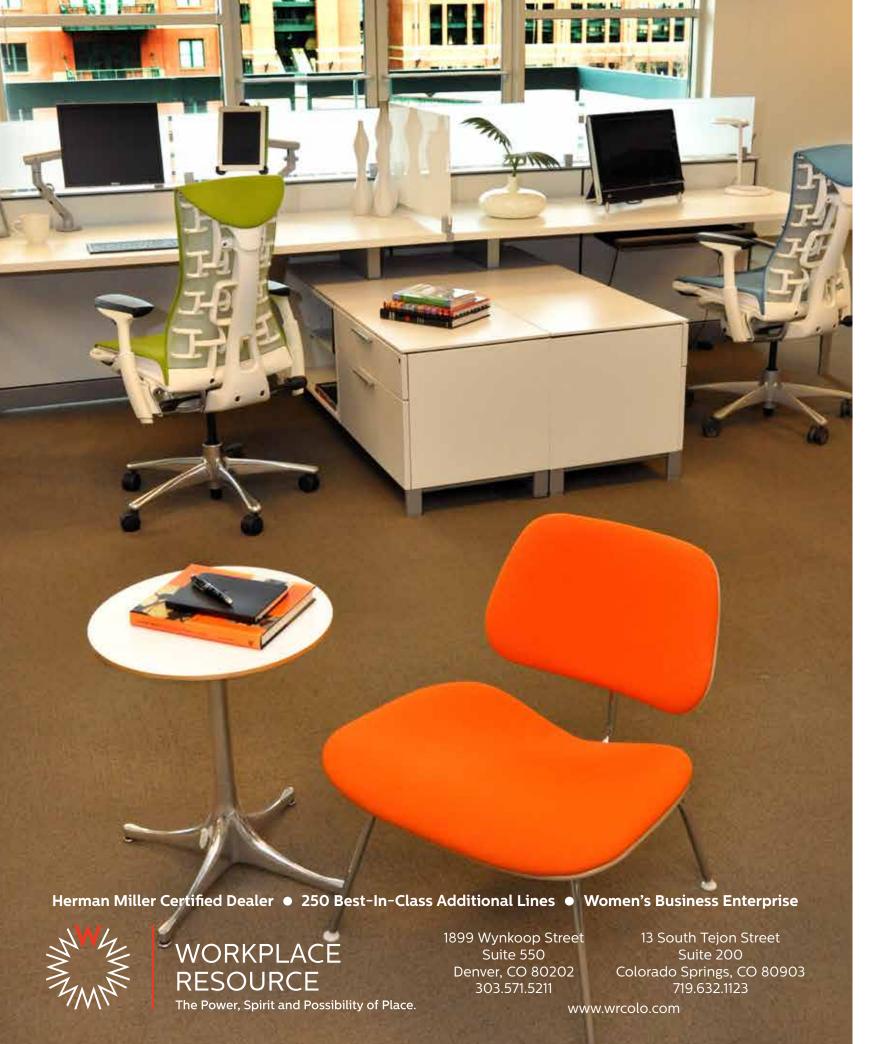
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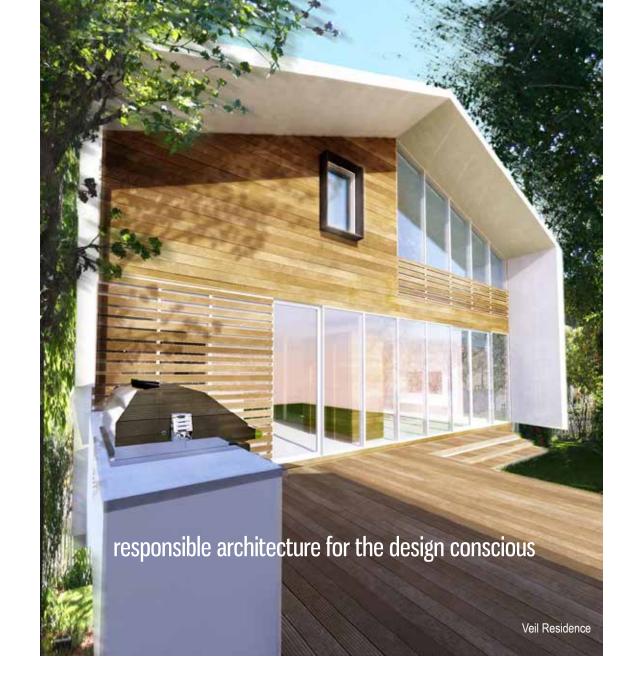
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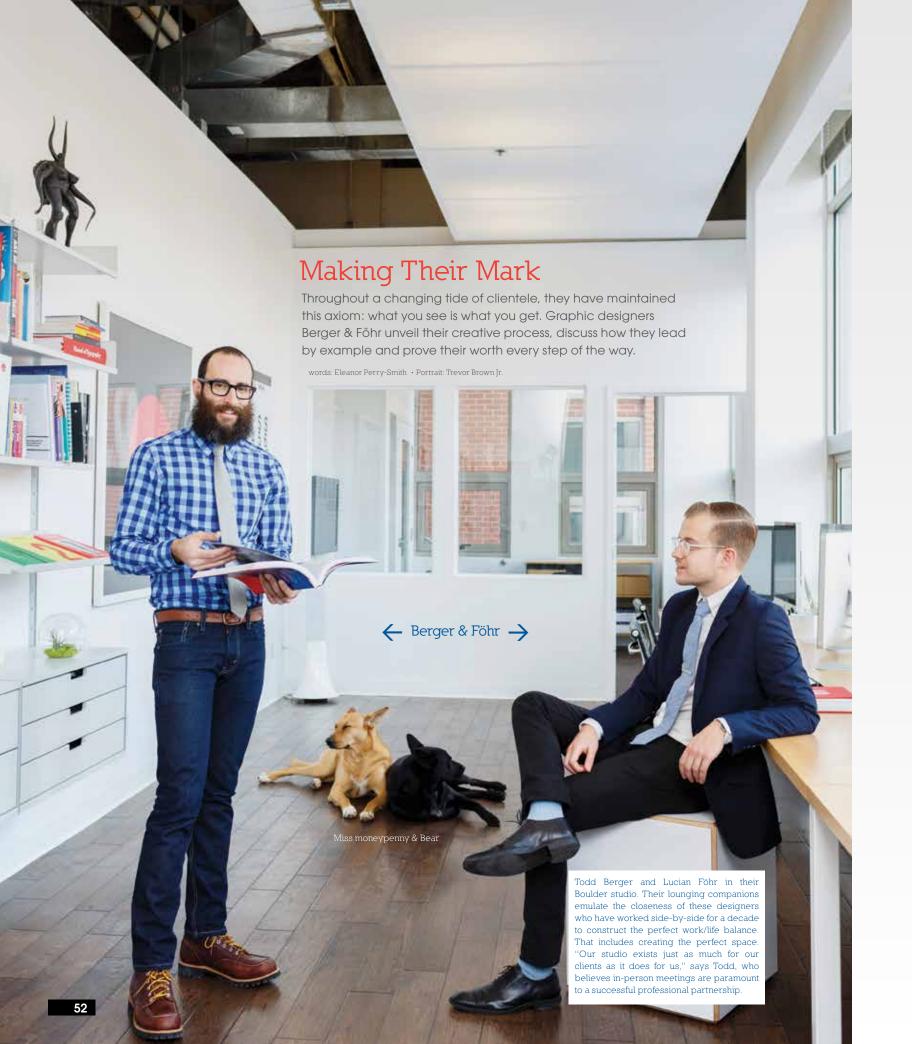
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Our experience is what shapes our identity. As our experiences compound, they tend to muddle the way we communicate our identity, and that's when we bring in the experts.

In the realm of seen communication, graphic designers serve to help us explain who we are through visual techniques. So it makes sense that the best graphic designers should be exemplary when conveying who they are themselves—after all, that's what they help others do for a living. After more than a decade of exhaustive experience, Berger & Föhr have developed an inspiring business culture and creative technique that warrants a closer look. We invite you to come along for the ride.

Like most things, it began with a pristine white Mercedes Benz parked on the corner of 9th and North. Lucian Föhr noticed it for two reasons. First, at 15 years old he had an innate grasp on the tenants of good design. He was a student at New Vista High School where individual strengths were recognized and encouraged, as was the emphasis on community involvement. He was interning at a local design firm and already knew what he wanted to do for the rest of his life. Second, he knew the owner of the car—a girl who worked in the research center at New Vista. So he lingered for a moment to say hello. She came out of a nearby building and the two chatted. Lucian mentioned that he was now pursuing graphic design, she replied that she had just visited Todd Berger of Dogtail Design and would set up an introduction.

These swatches represent a sample of the engaging work Todd and Lucian have produced in just over one year for clients such as Tell Me How This Ends, Michelle Lazar, the Transport Record app and James Surls.



MAKING THEIR MARK → BERGER & FÖHR — MAKING THEIR MARK → BERGER & FÖHR

"As far as I'm concerned, Berger and Föhr are the best digital designers I've ever met. And I've worked with a lot of designers over the years. Their work is clean, intelligent, and radical in its usability and simplicity. Everything they make looks and feels beautiful." - Paul Budnitz

Future paths often come to us in the form of unexpected objects, like a white Mercedes, For Todd, the vehicles were a mountain bike and skis. "I saw a ski brochure for Vail when I was eight or nine and it seemed like an amazing place," Todd recalls of the moment Colorado wedged itself into his psyche. At the time he was in his home city of Chicago, but felt someday he'd visit the snowy landscape pictured in the folded pamphlet. In time, he worked his way west, attending the University of Kansas to study Environmental Science, and in 1997 finally arrived in Boulder to pursue a career in mountain bike racing. He spent his days outdoors, but during off hours, his face was aglow with the same mesmerizing presence that would change the course of business for practically everyone in America. It—the internet—was changing Todd as well.

"The first book I bought on HTML was one of three that were available," Todd remarks, adding that one may have been about the internet in general, bringing the tally down to two. His

indoor hobby was linked to the shifting technological world and how one navigates within it. On his own, Todd explored code and graphic design for several years before making it a professional endeavor. But as the online platform exploded, it became clear that timing and Todd's interest were aligning. Then he met Lucian.

"I was there all the time," Lucian says regarding the design firm where he interned. "My aesthetic was minimalism." After meeting Todd, he shifted his time to fill the space inside the walls of Dogtail Design. Lucian brought an insatiable curiosity and informed set of principles to the table, despite the fact that he didn't yet have a high school diploma. Todd had been in a phase of transitioning his emphasis on coding to the practice of graphic creation. "I wanted to focus on craft," he says. At that time, the concept of branding was emerging and companies of all sizes were dipping their toes in the ocean of online identity. So Dogtail Designs began to unwrap what it meant to carry a brand over to

the internet. They then contemplated what it meant to do contemporary work on the web. And even though Todd and Lucian were separated by over ten years in age, their ambitions were congruent and created a bond of professionalism and friendship that was a recipe for success. But then the paradigm for success that is forced upon many of us put a temporary crack in their growing structure.

Lucian packed up to attend college. At 18, he'd already been working in design for three years. "I was excited to go to school and learn about design all day," Lucian says, but soon found himself drifting further from his goals. He was only allowed to take one design course, and worse, "I disagreed with the professor on every point." He had built up a professional momentum, and the steamrolling nature of college crushed it. Half a semester in, Lucian knew what he had to do. "I called Todd and told him I was dropping out," Lucian explains. "He came and we loaded up the car and got out of there." For six months



Lucian slept on a couch in Todd's small apartment—contemplating the past and considering options for his future. Dogtail Design was changing, and Todd was encountering a similar break in trajectory. At least one thing was clear. "I told Todd, if and when you do your next thing, I want to be involved."

