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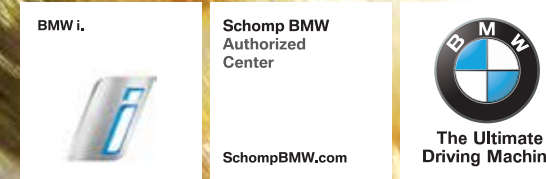
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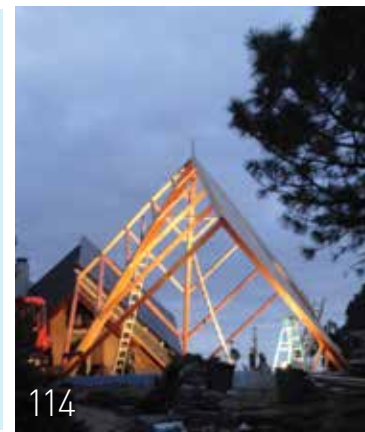


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"When spring came, even the false spring, there were no problems except where to be happiest. The only thing that could spoil a day was people and if you could keep from making engagements, each day had no limits. People were always the limiters of happiness except for the very few that were as good as spring itself."

-Ernest Hemingway



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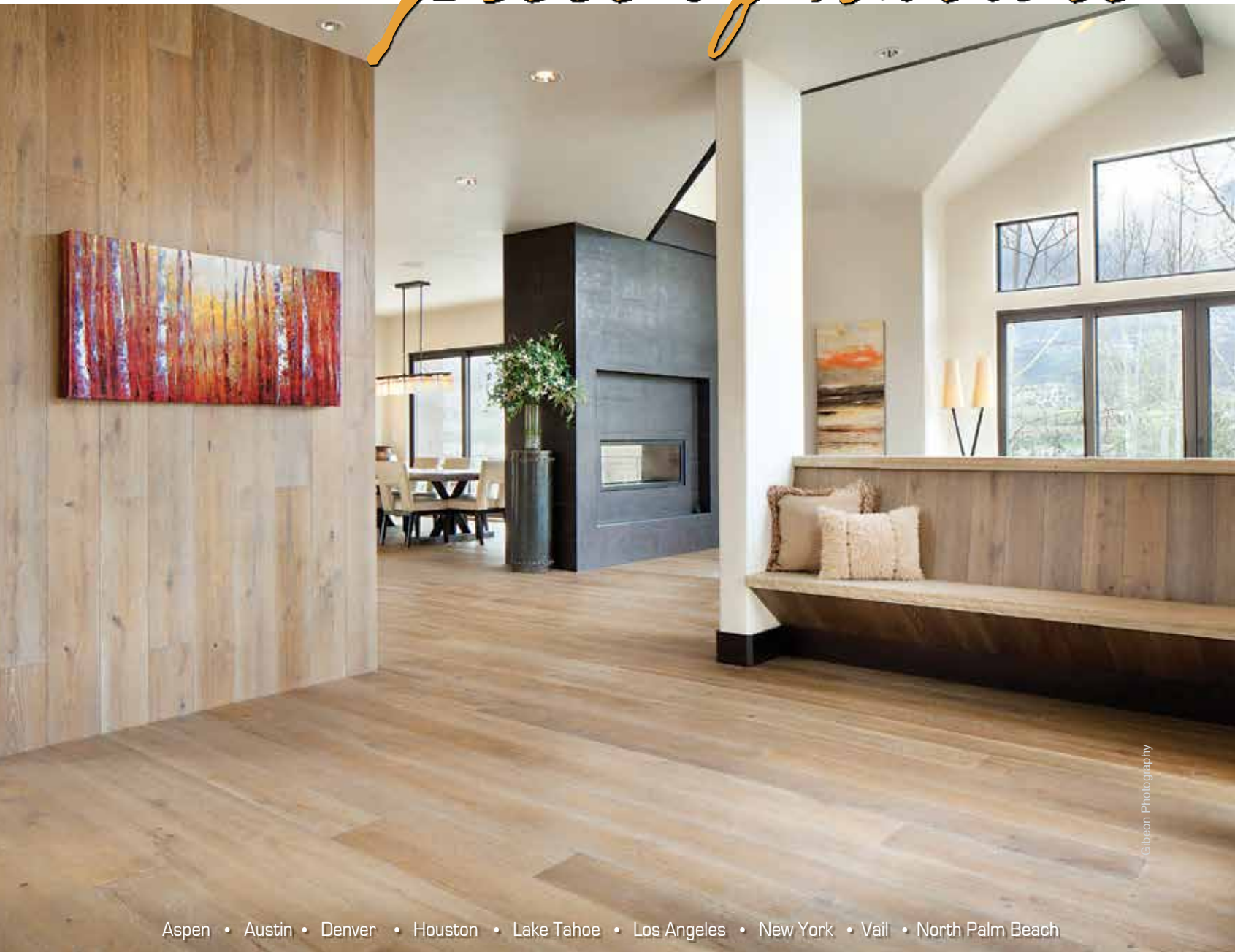
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A beautiful WOOD piece of nature



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HELLO!

Great design should be accessible to all.

I have always believed in the real and meaningful impact that great design can have on our lives. There is no question that it has had a significant impact on my life, and I have seen how great architecture, art and design can enrich and elevate those who choose to integrate it into their lives. Its benefits are both practical and spiritual, and it should be accessible to everyone.

In this issue, ideas about the accessibility of art, architecture and design run through a number of our stories. For our cover story we get a unique look at the life and work of artist and collector Devon Dikeou, who has chosen to make her private art collection accessible to everyone through the Dikeou Collection, a 10,000 sqft. space in a downtown office building. It is open to the public all year round and we think it has flown under the radar of too many people for too long.

Colorado is home to some of the most talented modern architects in the country and a number of them have been working hard to improve the foundation and fabric of our state by challenging and changing how we should approach and execute affordable housing. We spoke with Studio Completiva, and WORKSHOP8 and the city, to learn how they are applying modern design and thinking to elevate the quality of the homes and the lives of those who are struggling to move up. While this is a dense and complex topic that could fill several long articles, we are proud to take our first look at how these people are trying to make great design accessible and affordable to everyone in our society.

We also file a report on smart homes and are excited to report that integrating technology and making your home a more efficient, comfortable place, has never been easier or more affordable. In other words, it is more accessible to more people.

In our new INGREDIENTS section of the magazine, we profile Bryant Mason, who has made it his mission to make sustainable and flourishing vegetable gardens accessible to everyone. His unique business, The Urban Farm Company, gives people the knowledge and start they need to grow their own organic food.

We are excited that this is our biggest issue yet, so there is a lot more great stuff inside. Have a wonderful, warm spring and enjoy!

William Logan
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twitter: @wtlogan

ON THE COVER

For our spring cover, photographer Crystal Allen spent time shooting the art at The Dikeou Collection in downtown Denver. Holding court in the main space of the collection are two massive inflatable bunnies that stop you in your tracks and usually elicit a verbal "wow" followed by a big smile. The piece is by artist Momoyo Torimitsu and is titled, "Somehow I Don't Feel Comfortable". We have never had a giant bunny on one of our covers before and it somehow just seemed perfect for this spring issue!



COLORADO'S MAGAZINE FOR MODERN LIVING - INSIDE & OUT

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LIFE: INTEGRATED

Basque artist Martin Azúa often finds a way to add nature to his pieces. With *Om Manantial*, a Polyethylene armchair, he manages to create a place for human, plant and animal. Call it, as Azúa does, the "integration of natural processes in everyday life, life inside objects." The limited-edition seat is signed and numbered.

+martinazua.com

**WHIRL WIND**

The perfect umbrella to keep you dry while singing in the rain (and gale-force winds) gets a new look this season. Senz, which burst onto the weather scene in the mid-2000s with an umbrella that doesn't get upset in the wind, now comes in multiple colors and patterns. Senz teamed with fashion and textile designers to create exclusive designs, like Park Camo and Dazz Buzz, to make Senz umbrellas stand out even more.

+senz6.com

**FLEXIBLE FOLIAGE**

The colorful Rubber Vase by Menu reminds us that spring is approaching in more ways than the obvious. Beyond the variety of vibrant colors, the vases are made of flexible rubber. Squish the top edges inside the base to make a low-round pot for a tight-bound bouquet. Let it spring back to full size for an equally seasonal look.

+switchmodern.com





CLASSIC CRAFTS

Craftsmanship continues to thrive in North Carolina, thanks to long-time furniture makers like Precedent, which started in 1971. Its work continues to catch the attention of people who just want something nice and comfortable. The company's Alma Stool was picked up by Room & Board for the retailer's latest collection, touting its versatility. The classically-shaped stool with tapered wooden legs and woven cushion, works as a seat, table or foot rest for nearly any room in the house.

+roomandboard.com



TIME SPIES

Even with a watch, time seems to fly. Or drag. But really, it doesn't. It just ticks away, one second at a time. But if you could swear that time slows down while waiting in a line or it speeds up when you're having fun, then Durr will get you back on track. This shivering bracelet, as creators Skrekkøgle call it, looks like a faceless circle on a strap. It vibrates every 5 minutes so you know that time indeed continues to tick at the same rate no matter what you wished you were doing. Pre-sales are expected to begin soon.

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MOD PODS

For hosting cocktail hour or a dinner party for two, Leland International gets things in the mood with its thoroughly modern Palomino seating. The clean lines of single, double and triple-seat loungers are exquisitely designed with cross-cut legs of your choice—stainless steel, powder coated, walnut or ash. Even more fantastic, the seating arrangements are modular with optional tables in between.

+sourcefour.com

PETTING ZOO

Cross stitching turns wool scraps into the cutest animals, but only if you have the imagination of German product designers Daniel Böttcher and Marlene Schroeder. The duo behind Formverleih wanted to make fabric into three-dimensional objects. They cross stitched strategically and wound up with an adorable menagerie. With names! Meet Peggy, the rhino; Pascal, the hippo; Marcel, the bear; and Ronny, the elephant. The animals are hollow and their heads are movable so you can turn them into puppets.

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BOOK NOOK

The Galaga Bookshelf by designer Andrea Lucatello adds an interesting new focal point to any room, not to mention a new function. The walnut or lacquered base is mere centimeters thick. With gray glass floating shelves, the bookshelf is a modern work of art in its own right.

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WOOD WORKS

When Kino Guérin spots a piece of wood, he twists it. This impulse began as a challenge to himself. Now, it's what he is known for. Benches, tables, wall-hangings all made of wood. And all with a remarkable twist, as if the wood warped naturally into intricate curves. The artist patiently glues several very thin layers of wood on top of each other to create the curves. The *Why Knot* Bench, made from walnut veneer, is an eye catcher—it was his best-selling item last year. His dentist liked it so much, he ordered an outdoor version.

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Wabi Task Chair by izzy

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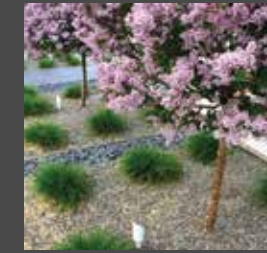
SOLAR CARE

The rise of Nokero's affordable solar-powered light bulb offers a billion people around the globe a cheaper way to light up the night. In fact, the company is getting orders from Indonesia, Africa and other countries where citizens have no electricity at home or are spending too much on kerosene. But Nokero, short for "No kerosene," makes sense closer to home, too. After all, inventor Stephen Katsaros lives and works in Denver. The lights, which cost as little as \$6, are perfect for lengthy camping trips, living off the grid or just utilizing in the backyard, thanks to Denver's 300+ days of sunshine a year.

+nokero.com



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Plumen wowed the design world by reimagining the light bulb—one that put its inner workings on display. With the Plumen 002, the company wanted to get enough orders to make the venture economical. And they wanted to reward fans by giving them the first chance to buy the new bulb. They turned to crowdfunding site Kickstarter. "I guess we could have gone to the bank and asked nicely but Kickstarter gives you a lot more than just the cash. It allows a completely different kind of relationship to form," said Nicolas Roope, Plumen's founder. The campaign raised more than double Plumen's goal so expect the bulbs to be available this summer.

+plumen.com



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Gardening can soothe the soul. Unless your plants look half dead no matter what you think you're doing right. Leave the logistics to technology with the Parrot Flower Power tool, which looks like a minimalist bare root tree. Stick it in the ground and the device measures critical data like soil moisture, temperature, sunlight and electrical conductivity (for fertilizer). With built-in Bluetooth, the tool communicates with a smartphone app to help users give their green thumb a boost. It may help you realize it's not you, it's the neighbor's tree hogging up all the sunlight.

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[+sony.net/products/4k-ultra-short-throw](http://sony.net/products/4k-ultra-short-throw)



TABLE TRANSFORMER

Christopher Duffy, of Duffy London, cleverly takes on the dining table for small spaces by creating the MK1 Transforming Coffee Table, which turns from living room coffee table to full-size dining table with a few quick bends and turns. Full size, the dining table reaches 75 cm high. For lounging around, it can be lowered to 35 cm.

[+duffylondon.com](http://duffylondon.com)





Mixed Materials

Designer Stephanie Ng likes to mix contrasting materials to create new lamps. With the Scoop light, Ng mixes American Oak with aluminum for a snug-fitting bulb cover. Optional colorful cords and accent rings add a hint of color to a minimalistic design. Looks good as a single light, a trio or a whole bunch.

+stephaniengdesign.com

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DEVON DIKEOU'S LIFE AND YOU
ARE INVITED IN.

WORDS:
SARAH GOLDBLATT

IMAGES:
DAVID LAUER (Apartment images)
CRYSTAL ALLEN (Collection Images)

UNLESS YOU HAVE GROWN UP IN DENVER, you may not recognize the name Devon Dikeou. Even then, you might not know that the third-generation native has indie-rock star status in the contemporary art world, or that she and her brother have a private collection of art's brightest stars in a downtown Denver office building, which is free and open to the public. What's more, in addition to collecting art, Devon is a prolific artist, curator, and founder, editor and publisher of *zingmagazine*. Her ground-zero position at the source of art provides her with a panoramic view and places her squarely at the confluence of creativity.