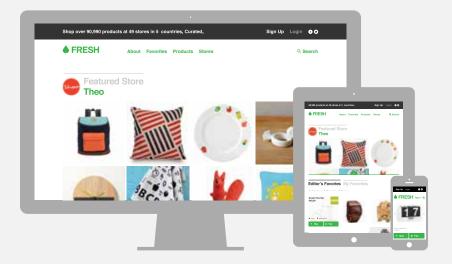
THE NEXT BIG THING

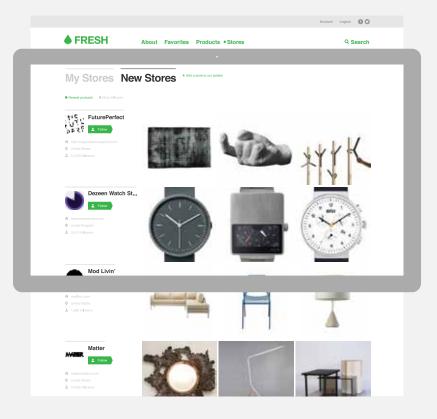
The only thing more devastating than an experiment gone wrong is an experiment that goes really, really well. Chaos often ensues. For many in the Colorado creative community, the names JoyEngine and Cypher13 ring a bell as collectively they were the art space, community gathering place, DIY retail shop and graphic design firm that Todd and Lucian started in 2005. Along with six full time designers, an investor and a network of artists and thinkers, they plunged into a world of high budgets and big name clients. They engaged in screen printing, held monthly art openings in their office space and went back to designing on Monday morning, whether or not their office was fully assembled. The studio space was a work of art itself with 2,000 square feet of custom furniture, custom skylights and an elaborate system of built-in speakers. "The studio created a culture that was rooted in art and the communication of ideas," Todd recalls

The ideas that Cyper13—the design branch—were putting out were often cryptic and progressive. And they were good. Big clients like Toyota, Timberland, Popular Mechanics, MTV,

While at work, Todd and Lucian keep tight proximity so that the flow of ideas is fluid and efficient. They also maintain close relationships with other local businesses, such as with photographer Jamie Kripke, who helps display the work they produce for clients.







Berger & Föhr client Fresh aims to change our store-based shopping behavior to one that is product-based. They worked with Berger & Föhr to create a complete identity as well as a web space www.freshproduct.at.



Good Magazine and local giants like the Denver Art Museum and City of Boulder solicited their services. In the span of five years they cranked out thousands of images for hundreds of clients and designed over 50 websites. All without a single advertisement. They worked with large and small companies alike, and word of their talents continued to spread. "I was asked to consult with the Herman Miller design team," Todd recounts. "I don't even know how this came about." It was the result of a gap in the market that Cyper13 knew just how to fill at the cost of incessant work hours. It had grown so fast that it eventually took over. "It became a monster to manage," Todd says. So they began to whittle things down. They had to. They stopped taking clients from big agencies. People moved on, and one day Todd and Lucian found themselves sitting at a giant custom made table in the empty space that was JoyEngine and Cypher13. "It was getting weird," Todd says, and he knew that it was time to rethink things and learn from the wild excursion they'd been on.

"People thought we were crazy to close Cypher13," Todd explains after they shut down in 2010, but it was a waste of space and money to stay put. However, something about working side-by-side with Lucian rang true. "He had earned his partnership," Todd insists. Together, they had created visual identities for a wide spectrum of companies and found that working with smaller clients and startups was often the most rewarding. Their previous model had taught them a lot, and one important lesson was to discover the right method of operating a business. First they determined the right size for their company. At first Todd thought three designers was the magic number for a firm, but after further consideration he walked into their huge studio and said to the only person in the room; "We're just two. Berger and Föhr." The next step was obvious. "There was no doubt in our minds that we had to leave that space." "We can manage our work load," Todd explains. "We're comfortable moving fast. There's a heightened efficiency to working this close to each other for a decade."

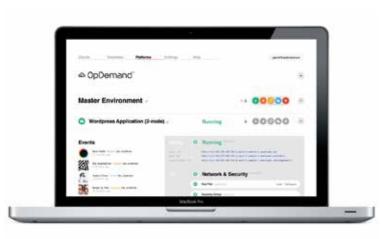
Zenzi Communications creates opportunities for businesses to better understand their audience while enhancing dialogue through social communication technology. Berger & Föhr developed an identity for Zenzi along with auxiliary features and their website www.zenzi.com.

CLEAR TO CONSCIOUS

An effective identity permeates a company on all levels. For Todd and Lucian, their new studio would illustrate their informed approach to doing business. They refused to start work as Berger & Föhr until they found the appropriate place, and they also refused to compromise their vision. As such, they looked at 40 to 50 commercial spaces before arriving at a spot they felt adequately expressed their new direction. "When you come to our studio, you can see it conveys our principles," Todd says. "It's very informative as a container," Lucian adds. Simplicity, objectivity, responsibility and sustainability. These became the pillars of Berger & Föhr's design firm as displayed in their minimalist workspace. To them, this shift was an experience in distillation. Not downsizing, but as they put it, right sizing. "We can manage our work load," Todd explains. "We're comfortable moving fast. There's a heightened efficiency to working this close to each other for a decade."

The crux of efficiency isn't doing more with more, but more with less. In one year, Todd and Lucian, or Berger & Föhr, as it were, have matched or exceeded Cypher13's reputation for creating successful quality work. Their past has allowed Todd and Lucian to arrive at a highly effective form of communication and output. "The thing with identity is that there's an infinite number of solutions, it's just how you want to approach it," Todd says. They don't operate like most other design firms that pitch a large number of concepts and graphics to an overwhelmed client. Quite the opposite. First, Todd and Lucian conduct a thorough interview and ask their client to complete an in-depth questionnaire. The two then embark on an epic series of conversations. "By the time we're done talking, we know what we're going to design," Todd explains. "The idea is fully formulated." No wasted time staring at useless images. Todd and Lucian sit a foot apart and begin visually constructing the concept they've landed on throughout a series of objective decisions rooted in a deep knowledge of design. "It doesn't matter who is clicking the mouse," says Lucian. "Everything we make is truly collaborative."

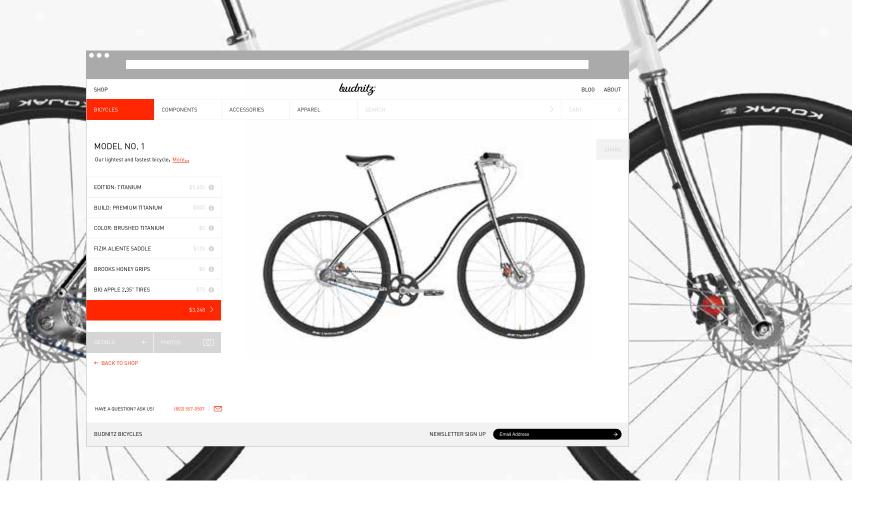
They see their process as a collaboration with the client as well. A partnership. They're going to be thinking about the project day and night, so they want it to be going toward a client they believe in and support. After the design is made visual, Todd and Lucian write a thorough report spanning





Berger & Föhr helped OpDemand with its brand identity, marketing materials and its website www.opdemand.com. OpDemand creates ways for companies to organize their data and manage it easily within the cloud.

MODERN IN DENVER.COM 57



loudnitz[®]

Prolific entrepreneuer Paul Budnitz set out to create the fastest, lightest and most eye-pleasing bicycles on the street for his customers to enjoy for a lifetime. Berger & Föhr designed Budnitz Bicycles' identity, the bicycle headbadge and chainstay plate along with Budnitz' website www.budnitzbicycles.com.

between 30 and 90 pages that details why each decision was made in the creation process. They'll tell you exactly why a design is, for instance, capitalized, and so forth. A logo or identity is first presented in black and white, then color comes after much explanation, as it tends to have a loaded subjective response. And that's it. "We don't give options, we present a solution," Todd says. "You have to agree to this approach. It's not about control, but an appreciation for what we do." The method works. After all, they're the professionals, and well, no, the customer is not always right. Not unless they've also had ten years design experience or an appropriate, objective argument for why a different direction should be considered, "We communicate in a non-manipulative, non-persuasive manner," Todd points out, as objectivity in such a creative realm is the staple of their business and the key to their achievements.

They're also crafting an alternative to the success model that has been poured down our throats as often as Coca-Cola. It's anti-expansionism. "There's something special to being little and not being profit driven," Todd says. "We're trying to do what feels more appropriate for us and for the world." They want to do the work themselves, not dole it out to lackeys, and they want to do it for clients that exhibit a certain level of like-mindedness. Todd and Lucian have modeled their business as one that is as socially responsible as it is professionally credible. Berger & Föhr is a B Corporation, although not yet recognized as such in Colorado. It means they hold themselves to guidelines they believe will have an impact by upholding a strict standard of environmental responsibility, social accountability and transparency. There are already more than 600 certified B Corps worldwide, and when the tax legislation hits Colorado, they'll be ready. They are preparing as members of 1%

For The Planet and donate one percent of their earnings to environmental organizations. They also do a certain amount of pro bono work for companies like the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art and the Q Fund that serves to empower vulnerable children.

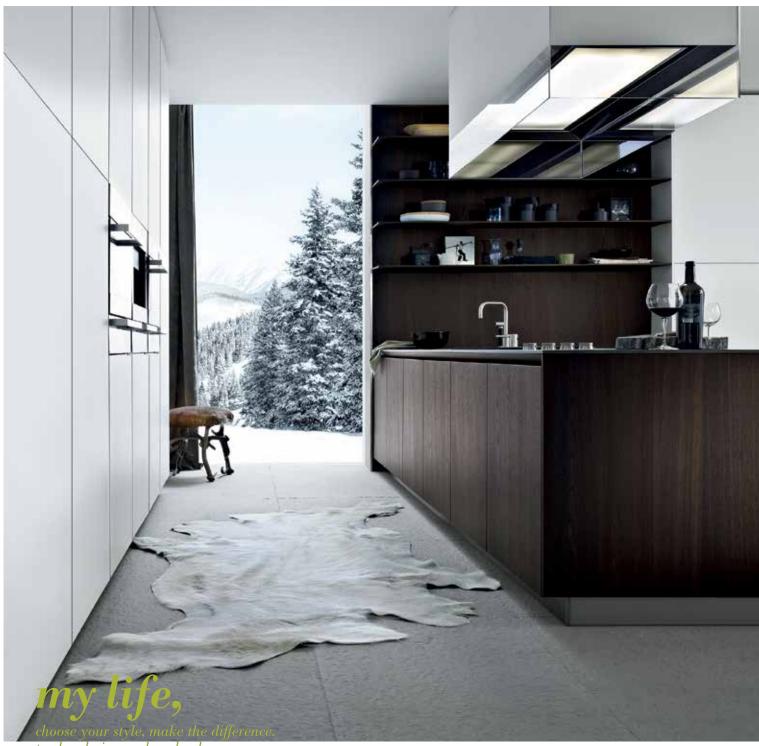
Part of maintaining a business that upholds its duty to society, its clients, and its founders is creating space for unspecified creative fulfillment. So Todd and Lucian take the time to design concepts that bring them intellectual satisfaction outside of paid projects, and it appears to be a valid pursuit. So far, they've developed a gesture-controlled calculator called Rechner that was awarded one of the 12 most beautiful iOS apps of 2012 by thenextweb.com and was ranked fourth among Apple's top-selling utility apps. "Our process is designed to flow and leave space for our ideas," Todd explains.