Museum curator, Heather Pesanti from The Contemporary Austin (where Devon exhibited her work "Please" last summer) acknowledges the clarity of her vision and says, "Devon has the ability to challenge and critique the workings of the art world and offer momentary glimpses behind the proverbial curtain, at times even slipping the art historical rug out from under us."

Luckily for Denverites, *Modern in Denver* has been granted some sanctioned voyeurism into Devon's own domestic and professional realms, which reveals the pure alliance between her art and life.

Devon's local landing pad at One Cheesman Place, designed by acclaimed Denver modernist architect Charles Sink, is a visual manifestation of her



One Cheesman Place, an elegant, modernist residential tower designed by Denver architect Charles Sink in 1968, is Devon's pied-à-terre when in Denver.



FACING PAGE: Three iconic Andy Warhol silk screen prints of Mick Jagger (1975) grace the walls of Devon's living room and welcome guests into her sublime sanctuary of art and furnishings.

ABOVE: "Suck" a Drinking Straw performance/relic by Devon flanks either side of the entry door and sets the stage for her lively assemblage inside. The piece is an exploration of art known as relational aesthetics where the viewer is invited to participate in the piece.



Devon's stylish, eclectic taste is on display in her sunny home overlooking Cheesman Park, which is filled with a collection of artwork that she has been given, traded for or purchased at benefit auctions. Some of the vintage furnishings are family heirlooms, including the pea-green and ochre sofa and chair set, which belonged to her grandmother (designed by Paul Lazlo or John Keal for mid-century furniture manufacturer Brown-Saltman). The 1930s Art-Deco side tables were purchased by Devon's mother from James Powell Antiques in Austin, Texas. A Verner Panton Fun Lamp (Design Within Reach) completes the ensemble. Other vintage lamps were locally sourced at Mod Livin'.

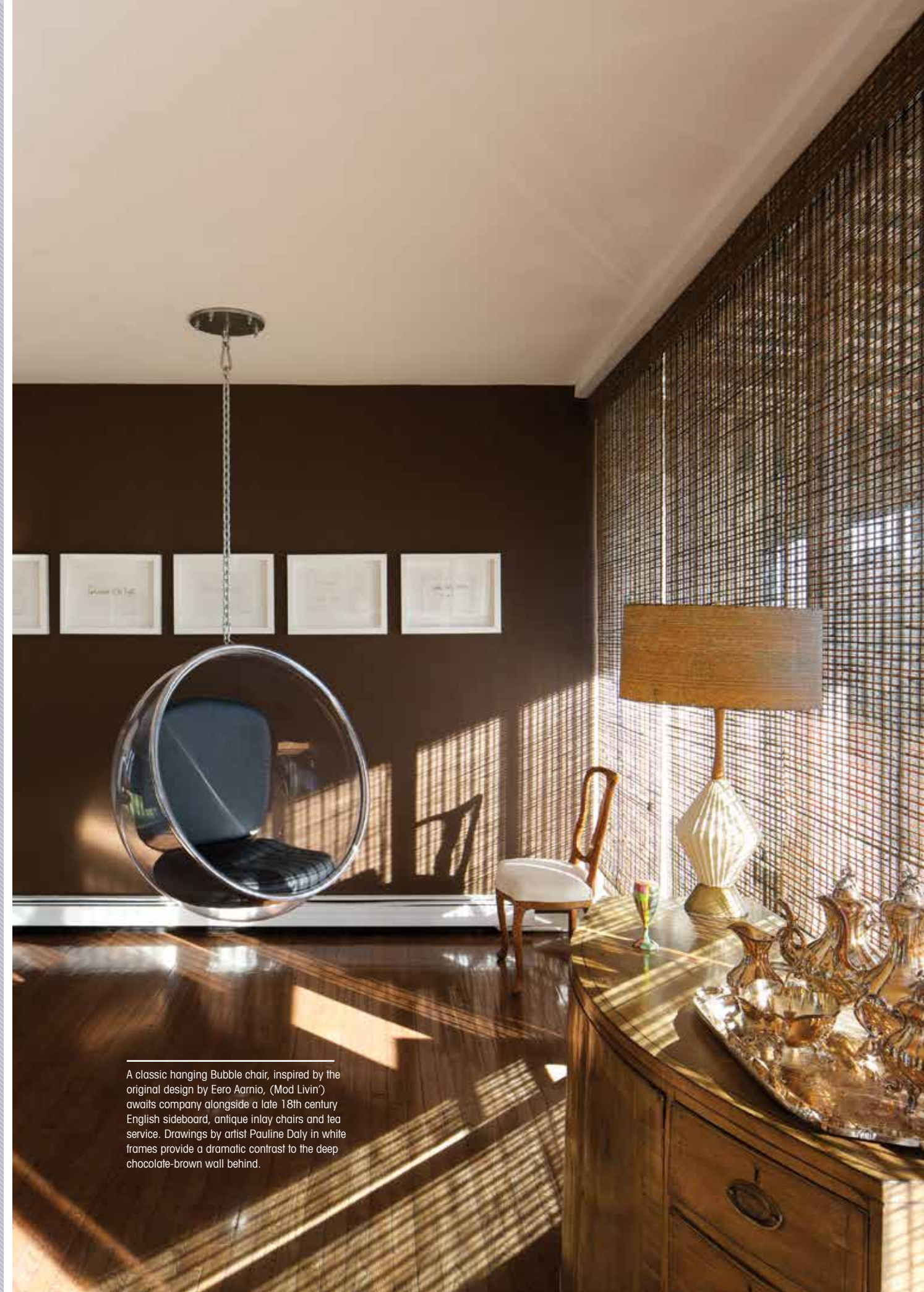


An array of Mid-century Italian Murano glass ashtrays, collected by Devon's husband, Fernando Troya, are displayed on a vintage 1950s coffee table.

eclectic taste and a physical representation of the relationships she has cultivated within the art world. Each artwork in her Denver apartment is one that has been given to her, traded for another artist's work or bought at benefit auctions. Her divergent collection of art and furnishings include Andy Warhol prints, Pre-Columbian artifacts, mid-century Arne Jacobsen Ant Chairs and an 18th century English sideboard. Many of the art pieces in Devon's home have been incorporated into her piece titled "Not Quite Mrs. De Menil's Liquor Closet"—an

installation fashioned after famed art collector Dominique de Menil's secreted liquor closet, which will be exhibited in the Dikeou Collection's planned expansion this spring.

The 10,000 square-foot Dikeou Collection—a curated treasure trove of international contemporary art collected by Devon and her brother, Pany—occupies a raft of office suites within the Art-Deco style Colorado Building. Yet, for all its lively offerings to the public, including poetry readings and a jazz series—along with its stunning



A classic hanging Bubble chair, inspired by the original design by Eero Aarnio, (Mod Livin') awaits company alongside a late 18th century English sideboard, antique inlay chairs and tea service. Drawings by artist Pauline Daly in white frames provide a dramatic contrast to the deep chocolate-brown wall behind.



The rooms in Devon's 6th-floor unit are connected by a continuous balcony that overlooks Cheesman Park and provides expansive views of the Front Range.

Each artwork in her Denver apartment is one that has been given to her, traded for another artist's work, or bought at benefit auctions.



Devon's eclectic assemblage of art and furnishings extend into her dining area, which features a Danish Modern dining table surrounded by a set of three-legged Arne Jacobsen Ant chairs—all sourced locally from Zeitgeist Modern Furniture Classics. A Ray and Charles Eames storage unit (also from Zeitgeist) stands sentinel to a collection of Pre-Columbian figurines in frames. Counter stools are Covey Model 6 from Design Within Reach.



Devon's collection includes a series of photos taken by renowned Denver photographer Mark Sink (son of architect Charles Sink). Here, Sink's photos capture candid images of Mick Jagger, Charlie Watts, Jean-Michel Basquiat and Andy Warhol.

array of both emerging and established artists, the collection has flown under the radar of even some of Denver's art cognoscenti. John Grant, a Denver-based art consultant and curator comments, "Devon has quietly put together one of the hidden gems in Denver's contemporary art landscape. The Dikeou Collection offers those that take the time to visit, an opportunity to experience work by contemporary artists who, without the collection, would never find a place in Denver."

The gallery's serene atmosphere is interrupted by only the hum and rattle of the steam heat pushing through the pipes of the fifth floor 1891 building. As Devon describes her multifaceted engagement in the art world, a puckish smile and joyful glint in her eyes convey her passion for her artistic life. Her knowledge of art and its

players is encyclopedic, yet she is self-effacing and gracious, overflowing with an infectious Alice in Wonderland-like curiosity. The latter impression is magnified by artist Momoyo Torimitsu's two giant blow-up bunnies, albeit deflated, whose limp rubber bodies lay prostrate across the gallery floor on either side of her. Devon will tell you that context has everything to do with the experience of art.

When she is not crisscrossing the country between domestic-bases that include Austin, New York and Denver—tending to her role as editor in chief of *zingmagazine* (the publication she started in 1995), teaching, curating or collecting—she is creating her own art.

Although a self-proclaimed non-studio artist, she creates physical works of art that fall into the lexicon of a conceptual or installation



FAR LEFT: A hand-painted, plaster-cast "Potato" (2010) by artist Margaret Lee (nailed to the wall) requires viewers to take a second look.

LEFT: Devon was given 16 cups from artist Adam Weinstein installation of 10,000 disposable coffee cups that say "I Love Jodie Foster" (1990) as a gift from the curatorial team Collins and Milazzo after her employment with them in 1990.



LEFT: Iconic children's toys are arrayed on a vintage Russell Wright bureau from Mod Livin' which looks remarkably comfortable next to an early 19th century Alsace-Lorraine hand-painted four poster folk canopy bed, which fills the bedroom.

ABOVE: Adjacent to the antique bed is a drawing by artist Marcel Dzama (2003) that the artist gave to Devon on the occasion of the publication of zingmagazine's #20, which included a section of the artist's paintings and drawings.

art, depending on the context in which they are shown. She says her artwork "is very much a self-portrait" and at the same time, a reflection of her existence in the art world as a viewer, collector, artist, curator and critic.

Devon's most recent work titled "Pay What you Wish" will be installed in the Dikeou Collection and was shown at NADA Miami, an invitation-only independent art fair. The piece is a direct comment on the commercial nature of the fair and a simultaneous riff on the old-school donation boxes that

nudge museum goers to contribute to the institution's bottom line. She recreated 18 donation boxes from 16 different American museums and scattered them throughout the art fair. This multi-layered piece draws meaning from its context and is just one in a series of meditative juxtapositions that Devon has created.

In 2013, Devon displayed ten lobby directory boards from her regenerative series called "What's Love Got to Do With It?" as part of a group show at the New Museum Of Contemporary Art that featured

young artists who were making their mark on New York's art scene in 1993. The identically sized, 18x24-inch directory boards have grown to 120 in number and 81 of them now line the entry gallery of the Dikeou Collection. This concept of repetition radiates through Devon's artwork and also deeply influences how she approaches collecting, displaying and experiencing other artists' work.

In making choices for the Dikeou Collection, Devon and her brother subscribe to a similar school of thought as that of artist



ABOVE FOREGROUND: Momoyo Torimitsu "Somehow I Don't Feel Comfortable" 2000 2 Rubber Inflatable Balloons, Ventilators, 16' x 10' in diameter each
BACKGROUND: Vik Muniz "Milan (Last Supper)" 1998 Cibachrome 3 panels, 48" x 60" each

Donald Judd, who advocated for permanent installation of artwork within a specific context to allow the viewer to discover the art over successive visits. The siblings use the rich, meaning-laden words "generosity, breadth and longevity" to describe the intention of the collection and to guide their selections. "Regardless of the medium," says Devon, "each potential acquisition is evaluated for these qualities."

To begin the dialogue, she often first invites artists, to publish their work in *zingmagazine*, which she created to "give artists a platform for their ideas and work." The incipient relationships with artists are nurtured into enduring ones when she is sure that the medium and artist are represented fully and their work can be shown "in its truest form—even if that form itself might be challenging." Devon adds that "once an artist is in the collection, we are dedicated to bringing their vision to fruition and

helping to garner their voice in a public sphere."