Berger & Föhr's ideas are worth hearing out. Clients like Budnitz Bicycles, Tres Birds Workshop, OpDemand and CapRock certainly think so. This stems from Berger & Föhr's distinctive background and also their concern for design integrity. They stick to well-established guidelines. They're clear and concise. Honest and simple. "As humans, we unfortunately have a propensity for messiness. We unmake the mess," Todd explains. "We enjoy that and it's calming to us." Businesses must admit that at times we need help unmaking the mess we've splattered across the public's face. "For us, it all comes down to communication," Lucian weighs in. "The most effective way is also the simplest way, and that is manifest in aesthetics." In their opinion, big messy corporations can only work with other messy corporations - it's part of their DNA. The streamlined model Todd and Lucian have constructed challenges the practice of meandering methodology that arises from frivolous employment. So the question arises, can two people really do the work of a much larger agency? Todd has the last word on that: "Through our streamlined approach, having removed any notions of bureaucracy - the two of us, given our skills, experience and intuition believe that yes, we most certainly can."



Berger & Föhr donate a portion of their time designing for non-profit entities such as the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art. "We hold ourselves to certain standards," explains Todd, and that includes doing annual pro bono work.

"Math is beautiful. Arithmetic is simple. Rechner is both. Experience the world's first minimalist gesture based calculator," reads the Berger & Föhr's web description for their award-winning calculator app found at rechnerapp.com. The project stemmed from their desire to produce non-commissioned work that provides more freedom of expression. "Our ideal split is 50/50," says Todd, regarding work between client projects and unpaid experimentation. So far the results are stunning, as exemplified in this app and their limited edition ultraviolet screenprint "Belief." 0



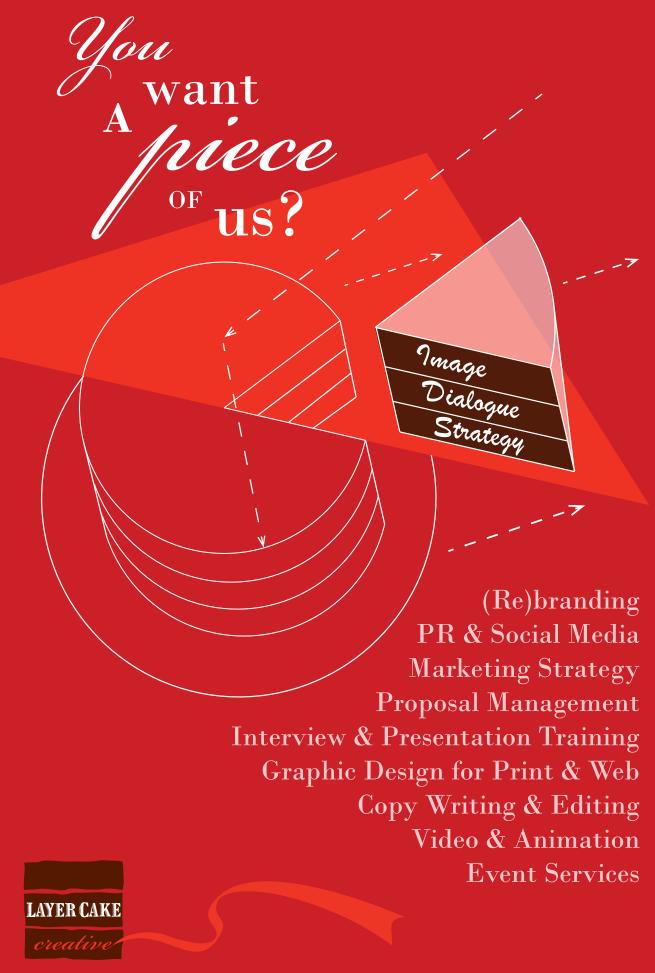
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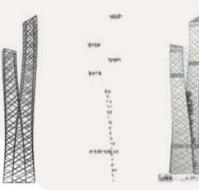


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"We're not fanatics about survival," says Alex Gore, one half of the F9 Productions team. Lance Cayko, the other half, chimes in, "We just don't think a safe home has to be a bunker. It can be beautiful." It can also be the result of rigorous thought, foresight and the understanding that the natural influences of our environment don't have to be quite so devastating. Hurricane Sandy and the Waldo Canyon Fire can be sobering opportunities to learn from past mistakes. They can inform how we rebuild our lives. For Alex and Lance the future of design is obvious. It's time to adapt.

It was only a few years ago when the two outstanding students asked themselves a profound question. How would nature grow a skyscraper? During an architecture class at North Dakota State University, these overachievers decided it was time for nature to inform construction on a deeper level. "Nature creates complexity by building on simplicity," explains Alex. Organic objects make room for maximum light, structural stability and efficiency. They also provide their own food and energy. So their skyscraper

OPPOSITE PAGE: Lance Cayko (left) and Alex Gore met in architecture courses at North Dakota State University. Feeding off each others' strengths, they developed a method for progressive creativity paired with sober pragmatism. "I love waking up every day, heading to work with my best friend and going on design adventures together," says Lance.



-MASTERSOFDISASTER-

did the same thing. It twisted to allow light in every apartment and to gather the prevailing wind for energy use. It transformed fog into water to sustain vegetation. The details piled up, and in the end Alex and Lance won the college's Highrise Award. "The skyscraper project was the first time we were on the same mental level," recalls Lance of their mutual efforts.

It has been a long road since Alex and Lance left North Dakota, But not as long as they thought it would be. After individually winning the highest awards their department had to offer, the two graduated and decided that perhaps in a decade they'd reconnect and start a firm. Lance continued working as a contractor, something he'd done since he was old enough to work, and eventually moved to Boulder where he joined Studio H:T. "At Studio H:T

they always had one or two ideas they were exploring that weren't for specific clients," Lance recalls, and he carried that concept with him. Alex had a similar experience when he moved to New York to work for Daniel Libeskind, who designed the Denver Art Museum. He observed Libeskind's intensive aim to work outside of the box from early in his career. From this, F9 Productions decided that every year they would do a project, independent of client's work, that would spark their interest and propel them into the future.

Then floods hit North Dakota, en force. "Ninety thousand people were sandbagged," says Alex, who responded to the situation as he was involved in the National Guard. One day while he was in the endangered area, he stopped for a sandwich when he noticed a small amount of water

running under the dike they'd built. Then he peered downhill and realized that what he and the crew were building throughout the night was all that kept a nursing home from being submerged in floodwater. It haunted him months later as he packed up his things to join Lance in Boulder."

"The flood house was the catalyst,"

Lance says regarding the series of homes he and Alex extensively designed last year. To them, it's still a pleasant surprise that they're working together so soon at the custom design firm they started in 2009. A slumping economy left droves of talented people like them jobless, but Alex and Lance are nothing if not resourceful. "I'm an optimist and so is Alex at heart," Lance beams, so they formed F9 as a precaution. "We needed to do something to survive

and stay relevant within the industry during the recession," Alex says, and so the two of them began designing remodel projects throughout Colorado. Remodels turned into complete building concepts, and with their combined experience, F9 became a fast-growing, reputable firm and their full time endeavor. Few designers have the hands-on construction background that they bring to the table, especially on Lance's end. That's how they came to understand the value and viability of a structure that can hold its own against harsh weather.

"We'd love them all to get built," Alex says of their Doomsday Dwellings that were designed to protect inhabitants from the elements and external factors. The Hero House was designed with an earthquake resistant foundation, the Seed House defends from fire, the Genesis House protects against the threats of nuclear warfare, and the Flood House is a defense against floodwaters. To Alex and Lance, these projects aren't just the products of

B. Philips Wake-up lights simulates

atomosphere thoughout the day.

C. Indoor gardening provides a

hobby that is helpful for survival.

D. Rediscover family time by reading

from your personal library, playing

games, and teaching your children the skills they will need in the future

sunrise and creats a natura

2. A blast resistant cap

covers the opening and

seals Genesis safely inside

3. Base isolation bearings

protect against shock and



The "Flood House" was the first residential dwelling concept that F9 created to withstand a natural disaster. It rises above the ground while still offering all the comforts of a modern home. It's a ramped-up version of the home model people living in marshy areas have used for centuries, but with added protective and sustainable features, as well as style.

absorbers, and heat

sealed store seeds.

rice, beans, grains,

legumes , honey, salt

pasta, wine, whiskey,

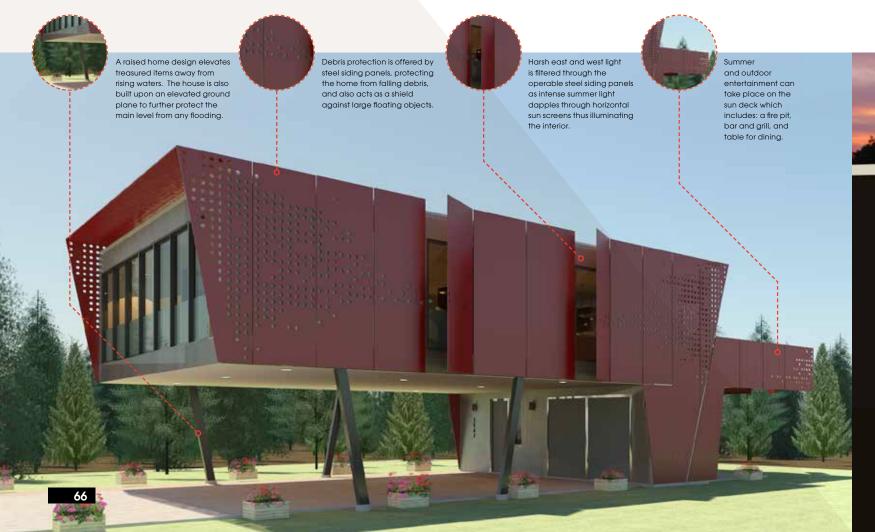
powders, sugars, dry

milk, and cocoa.

spices, wheat,



The "Genesis" home takes survival to the ultimate level and makes bomb shelters look like the metal canteens that they are. This hypothetical design imagines a residence with the ability to mechanically sink into the ground. It conceals itself beneath a blast-proof covering, while allowing survivors to still have a post-apocalyptic blast of their own with a swimming pool and tools to rebuild society.





Building a tavern

spurs trading, and

serves as a center

the community

gathering point for

creates jobs,

out of stored lumber

air tanks, compaction

container, excess

solar panels, tools

wire, extra

clothing, pandmic

kits, ham radios,

tarps, blankets,

building kits,

paper, writing

utensils, sand baas,

tools, gardening

manuals, and water filters.

equipment, books

construct a tavern, a

A new city, and a new

society has formed.

trading post, or even

-MASTERSOFDISASTER-





The "Californian" is a custom home design that has userfriendly, built-in armor to defend against earthquakes. Starting with the foundation, this home utilizes concepts that take shifting land and outside debris into consideration. Its tree-fort-inspired interior lends itself to modern airiness and space maximization.

paranoid scenarios. Rather, they respond to a spectrum of real threats to property and lives.

"We're very practical people," Alex points out. "We're solution oriented and client focused." And while the bulk of F9's projects involve working on additions and conventional homes, a few clients are considering the construction of a Doomsday Dwelling. One potential client in Golden travels frequently and wants to be sure that if another wildfire occurred while he was gone, that his wife and children would be safe, and so would their fireproof home. Lance and Alex have considered every minute detail of this residence, down to the passages of air vents to prevent the entrance of embers that typically ignite insulation and catch roofs on fire. Ultimately, their designs are a success, feasible and fall into the realm of modern. However, looks aren't everything. "It's not about style or aesthetic," Alex explains. "It's about making good decisions."

Good decisions are the backbone of F9 Productions. Challenging themselves to pursue progressive concepts while maintaining solid client relationships are what have allowed Alex and Lance to thrive during gloomy economic times. "We're trying to stay nimble and on our feet like athletes," Lance says, and attributes F9's endurance to the friendship he and Alex have upheld; "Alex has changed me as a person, and the humor he brings is huge." Some of that stems from Alex's time with Daniel Libeskind. "One key I learned is to put my ego aside," Alex explains. "There were some extremely talented people in that firm and nobody had an ego."