So dive in and take a look. No matter who you are, you are bound to find something intriguing. Get to know the Dikeou Collection (Hours: Wed-Fri 11:00 AM-5:00PM) and expose yourself to this jewel in Denver's burgeoning contemporary art landscape. You will find it somewhere between the T-Mobile and Planet Sub along California Street in downtown Denver. Here you can slip through a pair of aluminum double doors and take the ambling elevator to the fifth floor of the Colorado Building—where the doors will part (not unlike going through the wardrobe to Narnia) and you'll be in the right place to partake in the magic of the Dikeou Collection.

dikeoucollection.org



TOP: Cover of *zingmagazine*, Issue 23
BOTTOM: Devon Dikeou (photo by Lisa Kereszi)

“Devon has quietly put together one of the hidden gems in Denver’s contemporary art landscape. The Dikeou Collection offers those that take the time to visit, an opportunity to experience work by contemporary artists that, without the collection, would never find a place in Denver.” John Grant



TOP LEFT: **Wade Guyton** "The Room Moved, the Way Blocked (Stage 1)" 1998 Parquet Wood Floor 16' x 15' x 5' (Photographer, Michael Myers)

TOP RIGHT: **Lawrence Seward** "1989" 2001 Foam, Paint, Wood, Sculpt-A-Mold, Plaster 68" x 35" x 77" (Viewer: Saniego Sanchez, Director of Dikeou Collection)

BOTTOM LEFT: **Devon Dikeou** "Reserved for Ileana Sonnabend: Buddha or Machiavelli" (Brenda Richardson about Ileana Sonnabend as quoted by Calvin Tomkins—The New Yorker 2010, Ongoing, Wall: C-Print Wall Mural of Name Plate Reserving a Table in Perpetuity for the Preeminent Art Dealer Ileana Sonnabend Floor: 1 Table and 2 Chairs from the Restaurant Mezzogiorno Variable Dimensions (Photographer, Michael Myers)

BOTTOM RIGHT: **Johannes VanDerBeek** "Newspaper Ruined" 2008 Mixed Media 42" x 96" x 192" (Person: Jenna Dwyer, Intern at Dikeou Collection)



BACKGROUND: **Devon Dikeou** "Cajole: Tropical Paradise" 1992 Ongoing, Artificial Flowers and Plants, Plant Identification Sign, Mirrored Planter Replicating Mall Ambiance, 3' x 3' x 8' • **Devon Dikeou** "Cajole: Oriental Opulence" 1992 Ongoing, Artificial Flowers and Plants, Plant Identification Sign, Mirrored Planter Replicating Mall Ambiance, 3' x 3' x 8' (Photographer, Michael Myers) • TOP RIGHT: **Misaki Kawai** "Untitled (Large Plane)" 2002 Mixed Media 8' x 8' x 3' • Bottom Right: **Chris Gilmour** "Ford" 2006 Cardboard and Glue, Variable Dimensions





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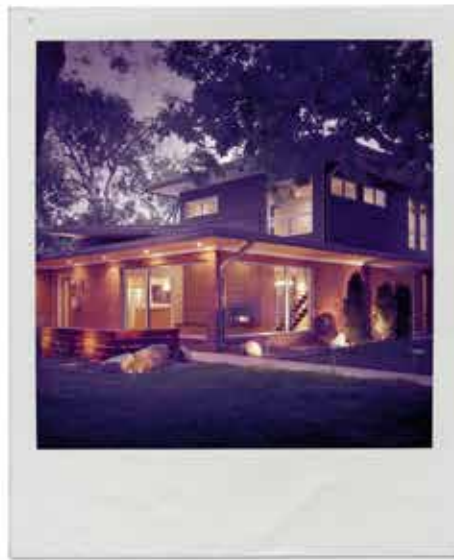
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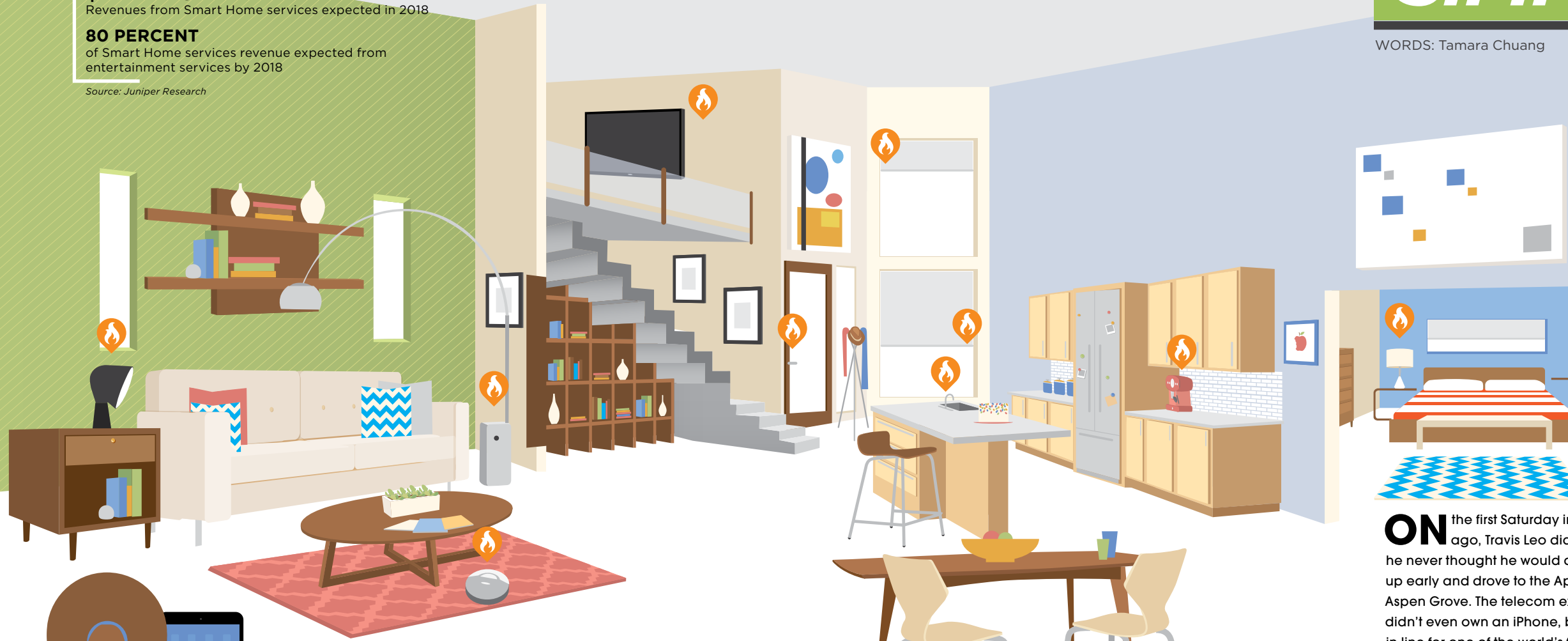
of Smart Home services revenue expected from entertainment services by 2018

Source: Juniper Research

AS WI-FI, BLUETOOTH AND MOBILE DEVICES CONTINUE TO EVOLVE, IT IS EASIER AND MORE AFFORDABLE THAN EVER TO RAISE YOUR HOME'S IQ.

SIMPLY SMART.

WORDS: Tamara Chuang



estates and installing high-end home theaters is transitioning to a world where all sorts of new smartness is available at all income levels. Thanks to the proliferation of smartphones, apps and growing consumer comfort, a Smart House isn't just for hobbyists or the wealthy.

"Automation used to be about power, control and elegance," Leo said. "Now it's about simplicity and convenience."

A Smart House responds to our needs and learns how to take care of us. A door that says, "Welcome home!" and unlocks as you approach. Lights that turn on as you enter the house. A floor that sweeps up any dirt you just tracked in and offers to air out your shoes. A house that knew you were on the way home so it adjusted the temperature, set the table and has dinner waiting.

We are not quite there yet. But we are closer than you think (well, maybe not the shoe part).

Take thermostats, for example. There have been programmable thermostats for years. Then Nest debuted in November 2011. Manually nudge the dial warmer or colder for the first week and it figures out your preferences. Sensors determine when no one is home to minimize heat or cooling use. Access to local weather data feeds Nest's self-regulating system. Combining learning, an app and minimalist design, Nest gained oodles of admirers, including Google, which is in the process of buying Nest for \$3.2 billion.

By hiding the complexity and relying on tools like the now-common smartphone, the Smart House is one doorstep closer to reality.

"The reason why it's making sense now is that the ubiquity of the smartphone is making all of this possible," said Mike Soucie, a

ON the first Saturday in April four years ago, Travis Leo did something he never thought he would do. He woke up early and drove to the Apple Store at Aspen Grove. The telecom executive, who didn't even own an iPhone, became sixth in line for one of the world's first iPads.

"I realized this was an industry disrupter the minute the price point was announced," said Leo, who today is chief executive of Residential Systems Inc., a Smart Home company in Lakewood. "I didn't realize how much it would revolutionize our industry."

Today, \$399 iPads have replaced the pricey \$1,000-plus touchpad controllers Residential Systems once left with customers. And the industry known for targeting million-dollar

N The Nest thermostat brought a modern sense of style to Smart Homes. With a mobile app, ease of use and its ability to learn the inhabitants' ideal temperature, it brought in customers—and Google, which is buying Nest for \$3.2 billion. +nest.com

C Control4 and Savant Systems are among traditional whole-home automation companies adopting mobile apps, smartphones and iPads. +control4.com • +savantsystems.com

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ILLUSTRATION: Kim McDonald





SIMPLY SMART.

co-founder of Revolv, a Boulder company hoping to streamline the process of controlling all your smart devices. "Smartphones are now hitting mainstream. This computer we carry on our person in our day-to-day lives is the very thing that is controlling our digital life. And now, it's transitioning to our physical life."

Today's Smart House is open to more people and offers features that weren't possible before. Technology advances, like Bluetooth Smart, use minimal battery power to help add smartness to dumb devices, like doorbells and keys. Geolocation helps the house determine when you and your smartphone are near and triggers a series of events. Traditional Smart House chores, like operating motorized window shades and security systems, are no longer limited to a control panel stuck on the wall.

But with advances comes confusion. And the industry is well

aware of it. With the numerous à la carte products now available or coming soon, companies like Revolv aim to simplify the process.

"The problem with the industry is there is no standard protocol out there. There is no single language out there," Soucie said. "I bought a Nest thermostat and was looking for Wi-Fi locks. But I realized there weren't any. I found ZigBee and Z-Wave locks but I had never heard of that so I said, 'I'm not buying that.' There's a level of complexity for the consumer and they're not really willing to take a leap."

With all the smart products available today, you'll need to use a half-dozen apps just to turn on the lights, unlock the door, set the music, control the temperature and adjust the humidity. Revolv unites all those disparate products with one device and one app.

Inside the Revolv Hub, there are seven wireless radios. Three are currently

turned on: Wi-Fi, Z-Wave and Insteon. The rest—ZigBee and three running 900 MHz and 400 MHz—can be turned on by a software update when Revolv begins supporting related products.

"Between the seven radios, we figure they'll cover 90 percent of the market," said Soucie, adding that the hub unofficially supports devices like Nest.

There's no doubt that awareness is growing. Retailers like Staples and Lowes are jumping in themselves and offering their own app-controlled, home-automation products.

Some custom installers feel threatened. According to research by CEDIA, the association for custom installers, a majority of members surveyed agreed that app-based systems and new competition will impact business, be it positive or negative.

"While enjoying the growth, installation company owners are still cautiously optimistic," Erica Shonkwiler, CEDIA senior director of research, said in a statement,



OPEN SESAME. Smart door locks unlock the front door as the user and approved smartphone user approaches. No more searching for lost house keys! Features like a mobile app and "virtual keys" keep track of who is entering or trying to and software tracks everything. While the locks don't require electricity or Wi-Fi, they do need batteries. Should you lose your phone or the battery dies, these locks defer to a traditional key. Keep in mind, compatibility requires a newer phone with Bluetooth Smart technology inside.

How safe? Whenever a smartphone "talks" to one of these smart locks, conversations are wrapped in the same high-security blanket that banks use when you're accessing your account online. That means powerful 128- and 256-bit encryption, which makes it a pain for strangers to hack. The various locks may differ on their use of security, but they offer details on their sites.

But still hackable? Yes, for those willing to invest the time and effort. Security experts say that such efforts are probably considered a waste of time for most hackers.

R Revolv's hub controls most app-ready home-automation gadgets with a single app. Available: Now. +revolv.com

C Palm-sized CubeSensors cubes tell you how healthy your house is by answering questions like, is it too warm? Is the air stale? What are you breathing? Shake the cube to find out if anything is wrong and get the details on your smartphone. Availability: Spring 2014. +cubesensors.com

I Instead of crazy, confusing knobs and nozzles, Denver's Iro by Rachio hides the sprinkler controller's brains inside a simple case and mobile app, making drag-and-drop programming oh so much easier. Iro also takes current weather information, regional terrain and water restrictions into account to help automate watering the yard. Available: Spring 2014. +rach.io

P Peek inside your home while you're away, thanks to Piper's inconspicuous panoramic video camera. If it detects strange noises, movements or unusual temperatures, it sends an alert and, if configured, sounds the siren. Piper can also control Z-Wave products. Available: April 2014. +getpiper.com

Goji Smart Lock
Neat feature: A built-in camera shows you who is at the door.
Compatibility: iPhone, Android
Available: March 2014 / Price for one: \$278 / +gojiaaccess.com

August Smart Lock
Neat feature: Designed by Yves Béhar, of Jawbone and Source SodaStream fame, August sets very specific limits on guests' virtual keys. A feature dubbed "EverLock" automatically locks the door after you shut it.
Compatibility: iPhone, Android (BlackBerry and Windows Phone 8 planned)
Available: Spring 2014 / Price for one: \$199 / +august.com

Kwikset Kevo
Neat feature: Dubbed "intelligent positioning," Kevo knows when the authorized user is inside or outside before granting access to visitors. Backed by lock company Kwikset, Kevo is formerly UniKey.
Downside: Limited "eKeys" are available for \$1.99 to share with friends.
Compatibility: iPhone
Available: Now, at Amazon, Home Depot / Price for one: \$219 / +kwikset.com/kevo

Lockitron
Neat feature: Smartphone friendly, but also works via text messages for older phones. Appeals to renters since it fits over existing deadbolts.
Compatibility: iPhone, Android
Available: Delayed yet again, as of January 2014 / Price for one: \$179 / +lockitron.com





G In the world of app-controlled light bulbs, **Goldée** offers the modern-day light switch. It'll control all those smart bulbs—from Hue, Lix and iLum—by brightening up a room in the morning to adjusting the mood for date night. When not at home, security mode kicks in and pretends you're still there. Availability: Summer 2014. +getgoldee.com



C While a smart slow cooker seems nonsensical today, the **Belkin Crock-Pot by WeMo** version for Jarden adds the utility of adjusting temperatures, extending cook times and getting reminders on your smartphone. In the future, you could conceivably set it to turn on an hour after the smart coffee pot is empty and the smart door lock has locked everyone out. Availability: Spring 2014. +Belkin.com/wemo

SIMPLY SMART.

"...Company owners expect these trends will increase consumer awareness of the industry, but many are still unsure which trends will have a net positive impact on their company."

Residential Systems, founded in 1985, felt the pain of the recent housing slowdown. It embraced the future and welcomed iPads and new technology, though it still offers traditional home-automation systems like Control4 and Savant Systems.

"Automation still requires programming. People still need help setting it up" Leo says. "Once you have that automation and integration, it's very powerful. Just set it and forget. Comfort is very important to clients."

The company has evolved by emphasizing service and becoming a "trusted advisor to customers," he said. Residential Systems will help clients who want to smarten up the whole house or just a room. And sometimes, Leo will even advise against the latest technology. One client, for example, wanted a Nest thermostat in his second home in the mountains. Leo said that didn't make sense.

"The whole point of Nest is that it learns how you live with it. But you can't do that if it's a second home," he said.

He advised a different system that could still be controlled remotely so the clients could turn on the heat in their mountain house before they left their main residence in Texas.

"Don't get wowed with technology for the sake of technology," he said. "Do automation that makes sense for your house."



K Consider **Keecker** the robotic creature to be a Smart Home's resident entertainer. It comes when beckoned and will project video (to play video games, watch a movie, surf the web) on any blank wall and offers 360-degree sound. Availability: Winter 2014. +keecker.com



BLUETOOTH. Long a staple of mobile phones, Bluetooth enabled wireless headsets and car speakers to link with mobile phones for hands-free conversations. The personal network, however, only works if devices are physically nearby—within 30 feet, in theory. The problem was Bluetooth's need for power. It didn't require as much as Wi-Fi, but Bluetooth use still drained batteries.

The latest version (now at 4.1) uses less energy. Officially, it's called Bluetooth Smart because its low-energy feature has smartened up a

plethora of dumb devices, from forks (to keep track of what you're eating) to basketball shoes (to track how high you jump). The tiny chip now requires a finer battery - and many smart-device makers claim batteries now last a year or so.

Expect to see more Bluetooth Smart devices launch as the transfer of information wirelessly is what makes devices smarter.

COFFEE TALK. Joke if you must, but today, you can now control the coffee pot with an iPhone. But, seriously, have you seen Scanomat's TopBrewer? This svelte faucet with under-cabinet machinery makes a barista-worthy cup of espresso, cappuccino, macchiato or cold chocolate milk. It grinds beans, froths milk and mixes the ingredients with the touch of a smartphone button. Plus, it cleans itself up after every serving. The luxurious device, with its \$10,000 price tag, is perfect for home or office. See it on display only at Kitchen Distributors and dispense with the K-Cups.

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Photo by Andrew Pogue

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Workshop8 created a “building within a building” when it added 28 new units to the South Lowell apartments, owned by the Denver Housing Authority. A new four-story building rose from the courtyard, while 68 existing units were remodeled. The result has serious curb appeal. Some proof: during construction, a random passerby asked for the leasing office and said she wanted to move in, remembers architect Joseph Vigil. She had no clue the site was affordable housing and had income restrictions; she just liked it.

Image: Daniel O'Connor

ROOM FOR ALL

A modern city is one that ebbs and flows but doesn't leave anyone in its wake. Whether your income is seven figures or no figures, you should be able to find a good neighborhood within your budget. But when costs surge, that can be a pipe dream. So we looked at affordable housing developments around Denver that balance the scales.

THE FINDINGS: INNOVATIVE DESIGN COMES IN ALL PRICE RANGES.

WORDS: Kevin Janowiak • IMAGES: Daniel O'Connor & Ron Pollard

THE HOUSING MARKET can feel like gambling. Buy a home and pray its value goes up. Or rent and hope you're not throwing money away. But housing costs are not some uncontrollable force of nature, like clouds spilling over the Rockies. We are behind the controls. Sometimes the machine can overheat—prices go up and people are squeezed out. That's when urban planners, policy makers and architects look under the hood and get to work.

Lack of affordable housing has been a problem since the dawn of cities, but the modern approach differs drastically from the old. The mid-century model was to house the maximum number of low-income families for the cheapest cost. That led to blighted silos of concentrated poverty—think of notorious “projects” like Chicago's Cabrini-Green or Jordan Downs in Los Angeles. But those properties (and the theories behind them) met the wrecking ball.

Mixed-income is now the ultimate goal. Stir together people of all socioeconomic and racial backgrounds under one roof and you eliminate stigmas and jump-start economic mobility. At least that's the hope. So, where does architecture fit into this recipe?

“Good design should be affordable to everyone,” answers Joseph Vigil IV, AIA architect and founding partner of WORKSHOP8 in Boulder.

Affordable housing isn't destined to be no-frills and low quality. It's about stretching your dollars for sustainable design and fostering a sense of community. Where you live bleeds into all aspects of happiness: education, jobs and health. So, by carefully crafting homes, architects can create possibilities for



Images this page: Daniel O'Connor

those struggling to move up. An attractive garden can get seniors off their couches and boost their health. Inviting common spaces can re-energize a neighborhood. There is a lot more to the job than providing shelter and a place to store stuff. Design elements in affordable housing can change lives.

These downstream effects weigh heavily for local architects like Yong Cho, principal at Studio Completiva. "Some buildings just look pretty, and some buildings just take up space," Cho says. "But affordable housing is a true workhorse. Modernism is really about integrating good design into everyday life."

"Affordable" is an ambiguous term, but there are some solid numbers from which to build. The government defines affordable housing as costing no more than 30 percent of a household's

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monthly income. But if you are unemployed, the math is impossible: 30 percent of zero is still zero. That's where public housing steps in, via government subsidies to cover those who earn very little, especially the elderly and disabled. In Denver, the average annual income for a family in public housing is around \$11,000, according to the Denver Housing Authority. So, most market-rate apartments are out-of-reach. But having a full-time job is no guarantee that you can have your choice of ZIP codes either. Working professionals like teachers and firefighters can quickly get priced out of desirable neighborhoods like LoDo.

"Affordable housing is one tool that breaks that system and creates greater diversity," Cho explains. But you can't just use a blunt instrument and force cheaper rents. A complicated web of funding and regulations are in place to nudge the market where it might not choose to go on its own—to cater to the bottom tax brackets.

HIDDEN IN PLAIN SIGHT

You might expect that affordable housing would get pushed to hidden pockets of the city, far from business elites or wandering tourists. But local



Images this page: Daniel O'Connor



Joseph Vigil (left) and Jv DeSousa (right) of WORKSHOP8 say it's their job to allay fears about affordable housing by creating buildings that are durable and dynamic like South Lowell. Forward-thinking builders and developers are crucial components too. Vigil sums it up: "The sign of a good affordable housing developer, is someone who strives to create a quality structure, cares about sustainability, and creates a meaningful place that people care about."



"What drives me is to provide a quality living space to somebody who didn't think they could afford it," says Joseph Vigil.



Image: Ron Pollard

Studio Completiva says most senior housing tries to minimize the distance between rooms and elevators. But with Creekside West in Lakewood, they aimed to get residents walking as much as possible, down to the community room and outside into the garden. The idea: Small daily routines can have a big impact on physical fitness, a key indicator to maintaining senior independence as long as possible.

developers are finding incentives to build affordable housing even within pricey and high-profile districts of Denver.

Let's say you want to build a new high-rise downtown. Denver's zoning laws say any development of 30 units or more must have at least 10 percent set aside for affordable housing. That can be tough when the cost of land is high. But there is an Option B—which is paying a fee.

"It gets controversial," says Drew Dutcher, a senior associate at Studio Completiva. "Most of the time when you develop downtown, you pay the fee. And you also see a lot of units that are exactly 29 units."

But you don't have to game the system to get shovels in the ground. Developers got creative to build Monarch Mills in 2005, with 56 affordable lofts on the same block as the Museum of Contemporary

Art Denver. Affordable housing requirements for future developments in the Central Platte Valley were pooled together into one site, freeing up other projects to go for top-dollar rents. A five-minute walk away, cranes jut out from the land surrounding Union Station—a sign of the billion-dollar investments pouring into the neighborhood. It's not an ideal place for a starter home. But to level the playing field, developers teamed up with the city to build a four-story affordable housing complex at 18th and Chestnut Place. It's a project fueled by tax credits that will begin construction this summer.

True, real estate agents trying to sell luxury penthouses are not likely to advertise proximity to affordable housing. "But house it in the right architecture, and nobody knows," Cho says. To him, affordable housing should blend in to the fabric of the community, such that the average

person walking by thinks "this is a beautiful place," not "this must be public housing."

SOUTH LOWELL: FILLING IN THE GAPS

Blending in can be a challenge when you have to squeeze more units into a limited footprint. That's what design firm WORKSHOP8 experienced when it worked on an aging Denver Housing Authority property near the southwestern border of the city. The '70s-era South Lowell complex with leaky pipes was far past its prime, but scraping and starting over was too expensive. The solution was to remodel the existing two-story structure, but add a new four-story building in what used to be the center courtyard.

Vigil had some initial reservations about losing open space, but he says "in the end, it was really the best option for the neighborhood. The new building



Image: Ron Pollard

Seniors gave high marks to the modern style of Creekside West in post-construction surveys done by Studio Completiva. Residents can play pool, stroll through gardens, or chat with neighbors in sunny sitting areas. The goal is to get seniors out of their rooms and into the community.

kind of disappears." The scale of the neighborhood is kept in balance, and residents have a far more attractive environment with dramatically increased energy performance.

"Affordable housing is intimately connected to funding sources," explains Vigil. South Lowell's construction budget was around \$10 million, but cost was a critical factor in every design decision.

So what is lost with penny-pinching? "Affordable housing developers care a great deal about the structure and systems, but interior finishes get cut all the time," answers jv DeSousa, also a founding partner at WORKSHOP8.

A quality countertop often gets downgraded to plastic laminate. Light fixtures can get swapped out at the last minute, and landscaping can be stripped.

But despite the tight budgets, DeSousa and Vigil both find affordable housing work to be fulfilling. DeSousa once designed casinos, but the excitement and glitz soon faded. Projects like South Lowell are "very real and sustain my soul," he says. Vigil first worked on affordable housing in Boulder 15 years ago. "To be able to hear excitement about owning property was really inspiring," he reminisces. "It's fueled me ever since." Plus, Vigil's father grew up near Lincoln Park and benefited

from housing programs, so working with Denver Housing Authority is a nod to his family history. WORKSHOP8 is rooted in affordable housing as well. The studio's first project was a winning entry for a design competition in El Paso. They emailed in their proposal for a senior facility just minutes before the midnight deadline in 2010. Since then, Vigil and DeSousa have seen great progress in affordable housing design but think there is still plenty of room for improvement.

"Like an aircraft carrier, it doesn't turn on a dime," says DeSousa. "It takes a long time to change people's perceptions and the way the government approaches things."

**CREEKSIDE WEST:
STYLE NEVER RETIRES**

Speaking of perceptions, what comes to mind when you think of senior housing? Columns and a dowdy interior that looks like a well-worn hotel? Cho and Studio Completiva decided to test whether seniors would want modern style at Creekside West in Lakewood, with more than 100 apartments for low-to moderate-income seniors.

The answer was a resounding yes. "That project broke the barrier for affordable senior housing," Cho says. "There is more design bandwidth and innovation now." Creekside West sits on one of the highest points in Lakewood, which shows off its striking exterior to the neighborhood.

But Studio Completiva had more ambitious plans than a good-looking building. The bones of Creekside West were engineered to encourage healthy living. The structure was stretched out to lengthen the corridors. The idea: even short walks down the hall or to the community room can add up to real exercise over time. And the aim was to keep seniors walking out the front door and into the community gardens made for strolling. Social interaction and physical activity were built into the blueprints.

Such thoughtful design is a giant leap from the monolithic housing projects of the '60s that isolated residents behind walls. And with careful massing, you can organically integrate affordable housing into the community, and avoid the "insta-development" feel that Cho says is like "adding hot water and getting 200 units." "Initially the way we approach affordable housing is not to think of it as affordable housing at all,"



"Some buildings just look pretty, and some buildings just take up space," Cho says. "But affordable housing is a true workhorse. Modernism is really about integrating good design into everyday life."



Affordable housing doesn't have to be generic, says Yong Cho, principal at Studio Completiva. He cites the Block 3 development with the Denver Housing Authority as a good example of his firm's "parallel development" philosophy, which shoots for a rich organic feel rather than "insta-development" repetition. Ninety-two affordable rentals blend in with 37 market-rate townhome units. "Modern architecture always has had a social agenda," says Cho. "It's always innovating with lofty goals."

Images this page: Ron Pollard



On the site of a former flour mill, Mariposa offers postcard-like views of downtown and a prime location next to the Museum of Contemporary Art Denver. But more than 80 percent of its lofts are reserved for affordable housing. Studio Completiva calls it "maverick design" that complements its high-end neighbors.

Images this page: Ron Pollard

Cho elaborates. "It's a project. You approach it with hard work to get the best you can out of that program, that budget and that specific site."

Of course, the architect's wish list often shoots past a realistic budget for subsidized housing. But Cho says that makes his firm work that much harder. "You are forced to innovate and maximize value," he says. "The affordable housing world in many ways has been more innovative than market-rate developments."

MARIPOSA: A NEIGHBORHOOD SPROUTS WINGS

Innovations only pay off if residents find them useful. That's why the Denver Housing Authority did extensive surveys before investing millions into the Mariposa District, a multi-phased, 800-unit development near the 10th and Osage light rail stop. The transformation from deteriorated public housing to sparkling

mixed-income community is well underway and slated for completion in 2018.

"There is a sense of being fully alive and nourished in spirit," says Denver Housing Authority project manager Kimball Crangle, of the completed buildings so far. Residents wanted art, music and food infused into everyday life. So, the Denver Housing Authority teamed up with local organizations to add amenities like a cooking school and a youth music studio.

Sustainability was a driver from the start, from simple solutions like recycling chutes on each floor to a pilot system for reusing water from sinks, showers and tubs. The impressive list of environmental features includes LEED certification, geothermal heating and photovoltaic cells.