So with egos out the window, and a constant drive to evolve, Lance and Alex have discovered their natural niche—creating conventional buildings while conjuring up adaptable ones. "No one else is doing it," Lance points out. And for some reason, he's right. F9 has landed on a valuable concept. That our homes should be working harder to protect us, and can without sacrificing elegance. Buildings should be adaptable, the same as plants and animals. This foresight is what will allow firms like F9 to progress into an unforeseen future. Whatever the weather.







Among other services, F9 Productions does professional renderings for architecture firms down to minute detail. Here are renderings for Trimble company headquarters, designed by Oz Architects, and a competition entry, designed by Oz Architects in conjuction Centerre Construction, for the Desert National Wildlife Refuge visitor center in Corn Creek, Nevada.

MODERN IN DENVER.COM 69



C An indoor growing wall and planters provide E The indoor water supply and composte

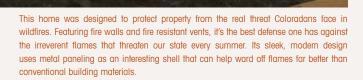
B The center skylight provides abundant

daylight to plants, and the core of the home.

A Basil, tomatoes, dwarf lemon and citrus

trees, rosemary, and thyme can be grown

within reaching distance of your kitchen.





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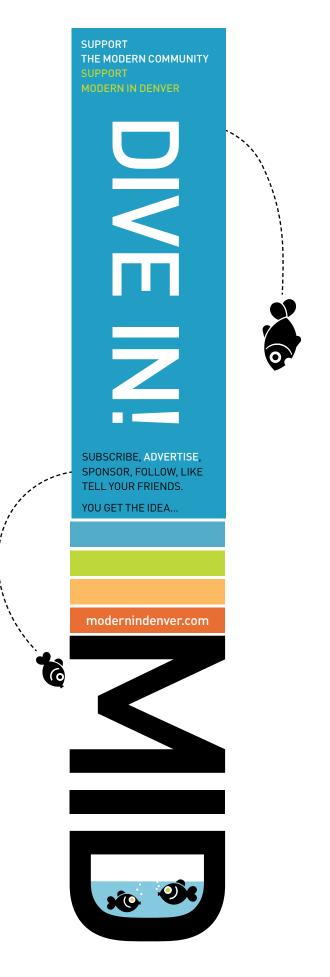
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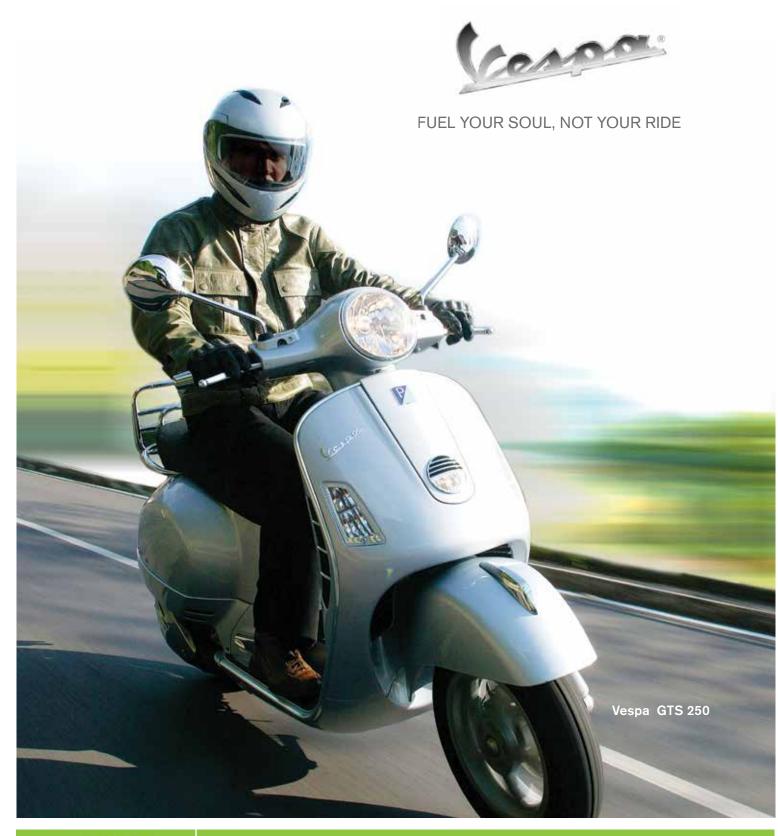
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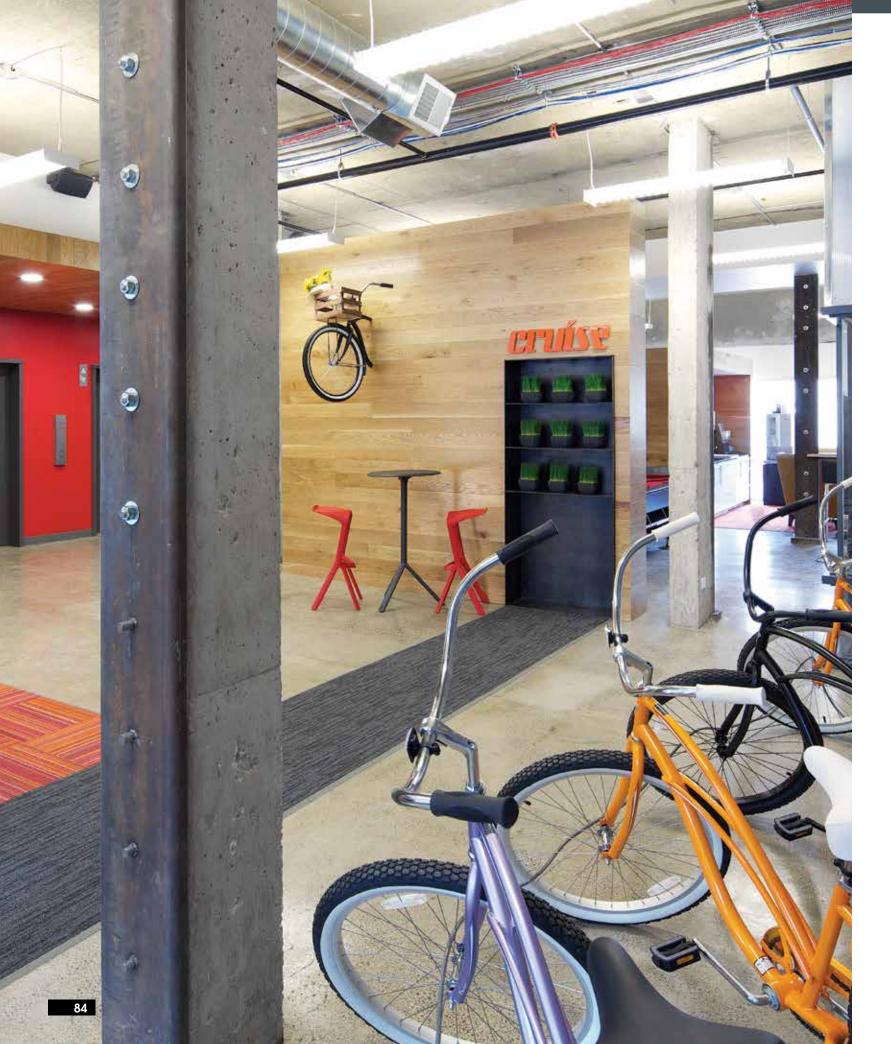
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A NEW SPIN ON URBAN LIVING

CYCLE INN

A WELL-EXECUTED RENOVATION OF A CLASSIC 60S MID-RISE MAKES THE MOST OF URBAN LIVING

WORDS: SARAH GOLDBLATT, AIA • IMAGES: DAVID LAUER



2012, Bicycling magazine ranked Denver the fourteenth most bike friendly city in America for its cycling infrastructure and vibrant bike culture. Sandwiched between temperate Austin and Scottsdale in the rankings, Denver is sprinting to keep up with the demand for accessible bicycle routes throughout its urban core. While city planners are preparing to introduce more bike lanes, The Nichols Partnership LLC, has rolled out a bike-themed apartment building for the cycling-enthusiast called "Cruise,"

which may give the other cycling hubs a run for their money.

Four years ago Dan Schuetz was riding his bike through Denver's Uptown neighborhood en route to a friend's house when he noticed a four-story office building one-block off City Park was for sale. Schuetz, a developer with the Nichols Partnership, known for its Clayton Lane retail and Spire highrise projects, visually estimated the spacing between the exposed, cast-in-place, concrete

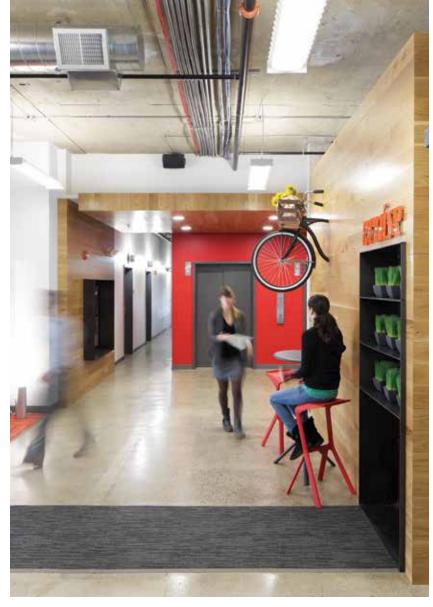


"The renters aren't looking for a unit based on the advertised square footage... It's much more about the experience, the quality of space and light."

Matt Davis, project architect, Bothwell Davis George

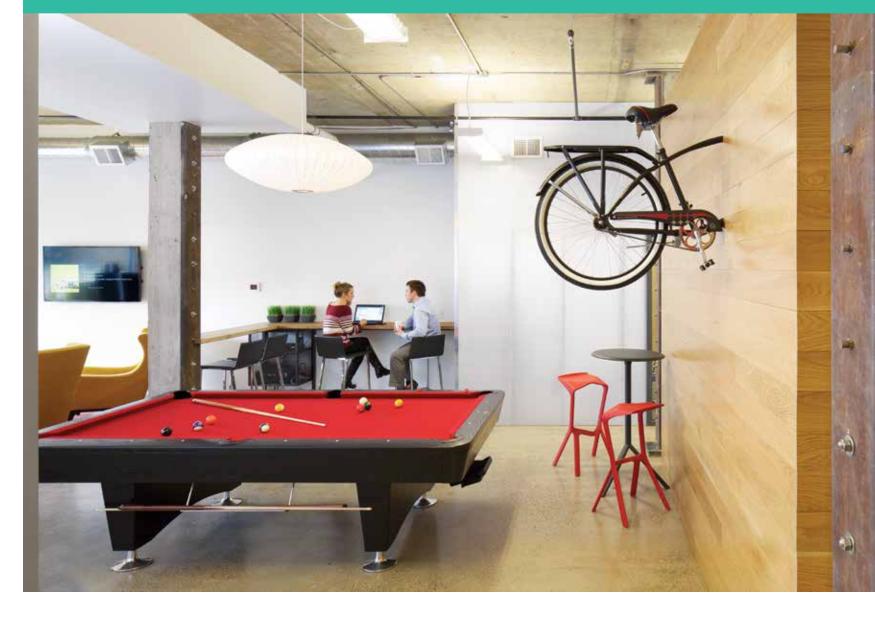
columns and quickly recognized the building as "a great opportunity, not for offices, but for a residential, multifamily development." The building's proximity to the famed park, lively 17th Avenue amenities, transit lines, hospitals, and downtown made it an ideal location to capitalize on what Piep van Heuven, Executive Director of BikeDenver, observes as the city's growing desire for more opportunities to "reach for the handlebars instead of the car keys."

The company bought the property and hired Bothwell Davis George (BDG), an architecture firm known for its clean, modern, contextual design approach, to convert the well-built, 1960s structure into comfortable, yet compact rental apartments that would appeal to the expansive Gen-Y population. The goal was to match the unit design and atmosphere to the tech-savvy, highly social, environmentally conscious demographic that has become accustom to living with less (space, that is). "The renters aren't looking for a unit based on the advertised square footage," comments BDG architect, Matt Davis. "It's much more about the experience, the quality of space and light." Surprisingly, the masonryclad building, "a classic 60s midrise," according to Davis, with its "butterfly windows, minimalist details, and expressed concrete structure on the



TOP LEFT: Outdoor bicycle-shaped racks from Huntco carry the bicycle theme to the front door welcoming residents and guests.