But it ultimately comes down to making residents happy. Katrina Aguerra has lived in the neighborhood for almost a

decade and can't wait to move into a new Mariposa unit this year. An extra bathroom and laundry room are big perks, she says, but she especially values what's outside her front door. "Our neighborhood is turning into a neighborhood that people want to live in," explains the mother of three. "I'm excited that my kids will live in a place where they want to go outside, and it's safe for them to do so."

Getting residents outside was a major goal of Mariposa partners like the Colorado Health Foundation, who invested in a bike co-op center, community garden and greenhouse for the site. But even in a blizzard, residents can stay active indoors with "healthy stairs." The concept is simple but ingenious: if you have a dark, dank stairwell, taking the elevator is a given. But spend a bit more to make the staircase attractive with natural light, and burning calories is more fun.



Images this page: Daniel O'Connor



The Denver Housing Authority originally focused on the needs of World War II defense workers. But now they serve a wide swath of the metro with mixed-income developments like Mariposa Phase II (above) by OZ Architecture and Phase III (below) by Shears Adkins Rockmore. "People are excited to be a part of Mariposa," says DHA senior developer Kimball Crangle. "So far, the results have been amazing." Funding partners enabled the DHA to add extra amenities like a greenhouse.

Such design features can seem like tiny improvements, but keep in mind that the Denver Housing Authority covers more than 26,000 individuals (enough to fill up both the Pepsi Center and Red Rocks). So, synergies between affordable housing and public health can ripple out quickly.

DOWN THE ROAD

Integrated design features like "healthy stairs" are a whole different kind of engineering—more sociology than a hard science with guaranteed results. So, developers and architects caution that affordable housing is a learning process with bumps along the way.

"It's a long-term experiment," says DeSousa. "We will know in a couple of decades whether

we were successful." Plus, the public has lingering negative perceptions of affordable housing, according to Vigil. He recalls a public meeting where a woman was in tears and fearful that her property value would plummet, even though she lived in a modest trailer.

Vigil praises the Denver Housing Authority for its farsighted strategy but worries about independent, dilapidated rental properties that fly under the radar. "That is where the real travesty is," he says. Even in Boulder, Vigil says he has seen people living on dirt floors within the last decade.

In the end, it's impossible to help everyone in need. And mixed-income could lead to mixed results. But there's good news: If

affordable housing requires trial-and-error, Denver is well suited to be a leading laboratory.

"The potential for Denver is great," predicts Cho. "The city is growing but still has many infill spaces. We have the space to really create communities." Affordable housing has to be the core of a sustainable city, he says.

Like any complex issue, affordable housing requires more than a top-down solution. Architects can pour their hearts into durable and engaging designs. Politicians can chip away at misconceptions. But we decide if the city buzzes with diverse energy or sub-divides by salary level. Residents ultimately hold the keys to Denver's urban fabric.



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Welcome to GE's new fashion-forward finish: Slate. A color that's just as stylish and sophisticated as stainless steel but with a strong, earthy feel. GE's Slate appliances are designed to blend with stainless steel, black or white appliances, or make a statement all by themselves.

On display at our two Colorado showrooms, and available at equally stunning discount prices.



INGREDIENTS

WORDS: HEATHER SHONING

A PALETTE FOR YOUR PALATE. This is our tasty new section where we will be serving up an eclectic mix of new and interesting products, people and places all related to food and eating. **Dig in!**

TIPS ON HOW TO MAKE YOUR NEXT MEAL MORE FLOWERFUL

FLOWERED FARE

"FLOWERS HELP YOU EAT PRETTY," says Miche Bacher, herbalist, chef and author of *Cooking with Flowers*. These pretty posies pack a punch adding Vitamin C and antioxidants to your recipes. And many add vitamins A and E, too.

But how do you know what flowers to use and what they will taste like? "Eat it raw to begin with," Bacher says. Another easy way to frolic with the flowers is to spin them in sugar, creating beautifully colored sweets or marinate them in vinegar for tasty salad dressings.

"Growing your own edible flowers is easy," Bucher says. "Why not grow something you can eat in your windowsill?" Otherwise, opt for local farmers' markets or farm stands to get fresh flowers that haven't been doused in chemicals. Several edible flowers grow in Colorado including: hollyhocks, roses (not the cultivated kind you find in flower shops), pansies, monarda, nasturtium and, of course, dandelions. "Nasturtium is a favorite," says Bucher. "You can eat the whole plant—the flower, leaves, seed and body when it's green. It has a very mustardy flavor."

For more information on edible flowers: +marxfoods.com • +ext.colostate.edu

MODEL: MATI C. - WILHELMINA



INGREDIENTS

ALL STEAMED UP



Cook healthier, faster and do more with your oven. The Wolf Convection Steam Oven sautés, boils, simmers, bakes and roasts. Automatic modes and customized manual functions allow you to control the way your food cooks. Using a variety of steam, convection and combination steam and convection cooking options allows precise cooking control. The oven senses the amount, size and shape of the food when the automatic control is selected.

Steam cooking preserves nutrients so you eat healthier and it keeps foods moist—no more dry chicken. Steam cooking allows you to sauté vegetables without oil—you can even "fry" foods without oil. Prepare all in one meals automatically. Steam allows you to get the perfect crust on fresh-baked breads. The oven keeps foods warm and has delayed start function.

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TASTES LIKE...

CALENDULA: Somewhat bitter flavor. Works well in cheese- or egg-based dishes.

ROSE: Tastes like it smells with each variety being different.

DANDELION: Tastes like honey. Dandelion jam is divine.

PANSY: Has a hint of mint taste. Beautiful in lollipops, crepes or an old-school Champagne Jell-o mold.

NASTURTIUM: Spicy, mustardy flavor.

FUN FACT: Farmers often feed Calendula to chickens to make their yolks a beautiful, bright yellow



INGREDIENTS



MONKEY TOWN 4



IMAGE: FAVOREAT

ART CUBED FINE FOOD AND DIGITAL ART COLLIDE IN A GIANT VIDEO CUBE IN A RINO WAREHOUSE

AN AVANT-GARDE VERSION of old-school dinner theater has come to Denver. Imagine yourself submersed in digital art and fine food—that's Monkey Town. Montgomery Knott, digital art curator, teamed up with the MCA, BMOCA, and Ivar Zeile of Denver Digirati, to bring this exciting new art form to Denver for a three-month stint this spring.

Knott developed the concept of pairing fine art with fine dining after moving from Austin to New York City and being disenfranchised by the conservative dining scene he encountered. "I wanted to marry food with visual art," he says. He felt the food would create a captive audience for curated video art that redefines the standard three-to-four minute loop seen in many museums. Other inspiration came from Artist Gordon Matta-Clark, co-founder of Food, a restaurant in SoHo in the early 1970s. The restaurant was staffed by artists

and became a hub for great food and works of art. Knott launched his idea in a rented loft space in New York City with video art he shot himself. From there he continued to grow the experience by curating art and developing the relationship between the art and food. When he decided to expand again and take the show on the road, he choose Denver as the first stop on a three-year tour across the globe.

Zeile became involved when Knott approached him to co-host the event knowing he could be a conduit to local artists, from whom he could curate art for the show. "He's really created a unique viewing experience," Zeile says. "The art envelops the participants."

The video art displays on four huge, 24-foot screens surrounding a square arrangement of tables. Diners can

IMAGE: FAVOREAT

see the art from all angles. "It's like a beautiful, floating cube of light," Knott says.

The program features almost all multi-channel works by 18 artists and filmmakers. There are nightly live performances within the cube. Half of the artists participating in the event are from Colorado. This is the fourth event of this kind—and the first outside of New York. "This is not light fare," Knott says. "These are fine artists." He sees digital art as the next evolution, where the 17th century was defined by plays; the 18th century by essays; the 19th century by novels; the 20th century by film; and now the 21st century is defined by experiential art including the food, a new type of cinema and audio.

After falling for City O' City and The Populist's food, Knott knew he wanted to partner with them to create the menus for the shows. He teamed up with Jonathan Power from The Populist and Daniel Landes from City O' City for vegetarian options. Tuesday shows feature a 3-course menu and Wednesday through Sunday shows offer 5-course meals. Menus include slow cooked egg with cauliflower and olive; chicken with mole and corn and more. The vegetarian option is jackfruit with mole and corn. Menus are subject to change based on available fresh ingredients. The meals include wine pairings.

Noble Swine Supper Club, a collective of local cooks, producers, growers, purveyors and artists who organize impromptu dinners in various locations around the city, is executing the dinners. "The food is well-presented," Knott says. "It has great flavors without crazy pretense." He hopes to continue the trend and take Monkey Town into other venues around the U.S, showcasing more local talent in both the food and art arenas.

THE DETAILS

Tickets: Tuesdays, \$50. Wednesday-Saturday, \$80. Prices include food, drinks, tax and gratuities.

Purchase tickets at brownpapertickets.com. The show runs February 27-June 1 with two seatings each night at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

INGREDIENTS

COOKING LIGHT

Sustainably harvested from the deep jungles of Vietnam comes this healthy, nutritious coconut oil. Skinny Coconut Oil is the only medicinal-grade coconut oil on the market. It's 100 percent pure, all-natural and pesticide free with an incredibly smooth texture and light fragrance. Skinny Coconut Oil uses a patented process to ensure vitamins and minerals stay nearly untouched while keeping the oil uncooked rendering it totally raw. It is—as nature intended—the purest and most beneficial coconut oil on the market.



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SO CHEESY

For your next wine and cheese party, use these fun stamped forks to mark your tasting flight. The contemporary set is great for entertaining and complements any party accoutrements. The stainless steel fork set, made exclusively for Sur La Table, includes Bleu, Brie, Cheddar, Chevre, Gouda and Gruyère. Pair with your favorite cheeseboard, wine, good friends and voilà you have an instant party!

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INGREDIENTS

SOW GOOD

THE URBAN FARM COMPANY MAKES HAVING YOUR OWN ORGANIC VEGETABLE GARDEN SO EASY (THEY INSTALL IT AND EDUCATE YOU) THAT YOU REALLY HAVE NO EXCUSE NOT TO DIG IN.

LIKE MANY COLORADOANS, Bryant Mason has some pretty high-minded ideas about the American food system and its social and environmental consequences, including the high cost of healthcare and carbon emissions. He's also concerned with what he puts in his body from a practical standpoint. As a triathlete, he understands how food intake is critical to his performance.

Mason also has a long-standing relationship with the earth in that he's an avid gardener and enjoys getting his hands dirty. When his desire to garden and to teach people about gardening and his values regarding the industrial food system collided, an idea sprouted. What if Mason could make a career out of teaching people to garden—to grow healthy, organic food for themselves?

"When people get their hands in the soil and experience the health benefits, they think differently about where food comes from," Mason says. In fact, some studies have shown that bacteria found in dirt causes the brain to create serotonin, which acts as an antidepressant. So, gardening can make you happy. And healthy. And create less stress on the environment. Trifecta. And with this in mind, The Urban Farm Company of Colorado took root.



BRYANT MASON

THE CONCEPT

Mason understood that while many people long to have a garden, they lack the know-how to make it happen—and happen successfully. "Gardening is a simple concept," Mason says. "But for many reasons people can have small failures that are discouraging." He cites bad soil as the number one reason for failure. However, novice gardeners can also experience other problems such as planting at the wrong time, no irrigation or making the wrong crop choices.

The Urban Farm Company can solve these problems by building your garden and coaching you through the season. Mason and his team will come out with a solar finder to locate the prime spot for your garden. They build a raised bed and fill it with premium, organic soil. Next, they create a square-foot grid and plant your first crop. Add-on services include installing drip irrigation, adding a cold frame to extend your growing season, building a bench to make your gardening easier and much more.



INGREDIENTS

USA YUM

The Taste of America by Colman Andrews
Phaidon Press



Award-winning restaurant reviewer and food writer, Colman Andrews, takes us deep into the heart of American food—a cuisine formerly not well defined. Andrews covers 250 foods manufactured and sold in the U.S., most of which have distinct regional characteristics.

Vivid descriptions will have your mouth watering for cultural favorites such as Hunn's Hot Bread, Butter Pickle Chips, Anson Mill Grits, Blue Point Oysters, Maytag Blue Cheese and more. A single illustration of each product accompanies the 300-word depictions of the products including the history and production methods along with the explicit descriptions of taste and aroma.

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GO HERBAL

You can enjoy fresh, organic herbs for cooking delicious meals all year long. Plant your favorites in this white melamine herb pot by Royal VKB, and give it a home near a kitchen window. It comes with scissors in an integrated pocket for handy snipping any time. If you don't want to grow the herbs yourself, use the pot to keep your store-bought, fresh herbs organized and watered. The crisp, modern design looks great in any kitchen.

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Your garden is in place, planted and irrigated. Now what? The second part of the Urban Farm Company's service is emailing you weekly with tips and reminders based on exactly when your garden was planted. It's like your own personal gardening concierge service.

THE GOODS

The Urban Farm Company offers more than 40 types of vegetables you can choose from for your garden. You can opt to choose each one yourself or give Mason a theme for the garden so he might choose just the right plants. You may want a garden for making salads for dinners, or maybe you're a fan of salsa or Italian food. Mason will design your garden around your culinary needs. He highly recommends the tomatoes, and he offers more exotic crops such as sorrel, horseradish and rutabaga.

Most of the plants are started from high-quality seeds, but some come from organic, hearty transplants such as the tomatoes, eggplant and peppers. Cold season crops can be planted as early as February and with a cold frame, harvest can often continue into December. Some vegetables such as kale, spinach and chard will overwinter and sprout again on their own accord in the spring.



When you're ready to grow your own food, make your own personal dent in the industrial food system's hold on us and to get outside and get dirty, The Urban Farm Company will guide you through the process and save you from the small failures that could derail your flowering passion for gardening. And if you think you don't have the space for a garden, Mason has a solution: vegetables look awesome in landscaping.