ABOVE: The entry lobby, with its polished concrete floors, exposed pipes and ductwork, splashes of color and art, has a boutique hotel feel.



Cruise's inviting common spaces include a pool table from Diamond Billiards, a Wi-Fi bar, and a sunny lounge that features classic Marcel chairs from Room and Board. Artist Todd Van Fleet's half cycle installation adds a dose of whimsy to the area.

exterior" was originally built to house seniors, but was later converted into a research facility for the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

Because of the incongruent modifications over the years and general neglect while the property was vacant, the design team took a reductionist approach—stripping the building down to its raw concrete shell and masonry facades and then adding back a more energy efficient envelope with upgraded windows, insulation and all new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems. "When we started," explains Davis, "we wanted to play up the building's remaining attributes, but other than that, it was pretty much a blank canvas."

Thanks to the existing high ceilings, which range from 9-1/2 feet to 12 feet, depending on the floor level, the open floor plan design and abundant

natural light captured by the window bays, the 61 apartments—configured as studios, one and two bedroom units—all have a unique loft-like feel and require little supplemental lighting during the day. Exposed concrete floors, columns, and ceilings amplify the recycled, yet modern aesthetic and streamlined, galley-type kitchens optimize the space within each unit.

With an average of 550 square feet, even the smallest Cruise units don't fall into the micro-apartment category (around 300 square feet) which is proliferating in cities like Boston and San Francisco where young, single professionals are opting for urban living over legroom.

Acknowledging that Cruise apartments aren't expansive, Schuetz explains that, "in exchange for the smaller units, the building has a significant amount of common area amenities, including



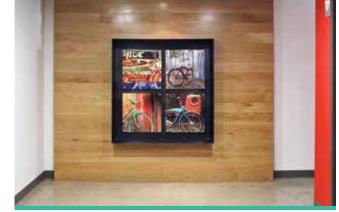
ABOVE: Interior designer, Sara Blette of Necessary Spaces, designed the model units to show how to maximize the living space so that it's multi-functional and fun. "There is plenty of room," she explains, "you just need to know how to use it."

RIGHT: Open-faced upper cabinets, dark granite countertops, and stainless Whirlpool appliances complement the clean, modern look of each unit.

BELOW: Common area amenities include an outdoor patio that can be sized for large or small gatherings and feature Adirondack chairs made from recycled milk jugs from Loll Designs. Pet owners have access to a fenced "doggie service station" and garden lovers can take advantage of planters locally fabricated from reclaimed wood by Custom by Rushton.







ABOVE: The Nichols Partnership along with Renew Communications developed a request for proposal for the design and installation of bicycle themed art for Cruise. Local artist Todd Van Fleet won the commission and his photographs and cycle sculptures enliven each floor.

a community lounge, Wi-Fi bar, fitness center, conference space and outdoor patio for entertaining."

For the resident cycling aficionado, the building boasts extensive bike storage, an onsite maintenance and repair station, and locally crafted bicycle themed art throughout each floor. "We think bicycles are synonymous with urban fun and sustainability," says Schuetz. "Cruise is all about enjoying the urban fabric of downtown Denver and hopefully leaving your car at home."

With the Nichols Partnership's development foresight and BDG's design acumen, the building gracefully emerges in a reinvigorated state—yet it retains all the original form, scale and proportions that are characteristic of timeless architecture whose relevance can still be appreciated and enjoyed.

WHAT IS THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME CHOCOLATE SPOKES?

They are two of my passions in life...handmade chocolate and building bikes. I see a relationship between the two in terms of craft and making.

YOUR PASSION FOR BIKES?

It was my first purchase after high school. It gave me a sense of freedom. First, that I could make a purchase, and second, that I could do something with it. I grew up playing hockey and I thought I could make that famous Eric Heiden switch from skating to cycling. I raced my freshman year at CU and got hooked. I also didn't have a car so my bike was my mode of transport. My first job after undergrad was as a courier.

HOW DOES YOUR ARCHITECTURE BACKGROUND INFORM YOUR BIKE DESIGNS?

With frame building, I have the opportunity to design and make something. Bike design software is only two-dimensional, so I do a lot of sketching to generate ideas.

WHO IS LOOKING FOR A CUSTOM STEEL FRAME?

I try to focus on a commuter-based market. For people who are starting to understand that they can use a bike every day to transport themselves, their kids, their stuff. My hope is to design for people who are actually going to use it and have an appreciation for the custom design and its performance on the road.

STEEL VS. OTHER HIGH END MATERIALS?

For commuting, a steel frame is going to give you a lot more durability—it's going to give you a riding quality that is more forgiving. Carbon fiber or aluminum tends to be a lot more rigid because you are supposed to be putting energy into the process and not into the bike. You still have weekend racers who just want a nice steel bike.

CUSTOM DESIGN APPROACH?

First I take body measurements and make a template based on those dimensions. Then we start to talk about what you really want and start adding on from there.

ARE THEIR BIKE DESIGNS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO EMULATE?

I want to emulate the craft of building bikes, rather than someone else's design.

WHAT CLASSIC BIKE FEATURES ARE MAKING A COMEBACK?

In the tradition of custom bike builders like Rene Herse, you're seeing modern builders incorporating fenders, racks, more upright geometry, integrated lights and even dyno-hubs that power the lights. The Randonneur bike is my frame of reference in terms of aesthetics and function.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD A CUSTOM BIKE?

Typically 3-4 months from start to finish.

WHY AN ARTISANAL BIKE SHOP IN FIVE POINTS?

As an architect, I worked on the design for a housing project around the corner for homeless veterans and became immersed in the neighborhood. For me, it's beyond the bike shop or bike building—it's about a business making an investment in the future of the neighborhood.

DREAM PROJECT?

It's more of a dream process—one that is efficient so customers can come in and understand what it is to have a bike built that meets their criteria and doesn't blow their budget.

GREGORY CRITCHLOW, A
CAR-LESS, DEDICATED BIKE
COMMUTER SWITCHES GEARS
FROM DESIGNING BUILDINGS
TO BUILDING BIKES (AND
REPAIRING THEM) - HOPING
TO BE A CATALYST FOR
RENEWAL IN FIVE POINTS.



IN DENVER.COM 89





TRUE FOODS. **KEEPING THINGS HONEST.**

Great design manages to marry form and function, a synchronicity with the task at hand and the mechanism to achieve the task. When these goals are fused with elevated aesthetics something more than the sum of its parts is produced. True Foods in Cherry Creek has set out to achieve just such an equation.

words: Rob Bowman images: David Lauer

Synchronicity in dining means meeting all of the design requirements and more. While we must like the look of the environment and feel comfortable in it, the flavors have to match our expectations. The ingredients and materials must be reinvented and rediscovered for diners. Many great restaurants achieve this but True Foods distinguishes itself in remembering and delivering on the most vital element of dining: we must be sustained and nourished. Founded by health guru Dr. Andrew Weil and restaurateur Sam Fox, True Foods has brought its vision for healthy living through food to Cherry Creek and that vision is made tangible through every aspect of the restaurant's menu, service and design.

The Dr. Weil diet is rooted in natural and organic food that is minimally processed and this is the defining principle that guides Chef Alejandro German day to day. Chef German eagerly describes the ways in which what they are doing nourishes body and soul. "We are always working to use quality ingredients in a new and healthy way. Whether it is working with raw preparation techniques or using ingredients people are not familiar with. I'm in love with this freshness. I want to tell people: 'Try this. You will like it.'" The Tuna Escabeche dish he prepared for MID demonstrated these principles. The

freshness of the tuna is accented by the citrus notes, not overwhelmed by them. The only cooking for the dish is a quick sear on the tuna, raw, fresh, simple. Not overprepared. And delicious.

The restaurant pulses with jubilant health. Manager Tyler Rebbe emphasized that this is a way of life for all staff. "When you talk to the staff about what they are doing after work, it's never 'I'm going to the bar' or something. It's 'I'm going for a run' or 'I have to get up early for yoga.'" It is immediately evident. They move with a calm and efficient energy around the dining room floor with crisp white shirts and smiles. There are classes for staff about these practices and nutrition ranging from uses for kale to the benefits of quinoa. Many are in school for nutrition, others are accomplished yoga practitioners and all of the young staff are devoted to the beliefs of the restaurant. These beliefs, while clearly emblazoned on the actions and attitudes of everyone inside, are also tangibly displayed in the restaurant.

It is no accident that this is the most open feeling restaurant in Denver. Designer Judith Testani of the Testani Design Troupe in Scottsdale, Arizona has worked with Fox Restaurant Concepts in the past and



INGREDIENTS



The staff are all practitioners of the restaurant's philosophies and zip about happily.

"I'm in love with this freshness. I want to tell people: 'Try this. You will like it."

- Chef Alejandro German

wanted to further expand their previous designs and ideas in Denver. This is demonstrated in every facet of the restaurant's construction and design. The kitchen feels completely open to diners. While the idea of the "Open Kitchen" is not a new one, True Foods has taken this idea further. "With True Food you feel like you are in the kitchen. You are seeing things being prepared. There is nothing hidden behind walls. The servers, bus station, everything is very open. You are seeing the quality and purity of the food," Testani explains. And it's true. There is nothing hidden. Even out on the street.

Given the emphasis on the freshness and integrity of ingredients, True Foods has been given a unique feature by Testani: the walk-in refrigerator where produce is kept has one all glass wall that gives a view to anyone passing by on Detroit Avenue. Testani explains that "the food is even presented on the exterior of the building. We have never before had an exterior window into the walk-in refrigerator."

The large space can seat 160 guests at traditional tables, in communal seating, or at the friendly bar. Every component of the space has been thought through for environmental concern intersecting with aesthetics and practical application. The communal tables are constructed of durable and comfortable butcher block that will last. Diners at the tables sit on Navy chairs from Emeco. Nicknamed the 111, each chair is made from the plastic of 111 upcycled discarded soda bottles. One wall is lined with the trunks of birch trees and any divider in the space is topped with long lines of living plants, which are tended by the employees. The floors are reclaimed white oak and the walls are paneled with reclaimed barn wood that has taken on a soft gray with its age. They help to balance the bright yellows, greens, and earth tones that Testani specifically wanted to reflect the culture of Denver.



The large open kitchen beams and radiates into the dining room as bright overhead fixtures light the white marble counters, porcelain sinks and the endless stainless steel, all of it set against the bright pop of fresh produce.

Enormous windows bring in the Colorado sunshine. But when the sun goes down, this feel of sun and natural light is carried on by two enormous partially recessed lighting fixtures above the dining room. "They are a signature element in all of the locations. They provide a soft light, almost like a skylight and avoid having harsh light go into the eyes," Testani explained. The fixtures deliver a soft, radiant light that bathes diners in the light of twin suns long after night has fallen.

Above the lobby area hang two light fixtures made of bent, rough branches, evoking a playful suggestion of trees overhead, a continuation of the birch lining the dining room. These natural elements play off the other main design theme, the clean lines of the industrial. Pipes and stainless steel peek through the kitchen. The sinks are deep, round, white porcelain affairs with chunky knobs. Slabs of white and gray marble dominate the counters and the communal tables have large, white hanging fixtures under which one feels confident surgery could be performed.

Yet, even with all of these elements and features and notions and sources and ideas and on and on, none of it is cluttered or hasty. "We made sure to not over design. We used restraint in not just using a bunch of different materials just because. We tried to use materials with a realness and purity, just as the menu has an emphasis on purity of ingredients," Testani noted. True Food Cherry Creek is enormous, 5,900 square feet of dining and preparation space. There is more than enough room for big ideas. It is elegant and simple. The restaurant physically reflects the menu. A return to what is essential. Simplicity. Fresh ingredients. A streamlined cooking station. Sit down at the bar. Let them pour you a biodynamic wine or an organic kale smoothie. Feel the wood under your fingers. Return to those things that are true. Clean flavors, healthy living. A physical space built to nourish your physical self. And the other parts of you.

INGREDIENTS







Chef German demonstrates that respect and care for the ingredients trumps over-preparation as he carefully assembles the tuna escabeche with a sharp knife and a gentle touch.