+ urbanfarmcolorado.com

INGREDIENTS

MAKE IT! →

ONE SMOOTH(IE) APP

GREEN SMOOTHIES APP BY ASCENSION KITCHEN

NEVER miss your daily dose of fruits and veggies with this handy app featuring 30 smoothie recipes. The key to great smoothies at home is the perfect blend of ingredients, and these recipes are spot on. It's the small details such as one teaspoon of cashew butter that can make all the difference in the taste and nutrients. Recipes are categorized by healing effects such as anti-inflammatory, cleanse, digestion, energy and more.

The app is perfect to have on your iPhone for a handy list while you're at the grocery store. Just



ONE SMOOTH(IE) APP

choose the smoothie you want to make, click the "Add to shopping list" button and it automatically shows the ingredients needed by smoothie recipe or a total list of all ingredients. You'll find tips and tricks for making great smoothies as well as the nutritional "superpowers" of the individual ingredients in each recipe. And if the delicious recipes and beautifully designed and easy-to-use interface aren't enough, the gorgeous smoothie photos will get your taste buds humming.

Available on iTunes for iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch.

SPRING CLEANSE

Ascension Kitchen's Green Magnetic Smoothie

- 1 small cucumber
- ½ cup fresh mint
- ½ cup fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice
- 2 teaspoons honey
- 1 cup fresh squeezed apple juice
- 3 ice cubes

Blend everything on high for 30 seconds.
Serves one.

INGREDIENTS

SEEING DOUBLE



Viking recently released its new Professional French-Door Double Oven. It offers the same superior power and performance as other Viking Professional ovens. The French door design offers the flexibility to open with just one hand and the companion door opens

simultaneously. Viking added the Gourmet-Glo™ Glass Enclosed Infrared Broiler, which is easy to clean and provides maximum broiling performance.

Viking's patented Vari-Speed Dual Flow™ Convection System has the largest convection fan in the industry. It works bi-directionally for maximum airflow and excellent cooking results. When the oven is on, the knobs glow with the signature Viking blue.

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DESIGNER POT I'D LIKE SOME 152C TEA IN MY 186C POT

Turn teatime up a notch on the color wheel with the Pantone Universe teapot. The bone china pot holds 29 ounces and packs a punch of color for any stylish home or designer office. It makes a great gift for any tea or style lover. The pot is available in PMS 7461 (blue) and PMS 186 (red). Mugs, sugar bowl and milk jug are available in additional PMS colors.

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INGREDIENTS



MODERN RECLAIMED

STUDIO COMO USES RECLAIMED WOOD TO PUT THE MOUNTAIN INTO MODERN FOR ONE-OF-A-KIND KITCHEN CABINETS

A RUSTIC BARN-WOOD WALL at Studio Como gets so much attention from clients that it sparked an idea for a new cabinetry look. Owner, Brad Fentress saw an opportunity to offer the high-end Poliform European cabinets with a mountain modern feel.

Part owner of Spydor, a door manufacturing company near Telluride, Fentress challenged employees there to craft a wood veneer door with the precision of the Poliform doors, while maintaining the rustic aesthetic of the reclaimed wood. And they did. "These doors are much more tactile than the Poliform wood collections," says Matt Smith, kitchen and closet designer at Studio Como. "When you put your hands on the fronts, you can feel the knots and pockmarks and weathering." The look is a perfect marriage of high fashion, contemporary cabinetry and tactile, rough-hewn doors.

While the program is still in its infancy, Smith expects it to be successful because of the flexibility it offers clients to create a truly custom look, while maintaining a sleek design. It appeals to those who love the European look, but long for a hint of Colorado style. While the reclaimed fronts look expensive, they are actually a mid-priced option within the collection. Customization includes nearly any wood the client wants with the exception of those that cannot be sustainably harvested or any endangered species. "We're open to lots of different surfaces," Smith says. "The whole point of this program is to offer our clients choices and customization."

+studiocomo.com



CHEF IN A BOX

TOO rushed to plan and cook healthy meals at home? Join the club. The Blue Apron club, that is. Get all the ingredients—perfectly portioned for your family—for three meals delivered weekly right to your door. Blue Apron's meal ingredients arrive in a refrigerated box and will stay fresh for several hours until you can get home and transfer it to the refrigerator.

Most meals have about 500–700 calories per serving and take 35 minutes or less to whip up. The ingredients are fresh from artisanal purveyors with an emphasis on sustainable practices. They include specialty ingredients you might not be able to find at the grocery store. Each recipe comes with a beautiful, easy-to-follow recipe card with a large photo of the finished meal. The recipes are also available on the website with step-by-step instructions and a photo to accompany each step. The delicious recipes include beef ramen noodle soup, eggplant lasagna, caramelized fennel and zucchini tart and paella, just to name a few. Be sure to check out the Blue Apron blog for cooking tips, themed meal planning, recipes and more.

Blue Apron makes meal recommendations each week based on your dietary preferences. All the meal plans have no commitment, and you can skip weeks when you'll be away. There is no minimum subscription, so feel free to give it a try. Blue Apron is a great gift for the person who has everything—get them a one-, two- or four-week subscription.

+blueapron.com



INGREDIENTS



A BOTTLE FULL

This ingenious, all-in-one—the size of a wine bottle—holds nine different cooking tools. The base is a 1.25-cup measuring cup, and stacked on top of it are six modular components including a citrus juicer, a spice grater, a hard-boiled egg masher, a cheese grater, a jar-cap opener made out of elastic resin and an egg yolk separator. The top of the bottle serves as a funnel and includes a pouring spout. Save space without sacrificing the basic kitchen tools.

+momastore.org

POLLOCK CENTER STAGE

Worn boots, paint cans and a basting syringe humanize the artistic process in a thoughtful examination of 20th century radicalism at the Denver Art Museum and Clyfford Still Museum.

WORDS: Bill Nelson

What is it about artist Jackson Pollock, the mythological slinger of paint, that continues to fascinate so many decades after his gestural madness first shook up the art world? One thought may arise from the profound spontaneity of his approach, circa 1943 to 1952, give or take, when he abandoned traditional art-making practices in favor of tapping into the subconscious and spilling his guts onto a grounded canvas.



Convergence, the celebrated drip painting completed in 1952, spans more than 100 square feet of allocated wall space.

It's hard not to love that about Pollock: his bravado, for sure, as well as the all-American audacity of knocking out masterpieces, in part, with turkey basters and ordinary household paints. In the company of other monumental artists—as he is in Denver's latest must-see: Modern Masters: 20th Century Icons from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery—"Action Jackson" takes center stage.

"It's funny, Picasso's no slouch," wryly observes Stefania Van Dyke, master teacher for textile art and special projects at the Denver Art Museum, but she concedes that Pollock tends to monopolize the discourse whenever he's exhibited. "I think part of it is just how radical he was at the time and how hard it still is for some people to grasp the revolutionary greatness of his work."



There's plenty of Pollock to grasp in the Modern Masters exhibition, especially given the enormous scale of his presence. "Convergence," the celebrated drip painting completed in 1952, spans more than 100 square feet of allocated wall space. A popular challenge for first-time viewers is to find a single matchstick entombed somewhere in the dizzying arena of color, texture, shape and line. Docents will be standing by with smelling salts.

In a nearby vitrine, you can soak up Pollock process all the more, paying homage to a collection of implements and paint cans the artist himself employed. Some of the

Modern Masters:
20th Century Icons
from the Albright-
Knox Art Gallery
"Action Jackson"
takes center stage.

“The reason we wanted to have moments with items other than artwork is to enhance appreciation for the human side of all this endeavor,” says Van Dyke.

remnant dribble in the display matches paint used in “Convergence”, tantalizingly connecting artifact to art. In another vitrine, you could behold Pollock’s paint-splattered boots and imagine their feral dance around the studio if it weren’t for the initially surprising fact that they’re not his. They belonged to Pollock’s wife and artist Lee Krasner, whose collage “Milkweed” (1955) also hangs in the show.

“The reason we wanted to have moments with items other than artwork is to enhance appreciation for the human side of all this endeavor,” says Van Dyke. “You can look at paintings on the wall and form opinions about them, but seeing the tools that were used and the boots that were worn, you begin to understand how immersed the artists were in their work. They’re in these paintings.”

Modern Masters, of course, features many 20th century icons, some 70 in all, orbiting the Pollock nucleus—the output of mere mortals like Pablo Picasso, Vincent van Gogh, Georgia O’Keeffe, Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo, Andy Warhol, et al. Not just representative works by these artists, but the quintessential culled from the respected Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York. The ticket also gets you into the Clyfford Still Museum for 1959: The Albright-Knox Art Gallery Exhibition Recreated, which gives visitors a chance to step back in time and contemplate one of Still’s largest exhibitions of his career and the first after he severed connection with the art world in 1951.

*The tandem event runs March 2 through June 8.
See denverartmuseum.org for more information.*

THIS PAGE: Jackson Pollock (American, 1912-1956), Convergence, 1952. Oil on canvas; support: 93-1/2 x 155 in. Collection Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY. Gift of Seymour H. Knox, Jr., 1956. © 2014 The Pollock-Krasner Foundation/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York. Photograph by Tom Loonan.



REV UP YOUR LANDSCAPING WITH SOME PROFESSIONALS' FAVORITES

PLANT LOVE

Don't have a degree in landscape architecture? Don't fret. Four professionals weigh in on their favorite plants—why they love them and tips for how and where to plant them and how to care for them. No more wandering the isles of the local nursery trying to decipher sun, water and space requirements.



RABBITBRUSH

Ransom Beegles • R Landscape Architects
rdesignstudios.com

COMMON NAME: Gray Rabbitbrush
SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*

My favorite plant is Rabbitbrush *Chrysothamnus nauseosus*. It's native to Colorado and has a really beautiful color and texture. It can get fairly large for a shrub, 4-6 feet tall and wide in a "globe form." If it's used in a residential application, it's best used to help blend to an adjacent prairie environment. Because of its size, it is typically used on larger sites. Rabbitbrush thrives in full sun and it's highly adaptable to a range of soils conditions, heat tolerance and requires very little water. It blooms mid-summer through fall. It has a very dramatic yellow flower with silvery-blue foliage; the bloom tends to stay on the plant throughout winter. I also think it has beautiful winter texture as it contrasts the snow. Rabbitbrush is not necessarily considered an ornamental plant, but I think it's a beautiful and truly responsible choice. I have three of these shrubs in my garden in Boulder.



AGAVE

Courtney McRickard • Three Sixty Design • sitedrivendesign.com

PLANT COMMON NAME: Agave / SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Agave bovicornuta*

At first glance, Colorado tends to have very simple, large landscape types: the vastness of the open prairie, aspen groves that create a huge golden expanse and evergreen forests that carpet the mountainside. However, as you take a closer look, there are gems within the landscape that add rich texture and interest. I have always loved the large scale of the western landscape and one of the plants I have always been fascinated with is the agave. Few plants can be organized en masse, on a grid, randomly or as a specimen and provide such interest. The structural qualities, texture and color—ranging from a turquoise to a deep blue—provide a wonderful contrast to most native plants. Since agave are not widely available on a commercial level, we have started sourcing them out of state, but there are a few local nurseries that have a great selection. Just remember: They need to be used in the appropriate location with the right drainage, soil, protection and sun, but they are worth it!

FOUNTAIN GRASS

Jeromy Montano • Designs By Sundown • designsbysundown.com

COMMON NAME: Fountain Grass / SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Pennisetum alopecuroides*

With so many plants to choose from, fountain grass is one of my favorites because it meets several requirements like seasonal variation, color, texture, form, adaptability and toughness. Fountain grass prefers sun or part shade in moist, fertile soil, likes damp conditions and may self-seed in the right environment. There are interesting varieties like Hameln, Moudry, Karley Rose and Little Bunny that are reliable, graceful and versatile in several garden styles. All summer, its flower stems display foxtail plumes, highlighting silver and red that shimmer in the sun, and both foliage and seed heads dry to a pleasant golden tan that makes it interesting during the winter months. Use it to plant en mass, as a border plant or to spill over pool coping stones. Some companion plants include several species of Rudbeckia, Yucca, Sedum, Eupatorium (Joe Pye Weed), Aster and Echinacea.



EASTERN REDBUD

Jon Ouellette • Environmental Landworks • enviromental-landworks.com

COMMON NAME: Eastern Redbud / SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cercis canadensis*

The Eastern Redbud is an ornamental flowering, multi-stem or low-branched tree that can grow to 20-30 feet high and have a spread of 20-30 feet. Beautiful, reddish-purple flower buds are produced along stems in late April through early May followed by heart-shaped leaves. The leaves open in a glossy, warm green and darken as they enlarge. I like to use this plant as a wonderful accent or isolated specimen in the garden. This tree grows well in lightly shaded areas, is suitable for Hardiness Zones 4 and 5, needs a moderate amount of irrigation and can adapt to alkaline and clay soils. Like Magnolia trees, the flower buds are susceptible to late frosts or heavy snow and, in some cases, may not emerge from the tree stems. I have three of these trees in my garden in Boulder. The early flowering buds are a welcome sign spring has arrived.



SHOU SUGI BAN

A Labor of Love: Using an ancient Japanese wood-burning technique, the owners of retail and gallery space Svper Ordinary created functional shelving that is beautifully original

WORDS: Beth R. Mosenthal, Assoc. AIA + LEED AP BD+C

DO YOU OWN A BLOW TORCH? IF YOU ARE A FAN OF ARTISAN-LEVEL DIY PROJECTS AND TIRED OF BEETLE KILL PINE, SHOU SUGI BAN TIMBER MIGHT BE FOR YOU.

In the architecture and design world, building materials come and go with the trends. However, sometimes a unique material comes along and has an unimagined lifespan. A particularly unexpected one: charred wood.

While the idea of burning wood to make it more durable may seem counterintuitive, shou sugi ban demonstrates the opposite. Considered a Japanese art believed to date back to the 1700s, shou sugi ban is a process of charring wood in order to preserve it. The charring protects the timber from the elements (sun, wind, water, decay, fire) and can extend its life. For a simple cedar fence that might last five years without repair, the same wood burned at a controlled temperature might last up to 30 years with minimal care.

A popular building material in Japan and various parts of Europe for centuries, shou sugi ban is

making inroads in America within the last year or so. A versatile wood that can be used indoors or out on almost any surface imaginable, the material was recently introduced to Denver via "Svper Ordinary" in RiNo's open air market, The Source.

Designed by the Denver-based architecture firm Tres Birds, charred, black wood is showcased as a shelving concept artfully composed to display the store's merchandise. The richly textured, charred wood creates a layered topography of undulating surfaces while providing a rich contrast to the adjacent stark white gallery walls and carefully chosen artwork, which rotates.

According to Pedro Barrios, curator of Svper Ordinary, the black and white concepts are a staple in the store's branding, merchandise and upcoming exhibitions. The charred shelving was a successful



Image: Daniel O'Connor

烧杉板 SHOU SUGI BAN



Image: courtesy of Svper Ordinary

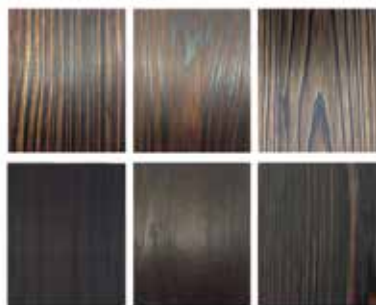


Image: courtesy of Svper Ordinary



Image: Daniel O'Connor

TOP: Barrios (top left) and Cavanagh (top right) of Svper Ordinary spent 2-3 hours a day for almost four consecutive months to create enough material to achieve the stacked, charred shelving concept. The installation, on the other hand, took only 4 days.



The shou-sugi-ban technique can yield a variety of finishes and textures, depending on the duration of burning and the brushing technique used. Samples shown here are from Delta Millworks.

aesthetic and functional design solution that met Svper Ordinary's goals of creating a space that was divided visually, while employing a low-budget material, design and build strategy.

Denver's two newest shou sugi ban experts, Barrios and Bryan Cavanagh of Svper Ordinary, under the direction of Dan Powers from Tres Birds, created what they call the "American version" of this ancient Japanese art. "We used table saws to create stacks

of wood of different widths. We had masks and gloves and used blow torches. How long it takes to burn the wood depends on the thickness—each piece burns within minutes... if not seconds! You have to be careful not to over-burn, otherwise the wood crumbles."

While it's hard to imagine the pristine gallery space covered in black dust and a team of guys with respirators, their hard work paid off. "We get a lot of interest in the shelves from people stopping into



Image: Daniel O'Connor

The stark contrast between the smooth, white gallery walls and dense timber shelves divides the space while reinforcing the store's goal of treating everyday objects as "works of art."

the space," Barrios says. "People that are attentive to detail notice the crackling, organic texture that can't be replicated and are curious how it was created."

So would they recommend DIY fanatics really do this at home?

"As Bryan and I went through the process, it became a labor of love...there is nothing like it in this city and it has become a part of our branding and identity," Barrios says. "It is extremely time and labor intensive. For a residential application, it might be easier to get a similar effect with wood and paint."

This "labor of love" was also a leap of faith. Cavanagh says he "didn't know what the walls or shelving wood look like until we installed them."

Luckily, the collaboration between Tres Birds and Svper

Ordinary has been a huge success. Their dynamic retail & gallery environment experiences consistent foot traffic ranging from art enthusiasts to tourists to the early-morning coffee crowd. "Most art galleries have people visit their space for an opening reception; we have big crowds pretty consistently throughout the week," Barrios says.

Shou sugi ban creates a long-lasting material that denotes texture and richness, as well as a wide range of aesthetics dictated by the degree of burning. It could be the gateway to exploring other ancient means and methods and rethinking commonplace materials.

THE PROCESS

Barrios and Cavanagh dedicated three to four hours each day for four months on location at Tres Birds' Denver studio to saw, burn, wash and eventually install and seal hundreds of pieces of wood to create the shelves.

"The first step was to cut all the wood. It was extremely labor intensive; using reclaimed 2 x 4's and 2 x 12's for the display shelves from Tres Birds' leftover scraps," Barrios says.

"Directly after burning we swept each piece with a wet bristle broom to remove the excess dust," Cavanagh says. "We installed the shelves before sealing the exposed surfaces. While there are many different types of seals depending on the application, we used a special component polycrylic."

FREDRICK HOUSE

CHARLES HAERTLING WAS KNOWN FOR ORGANIC, DYNAMIC DESIGN. HOW HARD COULD IT BE TAKING ONE OF HIS DESIGNS AND HELPING IT TO GROW, TO FULFILL THAT ORGANIC DYNAMISM?

AS IT WOULD TURN OUT, VERY.

HOMEOWNERS LUCA AND MELISSA MARTINI WANTED TO NOT ONLY GROW THEIR HOME BUT ALSO PRESERVE ITS DNA AND RECRUITED FURY DESIGN TO DO SO. WITH TENACITY, HEAD SCRATCHING, AND SOME HIGH SCHOOL TRIGONOMETRY, THEY ARE MANAGING TO EVOLVE AN ENGINEERING MARVEL AND AN ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECE.

WORDS: ROB BOWMAN



Neighbors call the house by different names. The Pyramid House, the Cube House. Architects and historians know it as the Fredrick House. None of the names quite do it justice. Built in 1965, the home was one of many masterpieces by Architect Charles Haertling.

Haertling's reputation is founded in a constant reinvention. He explored styles and influences everywhere. His works dot the Front Range and are particularly numerous in and around Boulder. The most consistent element in his design is an urge to incorporate the outside world and an organic feel. One of his homes is inspired by a clutch of mushrooms popping up out of the earth. The Fredrick House also seems to have just jutted up out of the earth, but with sharp points and sloped walls. It is less organic, than geologic.

Luca and Melissa Martini did not have any intention of moving into a home like this. They were looking for a simple home for starting a family. But there was something intriguing about it. It was the view from the back of the home that cinched the deal.

The Fredrick House also seems to have just jutted up out of the earth, but with sharp points and sloped walls. It is less organic, than geologic.

An enormous lattice work hangs like the ribs of a fallen monster. Any conventional sense of how to erect the walls had to be thrown out.

The house, when it was originally built, was at the end of a cul-de-sac. In 1992, this deliberate isolation was altered by an extension of the street and new homes cropped up around it. "This was the first house built in this area," says Melissa. "I think they picked an absolutely perfect location. On a clear day, you can see all of the way out to DIA."

Many engineers built custom homes in the area during the 1970s. They are marked by an adventurous aesthetic and style and boldness in design. But even among all of those daring works, the Fredrick House stands out.

The Martini family is the fifth family to live in the home. "Each family has done its own alterations to the home to make it their own," Melissa says. Many of these



suggested we build a tower using the original style," he says. "It would function very much like a church tower and be a tall entryway. It would be dramatic and still in character with the roof elements incorporated into the original designs and the adjoining building."

Getting the permit to do the work was difficult. Even describing the house is hard. When the Martinis bought it, the house was listed as an A-frame by the listing agent, who was unsure how to describe it. Casual descriptions are one thing but the plans had an even harder time conveying the structure. "It isn't something one can easily picture in their mind," Chidley explained. Conventional plans are meant for houses with straight walls.

The difficulties demonstrating the concept of the house was nothing compared to figuring out how to build it. "When we did the (first) expansion, a mathematician

Even describing the house is hard. When the Martinis bought it, the house was listed as an A-frame by the listing agent, who was unsure how to describe it.

changes are reflective of the time of their creation—a couch nestled against a fireplace during the 1960s, a sunken floor covered in pillows in the 1970s. In the early 1980s, the entire kitchen was moved to make it a more convenient gathering place and to take advantage of the dramatic views. The Martinis are making changes that reflect their time and needs. And most of those concern space.

As the family grew, they needed to expand their home. When asked if there was ever a temptation to pack up and find a bigger home that would require less convoluted adjustments Luca replied, "Any other home would be boring."

"Even before moving in, we knew we would want to expand eventually. We contacted Charles Haertling's son and asked him what he thought about it," Melissa says. To the Martini family's relief, he said it sounded wonderful, but only if they stuck to the original ideas and vision. They were happy to. An engineer, Luca designed and built one cube addition to the home. But when it came time for the second addition, the couple knew they would need help.

The Martini family would need to call in a very particular kind of architect to help them with their expansion. Chris Chidley of Fury Design was exactly

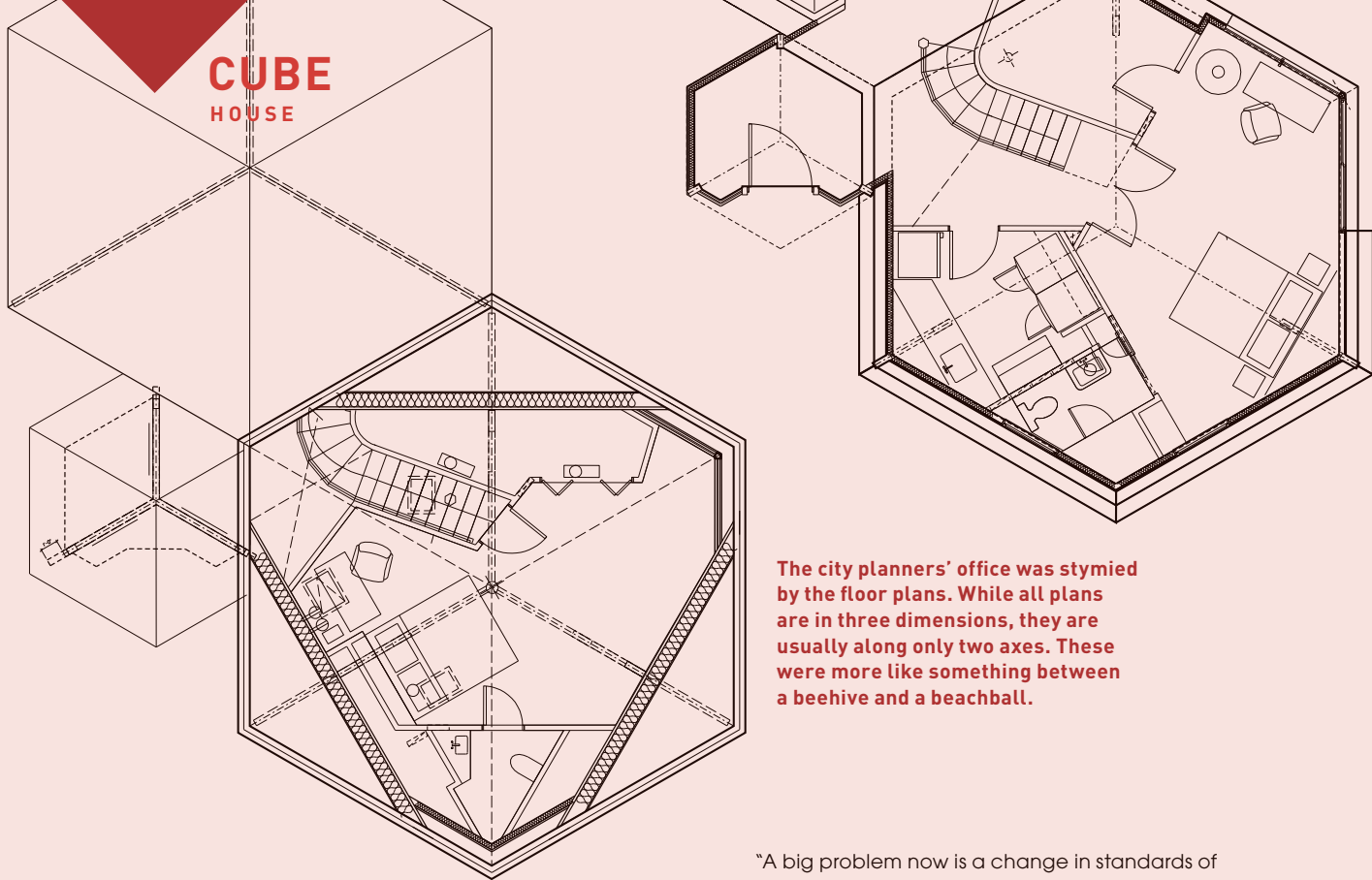


that kind. His eclectic résumé, including work in England at German and Czech architecture firms, gives Chidley an open mind toward a variety of styles.

The biggest departure from the original design is the new entryway. Realizing that a new entry would be necessary, Chidley concluded that building one into the cube would be awkward and inelegant. "I

The difficulties demonstrating the concept of the house were nothing compared to figuring out how to build it.





The city planners' office was stymied by the floor plans. While all plans are in three dimensions, they are usually along only two axes. These were more like something between a beehive and a beachball.

...the materials must be crafted with exact precision in the lengths and the angles at which they are put together. Otherwise it will all collapse.

friend and myself spent a full day scratching our heads trying to figure it out," Luca says. "We began to write fourth dimension equations and other crazy things. Then we said to ourselves that we were going about it wrong. They didn't have these huge computers and such in the 1960s. How did they do it?"

They realized there was a key to the whole thing. Using a constraint from the edge of the roof and then making it correspond to the edge of the hexagon in the base, it suddenly solves very easily with high school level trigonometry. Putting this data into a CAD program allows the architect, designer or contractor to build to any size specification they desired. But the troubles do not end there. In order for those equations to become tangible supports and walls, the materials must be crafted with exact precision in the lengths and the angles at which they are put together. Otherwise it will all collapse.

"A big problem now is a change in standards of craftsmanship," Luca said. This change tends to be manifested in materials and parts being manufactured and then installed. This home demands custom work in ways that are novel and unexpected. There are windows that must be custom built and dropped into the top of the cube from above. The boards originally used to build the exterior walls were tongue and groove in a size no longer in common use. They had to commission a lumberyard to custom cut the huge lengths of cedar. Any mistake made with the boards would have dire consequences. When the exterior walls go up, it is done. There is no drywall to be hung or finishing to be completed. This affords a beautiful simplicity when one sees the finished product but is somewhat baffling when first described.