ALBACORE ESCABECHE | serves two

2.5 ounces (5 slices) seared Albacore Tataki (sliced .25" thick)

5 pieces avacado (sliced widthwise .25" thick)

5 pieces orange segments

1 pinch kosher salt

4 pieces cilantro leaves

1.5 ounces Escabeche sauce

PROCEDURE

1. Gently place the tuna, avacado, orange segments and sauce in a small mixing bowl.

2. Sprinkle with salt and cilantro, gently toss to coat all ingredinents in the sauce.

3. Arrange on a rectangle plate in a line alternating ingredients and shingling the tuna.

ESCABECHE SAUCE

5½ cups orange juice (freshly juiced)

34 cup lemon juice (freshly juiced)

34 cup lime juice (freshly juiced)

¼ cup kosher salt

1 cup sambal



1.5 T minced garlic

3 T minced cilantro

1/3 cup thinly sliced scallion whites

1. Combine the juices and salt in a bar blender, puree until smooth, transfer to a mixing bowl.

2. Add the remaining ingredients to the bowl of puree, whisk until well incorporated.

MICRO HOUSING EXHIBITION RECEPTION MAY 10TH - 5PM Roth Sheppard Architects Temenos Gallery 1900 Wazee St, Suite 100 Denver CO 80202 RSVP with Alicia 303.534.7007



IDEAS COMPETITION Find out more and register at:

SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN www.sites.google.com/site/microhousingcompetition



MODERN ON THE OUTSIDE

Learn the basics when it comes to cultivating well-groomed outdoor spaces

AS LONG AS LATE SNOW DOESN'T RUIN THE FUN, SPRING IS AN INCREDIBLE TIME TO OWN A YARD IN COLORADO. YOU KNOW IT. WE KNOW IT. BUT THERE'S A LOT MORE TO KNOW WHEN IT COMES TO CULTIVATING A LANDSCAPE WORTHY OF RUBBING ELBOWS WITH YOUR BEAUTIFUL MODERN STRUCTURE. THE TENANTS OF MODERN ARCHITECTURE SHOULDN'T STOP AT THE BACK DOOR, BUT STRETCH OUTWARD IN THE SPIRIT OF THE DESIGN.

One of modern architecture's core elements is its intentional relationship with the outdoors. Floor-to-ceiling windows are meant to incorporate the feel of nature into one's everyday activities. Interplay between natural light and contrived structure is paramount. Since modern design realizes our relationship to nature so thoroughly, it makes sense that being outdoors would evoke that same connection on another level. But the wrong yard can put a kink in that relationship. Overwrought and insensitive to balance, many outdoor spaces fall short.

Keeping a yard under control is hard enough, but it's even harder when your choices don't quite stack up the way you'd hoped. That's why it's best to work with a landscaping professional to ensure that you end up with an incredible space, but sometimes it's okay to dabble on your own. Small projects are fun and a good excuse to step outdoors. However, guidelines are still in order when it comes to the little things. "Creative ideas must be laid out on paper first to test their viability before any construction should be considered," Vejay Bala, Landscape Designer at Designs By Sundown, points out. "Homeowners may often overlook this important step and can find themselves with compounding issues amidst construction if plans are not done in advance."

If your garden space isn't quite complementing your home, even if you don't live in a modern residence - we're here to help. These simple but thoughtful tips will help establish fluidity between inside and out, regardless of what category your home falls into. Along with landscape architect Ransom Beegles of R Design Land Architects, we've unearthed a primer to steer you in the right direction on that small project. So, before digging in, put down the spade for a moment to consider some landscaping basics that will drastically improve the look of your lot. It'll save time and energy before the bees fly. Here are a few "be's" of our own to keep in mind.



Mexican Beach Pebble is an ornamental stone that can highlight patios or decking by providing a textural contrast. It also adds a finished look atop soil in pots, allowing for water to flow through to the plant while concealing the dirt.

Bowles Common Periwinkle Vinca Minor known as "bowles" is an evergreen groundcover with a purple bloom and deep green foliage. This perennial is easy to care for, grows quickly and needs weekly watering. It can grow as high as six inches and cover large plots beneath trees and shrubs.





This diagram illustrates how a form, which responds to the architecture, can create opportunities for outdoor dining, an efficient layout of turfgrass and sensible circulation patterns. These will enhance the architecture and blur the transition from indoors outward

LEGEND:

- A. An outdoor dining area is created using forms which reverberate the architecture.
- **B.** A low wall parallel to the building, extends the architecture and creates a sense of privacy for the outdoor space.
- C. Turfgrass is minimized and placed only where needed, beneath a shade tree to reduce watering needs.
- D. Accent steps at entries allow for the placement of decorative planters.
- E. The entry walk provides separation from the turfgrass and planting beds.
- F. Plantings soften the hardscape elements and further provide a sense of enclosure to the garden.



{PLANTINGS & MATERIALS}

Quaking Aspen Populous tremuloides, or simply Aspens, are a native ornamental tree with graphic white bark. They have a soft, sculptural canopy which can soften clean modern lines. They grow quickly and contribute interesting colors and textures year round.

+BE INTENTIONAL.

Take charge in determining what kind of space you want while considering your limitations.

Understand the existing environment and plan for future activities.

Fully take into account the beautiful and unsightly aspects of your property and adapt. If you have an unpleasant view of a water treatment plant, consider adding a partition or tree barriers. Take windy conditions into account when creating a dining space. Have a Front Range view to the south? Then orient outdoor dining toward it.

Consider the purpose of your space. If it's for meditation, entertaining, playing or only viewing, that will inform how you should construct the area.

Don't forget to think further down the line. Your two-year-old won't care about great ambiance when there's no patch of soft turf to tread on. No children in sight? Then keep in mind what makes for a great indoor party and bring it outside. Focus your space around a bar or grill, as everyone knows the heart of a party is in the kitchen.

Remember to invest in lighting, which can be anything from recessed bulbs to simple hanging garden lights. Make sure it isn't too harsh and highlights areas of your space that look interesting after dark.

+BE CONSISTENT.

Let your house be your guide. The architect who designed your home went to great lengths to construct bold lines and thoughtful geometry. Follow that lead.

The idea is to blur the boundaries between indoors and outdoors. The best way to do that is to extend the lines that are already there. If you plan to add a partition wall or fence, then make sure it's in harmony with the structure, moving from the same point and made of the same material.

Aim for harmony. Manufactured block walls against a pale stucco house doesn't work. Find the same stucco if possible. All shapes, forms, colors and textures should be congruent to your home. The form should respond to these elements and always reinforce the directions of the architecture. This goes for everything from walkways to fences, walls, stone and mulch.

Be mindful of the textures you're introducing to make sure there is coherence, not clashes.



Japanese Bloodgrass Imperata cylindrical, or "Red Baron," is a low ornamental grass with bold red foliage. Planted in large quantities it can create a striking landscape that won't detract from your home. Instead introduce a subtle color contrast.

{PLANTINGS & MATERIALS}

"You need to think about layout and base it on how you want to live." Ransom Beegles - R Design Land Architects

+BE SELECTIVE.

Not many plants are invited to this modern garden party. The biggest mistake is to think the solution for your yard comes from plants.

Think minimal varieties in mass application. Don't burden yourself or your yard with plants that overshadow each other. For instance, instead of varying species of trees, plant a grove of Aspens that grow quickly, look great in bulk and show unique colors no matter the time of year.

Smaller, vertical trees are ideal in urban settings. Natural shapes often compete with the architecture, causing distraction. Steer clear of frumpy pines or unruly deciduous decisions.

Go for grasses. Depending on where you live, some grasses can grow upwards of five feet and look brilliant when planted en masse in a designated patch.

A group of perennials will do wonders. Dwarf daylilies are a good example, as they return every year and will be easier to maintain. Be sure to plant in eye-pleasing repetition, as it upholds the minimal qualities of modern by pulling in the reins on color.





Woolly Thyme Thymus pseudolanuginosus is a low fragrant groundcover which can grow between pavers or concrete. It's tufts and its green hue can soften rougher textures and fill in spaces without overpowering.

+BE LOCAL.

We all know that Colorado is a great place to grow plants, but of course indigenous species will fare much better in your garden. Use native or highly adaptive plants and appropriate placement based upon sun, shade, water and wind conditions. For example, in most Colorado yards, Switchgrass and Little Bluestem can hold their own in this climate and look good when planted repetitiously.

Be sure to understand your area well, because not everything will adapt. Pay attention to how many hours per day of light the areas of your space receive, and plant accordingly.

Think cold thoughts. There are many types of native trees and shrubs that look beautiful when they go dormant during winter months. Isanti dogwood shrub is one example as it maintains a vibrant red hue after its leaves drop.

"Creative ideas must be laid out on paper first to test their viability before any construction should be considered..."

Vejay Bala - Designs By Sundown



The Stella d'oro daylily and other dwarf varieties have beautiful individual blooms and voluminous green bodies. When planted in large groups, they can add texture and color to an entrance or border. Many types are drought resistant and also attract butterflies.

{PLANTINGS & MATERIALS}

MODERN LANDSCAPE TIPS

+BE CREATIVE.

Be creative, but not too creative. Restraint is key, but as long as balance is achieved and the overall layout harmonized, then its time for accessories.

Pots are your chance to do something interesting. They can help highlight aspects of your yard and add color and texture. They allow for interesting plant varieties as well.

You can also get clever with stone accents. Mexican beach pebble is a sleek way to define walkways and borders. Crushed black granite has a nice gray hue that blends well with architecture. It looks great against concrete.

Furniture is another chance to introduce individuality. Colorful cushions draw attention to the areas of your yard meant for use, and makes them all the more inviting.

Outdoor fireplace options are abundant and bring a sense of comfort to a room beneath the sky.

Always remember, if the feel of your home stops at the door and turns into something else, you've lost that modern spirit. So be sure to echo everything on the outside that resides within.



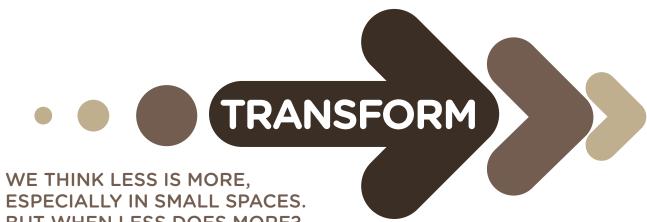








studio2bdenver.com



ESPECIALLY IN SMALL SPACES. BUT WHEN LESS DOES MORE? NOW THAT'S JUST MAGICAL.

Smart, flexible furniture doesn't just come in the form of a murphy bed - although there are some new ones worth giving the time of day. Storage, tables, chairs and walls now have the capacity to adapt to your needs, and you'll actually still like to look at them. Fashion designer Vivienne Westwood said a mouthfull when proclaiming: "Buy less, choose well." The concept is catching on, especially in places like New York where real estate is worth its weight in gold. Currently, the Museum of the City of New York is housing an exhibition on 300 square-foot apartments that are flexible in the truest sense of the word. The exhibition, Making Room, runs until September and highlights ways for style consciousness and space savvy to coexist. Denver's own Studio 2B carries furniture featured in the exhibition, such as Clei wall beds, proving that smart cities are opening their minds to better living with less. The push for higher efficiency is here to stay. Keep an eye out for Roth Sheppard Architects' upcoming competition to design a more thoughtful micro-housing unit complex. It's time to combat the unattractive primary-colored boxes sprouting up around our city. We can do better, Denver. And we will. But let's start with furniture. Kill two or three birds with one stone using a piece that will last longer and work harder. Or, spare the birds and just take a peek at the thoughtful multi-use options we've gathered to make your life, and your lifestyle, all the easier. You'll be a transforming convert





Goliath

With a name like Goliath, the expectations are giant for this alluring console table. What hides inside is an expanding infrastructure and drop in extensions that take the table from a mere 17" to a staggering 115". That's plenty of dinner party space for 8-10 people. Now that is a mighty feat!

+resourcefurniture.com









Clei Systems

One of the front runners in compact living solutions, Clei's space saving furniture integrates daily life into your walls. The unique Nuovoliola 10 combines a plush loveseat with a drop down bed. And you don't have to move anything from the handy overhead shelf that gracefully swings out with contents intact. The Ulisse Dining seats up to four around a stylish dinner table. But once the party is over, you can magically make the table disappear with an easy-to-pull down bed that covers the surface. Mechanisms are hidden and physical furniture movement kept at a minimum with this lifestyle system. Storage, beds and usable surfaces are integrated into many elements of the line. After all, you shouldn't need an extra storage closet to live small.

+studio2b.com













CAMBIA

Multi-function furniture doesn't need to be an exercise in patience and strength. Legato Studio's Cambia is the perfect marriage of simple operation and contemporary design aesthetic. With a push and a pull, it transforms from table to workstation to bench with ease. Fully customizable to suit your needs, the only difficulty you may have is deciding which position to keep it in.



TRE

Furniture transformations can come in the most inconspicuous of packages. Tre by Isaac Krady uses a beautiful bent plywood form to become a coffee table or a laptop desk with nothing more than horizontal or vertical positioning. It's simple adaptability is the perfect solution for the uncluttered home, office, or both.

+scp.co.uk





HIDE

Hide, by Mater, is a stool, table and storage unit all in one. A flip of the lid over the cylindrical storage body takes it from seating to a flat surface in just a few seconds. And its durable hardwood construction and sleek design is perfect for home or office, especially when grouped together in alternating stool and table combinations.

+modmobili.com





FUNCTIONAL COFFEE TABLE

Coffee tables often become the catch all spot for more than just our cup of joe. BoConcept has answered our organization prayers with the Functional Coffee Table. Lightweight panels pop up from the top to expose storage areas for remotes and magazines. The panels also double as an elevated tray to bring your snacks, laptops and beverages just a bit closer. Looks like we'll be the most productive couch potatoes ever.

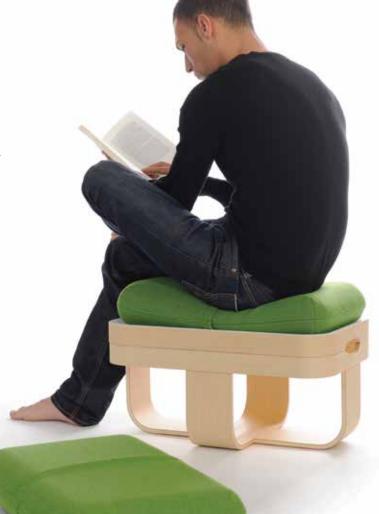
+boconcept.us



MISTER T

We don't pity the fool who snatches up the Mister T by Antoine Lesur for Oxyo. In fact, we're quite envious. From one main piece you can configure a low table, detachable tray, seat and footrest. With so many options in one space saving unit, we're sure you'll make it a part of your own multi-function A-Team.







+studiocomo.com



LUDOVICO

At first glance, the Ludovico by Claudio Sibille just looks like a beautiful chest of drawers. But then you take a slim table off the top. Next you grab four small handles and pull out two hidden chairs. And what remains houses four ample sized drawers. It's the perfect office mate for small spaces.

+claudiosibille.com

SWITCH

Instant gratification and a sense of play comes easy with the Switch table and chair. An ergonomic ball moves freely from a cube shaped surround, allowing you to convert from chair to table with simple movements. Alertness and posture may improve while you have a ball.

+switchablechair.biz



THE MODERN IN DENVER PHOTO ESSAY

Welcome to Modern In Denver's photo essay series. Each issue we give a talented photographer free reign to explore the modern world through his or her lens. The results offer insight into the way trained eyes see the things surrounding us.

We hope you're as inspired as we are by the possibilities and perspectives offered in these professional takes.

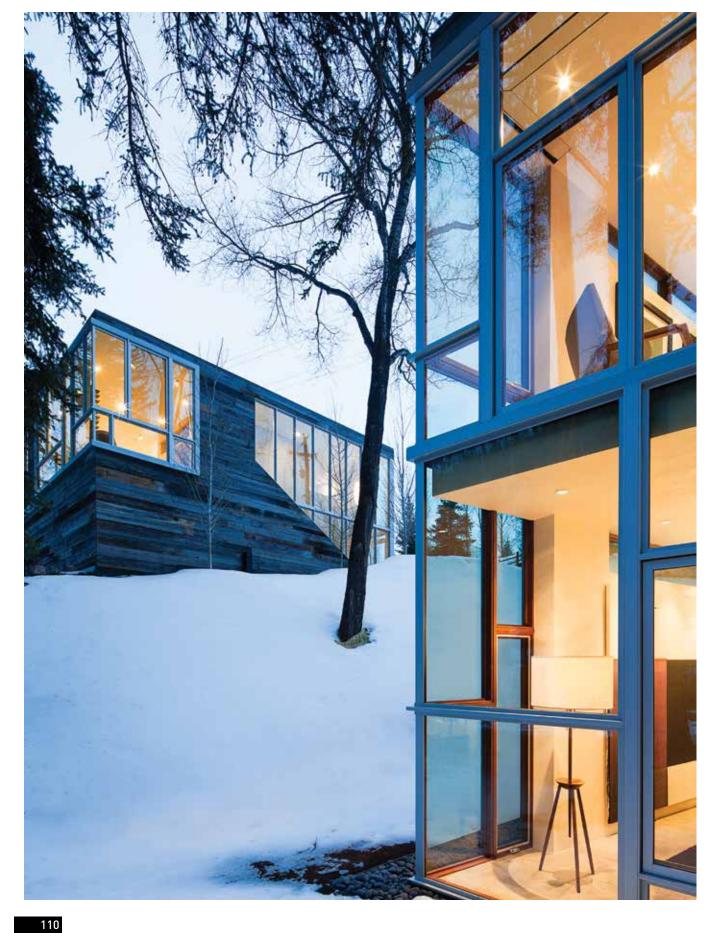
PRISTINE.

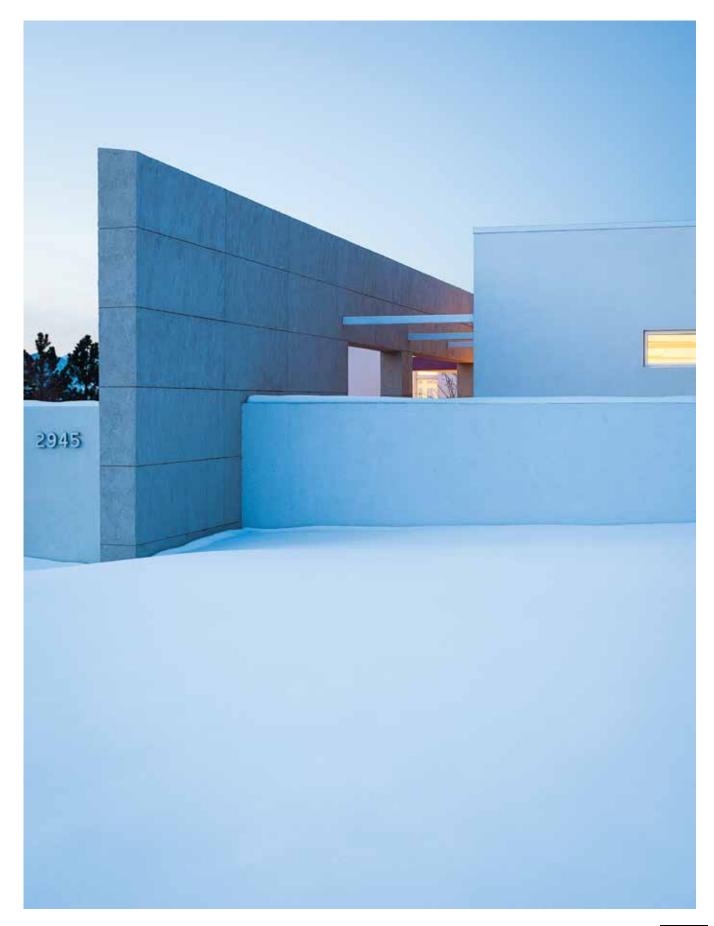
Unlike commissioned assignments which must advance an agenda, this project allowed me to investigate a concept whereby the snow allows the architecture to be perceived in its unadulterated existence. These photos reveal more through what they don't show – a cluttered landscape – than what might normally distract the eye from the architectural object. The naturally snow-blanketed world accentuates the architecture's presence – detached from its normative context.

Andrew Pogue











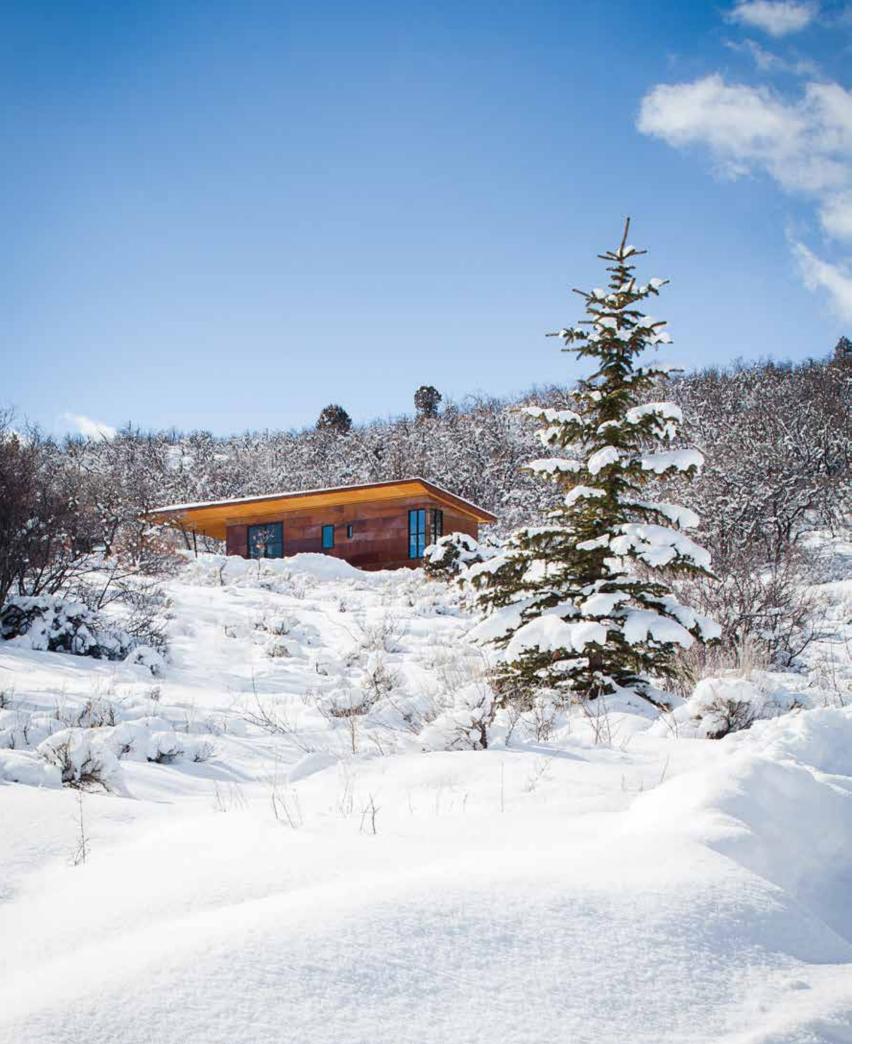




IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS

Page 108: Baseline Lake Residence | Boulder, CO • Arch11

Page 109 - 110: Piampiano | Woody Creek, CO • Studio B Architects

Page 111: Rosenthal / Friedlander Residence | Boulder, CO HMH Architecture + Interiors

Page 112-113: Southeast Wyoming Welcome Center l Travel & Tourism Headquarters Cheyenne, WY • Anderson Mason Dale Architects

Page 114: Oliphant Residence | Snowmass, CO • Black Shack Architects

Page 115: UR2 House | Aspen, CO • Willis Pember Architects



Andrew's background in both architecture and visual studies gives him breadth of creativity and technical expertise in approaching projects. With every project, he creates a comprehensive set of images that complement each other and tells the story. He has worked with clients on a wide range of projects, from residential interiors to luxury hotels.

He is also partnered with Austin-based Lars Frazer of Frazer Pogue Collective. They produce architectural videos that capture light and space while incorporating client interviews that give a glipse of the people behind the ideas and process of each project

Andrew Pogue is on the local board of the American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP), organizes PechaKucha Nights in Denver, and brews oak-aged sour beers. Andrew Pogue is currently represented by Wonderful Machine.

To view his portfolio, visit andrewpogue.com

L'LLTUMBLE (AND AGITATE) FOR YOU

WASHERS & DRYERS

Laundry can be a time drain, especially considering the average American family washes literally hundreds of loads per year. But if your washing machine is over 15 years old, it might be costing you much more than just minutes. There are about 25 million inefficient washers in our country, which collectively cost over two billion dollars in unnecessary energy and water each year.

It's time to clean up our act. Today's Energy Star certified washing machines use about eight gallons less per load than regular washers. In addition, they consume almost 20% less energy because there isn't as much water to heat. This translates to a lower water level in the machine and no need for high-foam traditional detergents that are meant for large water volumes. The key to proper cleaning involves using specially formulated low-foam detergents. That means that most Energy Star washers don't have a central agitator that rubs against the fabric to clean. Instead, they use a tumble, flip or spin action. On to dryers, they are the second biggest energy vampires after the refrigerator. Currently, Energy Star doesn't rate them because energy consumption has not significantly improved with dryer technology. Yet, there is research underway with heat pump dryers that are available in Europe that could make their way here. In the meantime, you can choose a model that works in conjunction with your washing machine for speed drying. Efficient washers extract more water from clothes, shortening drying time and saving energy in the process. Additionally, some dryers are equipped with advanced moisture sensing or temperature sensing technology to automatically shut off the machine when clothes are dry. Now that you know the basics, here are some ways to get those brights brighter and whites whiter without all the waste.





GE HE WASHER AND DRYER

+ge.con

GE must know somehow that many of us impatiently watch our machines, wondering how close our laundry is to being done. They've outfitted their sleek HE line with see-thru lids and doors so we can peek at every rinse and tumble. Additionally, the washer links to the dryer to preset the dry cycle. But perhaps the coolest feature is the Smart Dispense that holds two months worth of detergent and fabric softener. It auto dispenses just the right amount for each load. Now we really can't stop staring.



SAMSUNG VRT

+samsung.com

Super-sized capacity holds over two baskets of laundry in one load, and VRT technology keeps them balanced and quiet. The Samsung VRT takes your detergent to the next level with Power-Foam that deeply penetrates fabrics with gentle sudsing. You can monitor all the action from your phone with Smart Control, which allows you to start, pause and receive reminders. At last laundry has caught up with reality.





SPEED QUEEN

+4bac.com

The commercial laundromat favorite now brings that same quality to your home, without the quarters. Sturdy construction, heavy-duty motor and a stainless steel tub make for a long lasting washer and dryer set that doesn't skimp on cleaning power.

FRIGIDAIRE AFFINITY

+frigidaire.com

High efficiency doesn't mean sacrificing cleanliness. The Affinity with Ready Steam series from Frigidaire offers allergen removal and sanitize modes, as well as specialty cycles for workout wear and pet beds. It's also equipped with one of the fastest full load wash cycles in the west. It can also come with optional pedestals, where you can gain extra storage space and a better view to from which to admire their beauty.





LG TURBOWASH

+lg.com

Large loads have met their match with the TurboWash from LG. A faster soaking time saves 20 minutes and ColdWash technology saves energy without skimping on performance. The TrueSteam dryer reduces wrinkles and odors, plus sanitizes those non-washable items like teddy bears and throw pillows. And if you ever experience a problem, just look to your phone. A SmartDiagnosis phone app can help service your system without that costly repair man.

NATURALLY CLEAN IDEAS

+econutssoap.com

Washing your clothes with a handful of dried berry fruit may sound nuts, but that's exactly what Eco Nuts does. Re-usable up to ten times, these naturally occurring soap nuts are perfect for sensitive skin, gentle on clothing and have developed a cult following from cloth diaper-loving mothers. Once they start to disintegrate, just compost to keep your eco-conscious clear.



NELLIE'S ALL NATURA DRYFRBALLS

+nelliesallnatural.com

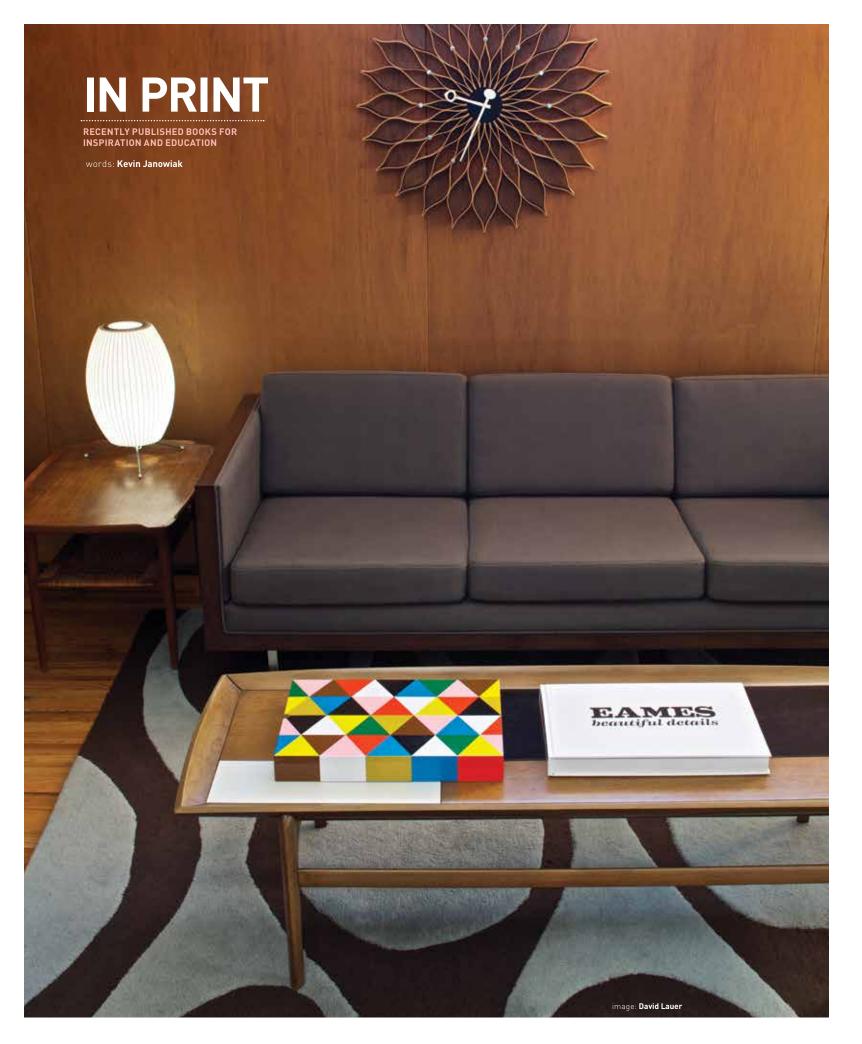
Goodbye chemical-filled dryer sheets, hello Dryerball. Reduce wrinkles, lint and drying time up to 25% with these environmentally friendly and non-toxic dryerballs from Nellie's All Natural. Available in their original formula and in a PVC free version, they are guaranteed to last up to two years. Added bonus, you'll never have to hunt for the hidden dryer sheet in your laundry again.

+indigowild.com

The best part about clean clothes is certainly the scent. With intoxicating 100% pure essential oil scents like Sweet Orange and Eucalyptus-Citrus, Zum Clean Aromatherapy Laundry Soap by Indigo Wild removes the dirt without those dirty word ingredients like phosphates, sulfates and chlorine. Instead, coconut oil and baking soda combine to fight stains in a low-sudsing formula that is great for higherfficiency machines.



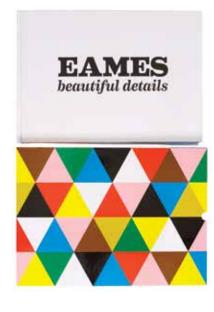


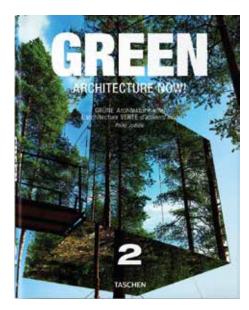




EAMES: BEAUTIFUL DETAILS Eames Demetrios Ammo

This time you can judge a book by its cover (or technically its slipcover). The bold triangulated pattern embodies all things Eames - eyepopping yet simple, with childlike joy. It's a full course meal with more than 400 satisfying pages of personal essays, never-before-seen photos and pioneering design. The Eames family is behind this loving tribute, so the presentation is warm and intimate. Ray and Charles treated life as a grand experiment, and the result was an indelible mark in textiles, graphic design, film and furniture. Much more than a family scrapbook or a catalog of accomplishments, Eames: Beautiful Details is the definitive guide to their legacy.





GREEN ARCHITECTURE NOW! Philip Jodidio

Taschen

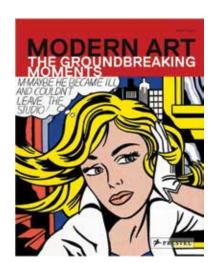
With its exclamation point, it's tempting to yell out the title Green Architecture Now!, like a drill sergeant demanding eco-friendly design. But this new compilation is more appropriate for a quiet evening, to linger over photos of dazzling buildings in dramatic settings. Green design doesn't just mean slapping solar panels on a roof. Jodidio shows that the sustainability movement has room for both pragmatism and whimsy. Compare a tunnel made of flower pots in Germany to an elevated house in Mississippi built to withstand another Katrina. Different targets but two bull's-eyes. The book scours all continents for beautiful locales - a mountain refuge in the French Alps is particularly jaw-dropping. But less heralded green projects like Midwestern homes are equally satisfying.

IN PRINT

MODERN ART: THE GROUNDBREAKING MOMENTS Brad Finger

Prestel

Try fitting 150 birthday candles on one cake. That's how long we've celebrated modern and avant-garde art, starting with the Salon des Refusés exhibition in Paris in 1863. It's worth taking a breather to reflect on the zig zags of art history. Modern Art: The Groundbreaking Moments maps out the key artists and pieces that have defined and sometimes disrupted our worldviews. It's an ambitious project that includes all the heavyweights from Henri Matisse to Roy Lichtenstein. Trying to cram everything into 200 pages (with lots of pictures) means the book occasionally turns to encyclopedia-like lists of names and dates. But just when you think you won't learn something new, the author makes illuminating crossgenerational connections. Damien Hirst is linked to Marcel Duchamp. Van Gogh is paired with Jackson Pollock. This handy primer will make you wish you could meet them all at a party together.



BEST OF OFFICE ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN Cindy Allen

Sandow Media

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. But if Jack worked in an office with natural light and Ping-Pong tables, he'd be better off. Best of Architecture and Design takes us inside sleek new workplaces from around the globe that are raising standards (and productivity). Architects have knocked down cubicle walls, favoring open floor plans with sweeping views. Meeting rooms can be transformed into cozy nooks with wood burning fireplaces. Allen, the editor in chief of Interior Design magazine, adds punchy commentary written in a conversational tone. The photos could have used more actual workers in them – empty boardrooms and cafeterias make it look like everyone skipped out early. But ultimately, the book is a success. It's easy to imagine office workers abuzz with creative energy, thanks in a large part to the stunning surroundings.



100 DIAGRAMS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD Scott Christianson

Plume

When inspiration strikes, humans have always scrawled on whatever is nearby, from cave walls to cocktail napkins. But sometimes crude drawings can give birth to big ideas. 100 Diagrams That Changed The World is a speedy tour of the sketches behind historical breakthroughs like the battering ram and cotton gin. Innovations are arranged chronologically into tidy two-page sections, each accompanied with a beautiful diagram worth studying. It's fun to picture Isaac Newton drawing a prism with a rough pencil, or the mastermind of the World Wide Web typing out the first sentence of his proposal. Superhuman achievements have humble origins, as this fascinating book proves.