The reaction around the neighborhood to the Martini's addition has been overwhelmingly positive. The surrounding homes are largely conventional, but the neighbors love living near the unusual Haertling home.

"The biggest complaint I have is that there is no place to hang up my children's artwork," Melissa says. It's true. The unique shape of the home means that in the large spaces there are no walls that line up perpendicular to the floor. They all slope dramatically. The comfort in this is instead of hanging up works of art, they get to live in one.

White Open Spaces

Architects and designers have long revered the color white for its ability to harmonize and balance space. Miele employed this respect for pure lines and transparency when creating its new Brilliant White Plus Series. Understatedly elegant, this new collection of built-in appliances offers discriminating homeowners and design professionals a unique solution to kitchen design. Come experience it for yourself at Kitchens at the Denver.

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Miele
IMMER BESSER

AHHH

THE BATHROOM

CLEAN • RELAX • REJUVINATE

WORDS: JO-ANN MORK



// UNIQUE WOOD DESIGN

The ergonomic shape and natural warmth of a Unique Wood Design tub will add a touch of class to any modern bathroom. Years of yacht and boat carpentry work in harmony with modern tools and technology to create a tub that is ready to set course for relaxation, no sail required. [+uniquewood.eu](#)

We have a confession to make. We spend a lot of time in the bathroom. It's our morning sanctuary and evening retreat, taking care of all of our basic needs and everything in between. A well-designed bathroom can help us get up and go a bit faster or bring calm to the end of our busy day. It's in that spirit that we bring you a few favorite finds that make us sing our heart out, get ready for our close-up and keep our bums warm during...ahem...well, you'll just have to read on to find out.

THE TUB



//SPLINTER WORKS-VESSEL Splinter Works sculpted Vessel was inspired by the supportive shape of a hammock and designed to literally elevate the bathing experience. The carbon fiber body suspends between walls and a foam core center insulates the tub, keeping bath water hot during your luxurious soak. [+splinterworks.co.uk](#)

//GLASS IDROMASSAGGIO-NAKED The Naked Bathtub from Glass Idromassaggio exposes the soft curves of an acrylic tub within a clean rectangular framework. A towel bar or set of shelves can keep your bathtime necessities close at hand, while the top can be outfitted with an optional deck to maximize space when not in use. [+glassidromassaggio.it](#) **//AGAPE OTTOCENTO SMALL BATHTUB** A subtle nod to the classic 19th century claw-foot tub is present in the Agape Ottocento Small Bathtub, with its rolled rim and slender feet. However, the composition is completely 21st century. Made from Cristalplant Biobased material, the mineral, and plant-based compound is lightweight, restorable and 100% recyclable. [+studiocomo.com](#)

THE SHOWER

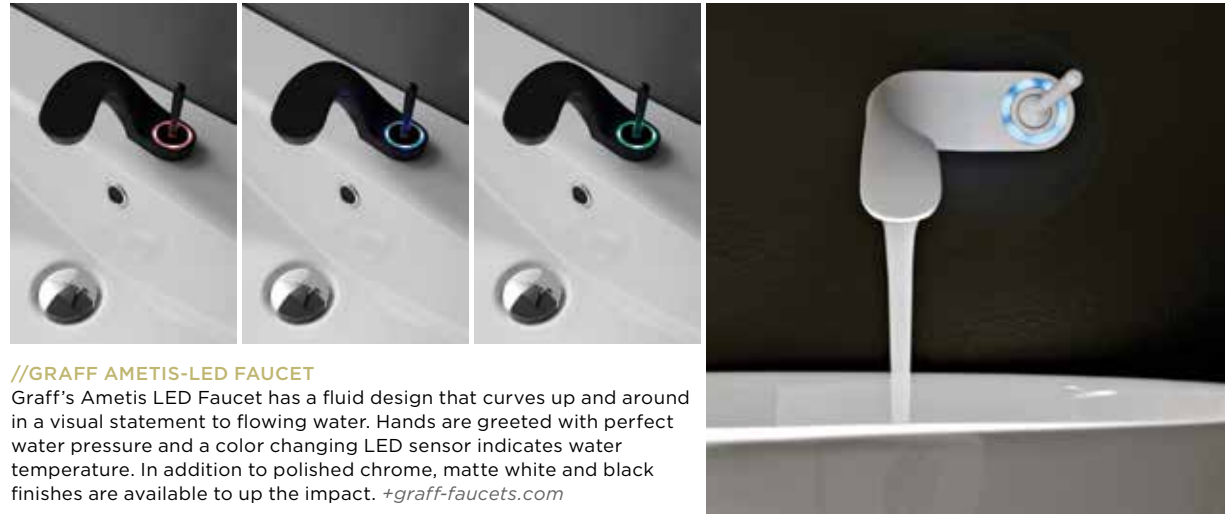


//HANSGROHE RAINDANCE SHOWERHEAD Hansgrohe specializes in performance shower systems that focuses on the sensation of water against your skin. More than a mere way to clean the body, a soft patter of water is delivered from overhead for a calming wake-up, while a hand shower is perched at the ready on the built-in shelf for an invigorating spray. Water saving features are built in, as well as an anti-limescale function for easy cleaning. [+hansgrohe-usa.com](#) **//DORNBRACHT HORIZONTAL SHOWER** Inspired by European resorts, the Dornbracht Horizontal Shower stimulates the neck, shoulders, back, legs and feet with six overhead sprays and three choreographed scenarios to balance, energize or de-stress. Temperature and intensity can be adjusted to individual preferences, transforming the routine of showering into a spa-like ritual. [+dornbracht.com](#) **//KOHLER MOXIE SHOWERHEAD + WIRELESS SPEAKER** Singing in the shower, but a little off key? The Moxie Showerhead + Wireless Speaker by Kohler, delivers a powerful spray of water with a personalized playlist. The magnetic speaker pops into the showerhead and wirelessly connects to a Bluetooth enabled device. Post shower, the speaker can be released to take the performance on the go for up to 7 hours before recharging. [+kohler.com](#)



//SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS-PENGUIN
 Inspired by the profile of a penguin, the aptly named Penguin by Sustainable Solutions will brighten up every handwashing. A polished chrome finish covers solid brass construction, and the single lever design is intuitive for all ages and abilities to use.
 +sustainable-solutions.com

THE SINK



//GRAFF AMETIS-LED FAUCET
 Graff's Ametis LED Faucet has a fluid design that curves up and around in a visual statement to flowing water. Hands are greeted with perfect water pressure and a color changing LED sensor indicates water temperature. In addition to polished chrome, matte white and black finishes are available to up the impact.
 +graff-faucets.com



//CAROMA-MARC NEWSON WALL BASIN Craving function over fuss? The minimal space saving design of the Caroma Marc Newson Wall Basin includes an integrated left or right hand shelf, flush stopper and hidden plumbing, all within a clean white palette.
 +caromamarcnewson.com **//SONIA PUZZLE** The Sonia Puzzle is a flexible concept that allows for multiple configurations to work within your bathroom space. In addition to the left or right base units, an integrated towel bar, soap dispenser or tumbler can be added.
 +sonia-sa.com

THE TILE



//MORAVIA Moravia may look like stacked slate ledgerstone, but it's actually an ink-jet porcelain tile. Easy to clean and durable for high traffic places, the large format tile is flexible enough to use on both floors and walls for a seamless and smooth modern look.
 +capcotile.com **//ARTISTIC TILE DUNE** Natural stone gets a makeover with Artistic Tile's Dune. The limestone surface is finely etched with ridges and waves that play with light and moisture, turning walls into sculptural art.
 +artistic-tile.com **//MOSA KHO LIANG LE COLLECTION** Solid white square tiles with subtle circular shapes and diagonal lines make up Mosa's Kho Liang le Collection. Configurations can be random or artfully designed to create an eye-catching wall in the shower or whole room.
 +decorativematerials.com **//MODWALLS PLUS** Modwalls Plus Tile brings positive energy to the bathroom with a funky shape and fun color palette. The combination of gray, green and blue within the "Regulated Mix" will add a pop of color to bathroom walls without being too busy.
 +modwall.com

THE TOILET



//NAMEEK'S GSI CITY The GSI City Collection toilet and bidet by Nameek's has a svelte profile, highlighted by rounded features and pedestal base. Made in Italy of high quality ceramic, the design is both compact and contemporary while maintaining intuitive use.
 +nameeks.com **//KOHLER NUMI** Whether you are looking for ultimate in toilet technology or just want to impress in your guest bath, the Kohler Numi has every conceivable bell and whistle that you imagine. From a useful motion-activated cover and seat to an unexpected foot warmer, every need was considered to create the future of functional toilets.
 +kohler.com **//GEBERIT MONOLITH** The concealed tank of the Geberit Monolith toilet is hidden behind a rectangular layer of glass of subtle depth from the wall. Dramatic and stylish, the dual flush system is water efficient and has a soft close lid and seat.
 +geberitnorthamerica.com

THE ACCESSORIES



//SELETTI SUBMARINO BATHROOM ACCESSORY SET
Contain all your bathroom accessories in one clever set with Seletti's Submarino. Liquid soap is dispensed from the periscope, while the hatch holds toothbrushes. Other lidded containers can stash cotton balls or hair ties in a whimsy assemblage of pieces that can stay connected together or pulled apart. [+selettinorthamerica.com](#)

//KONTEXTURE HANGING LINE
Not all bathroom hardware needs to be a rigid statement in structure and function. The Hanging Line from Knotexture is a durable system of silicone bands and magnetic catches that add a little whimsy to hanging rolls of toilet paper or towels. [+kontexture.com](#)

//SONIA SAIGON MIRROR
The Sonia Saigon Mirror is a sleek all-in-one mirror and task light that assists with make-up application and facial grooming. [+sonia-sa.com](#)

//REFRESHING SHOWER CURTAIN
The bright triangles of color in Three Of The Possessed's South Refreshing Shower Curtain will match almost any bathroom decor without having to attach to a theme, making accessory and towel matching that much easier. [+denydesigns.com](#)



THE BATH TOWEL



Nothing beats the comfort and warmth of a plush towel wrapped around your body after bathing. But finding the right one can be a trial and error task. We sorted through stacks of waffle weaves and terry loops to find a few tips on the materials and construction techniques that will make your skin happy.

MATERIAL

Egyptian Cotton is widely known for its softness and drying abilities, which is why it can be found in high-end spas and hotels. The American grown version of Pima Cotton is a comparable blend of cotton fibers with many of the same qualities. Blended bamboo and cotton towels are also gaining popularity, and bamboo plants are inherently anti-bacterial and highly absorbent. Microfiber towels are made from engineered fibers that tend to dry quickly, although they may not feel as plush.

WEAVE

Terry is a super-absorbent weave because it loops through both sides of the towel, increasing surface area. Velour is the shearing off of loops to create a velvety surface and luxurious feel, although this may compromise absorbency. Waffle weave towels have a high-low effect that can be stimulating to the skin while maintaining a good drying ability.

WEIGHT AND PILE TYPE

Towels are fabric weighted and the better quality towels have a GSM, or grams per square meter, higher than 550 gsm. A denser pile type is also key. Look for a 21s double pile for good feel and durability.

CARE

And one last tip! Care for your towels. It may seem like a simple statement, but many of us are washing our towels all wrong. Using gentle detergent and low dryer heat will help keep towels fluffy, absorbent and colorful.

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.



GREG FRIEDLER / RESIDUE

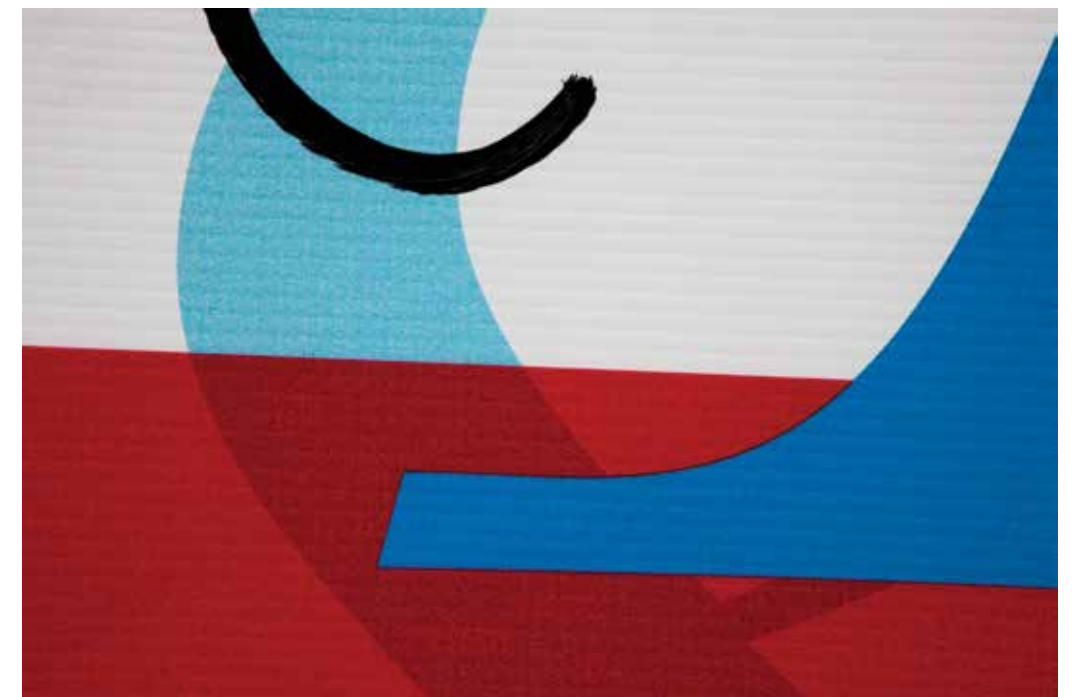
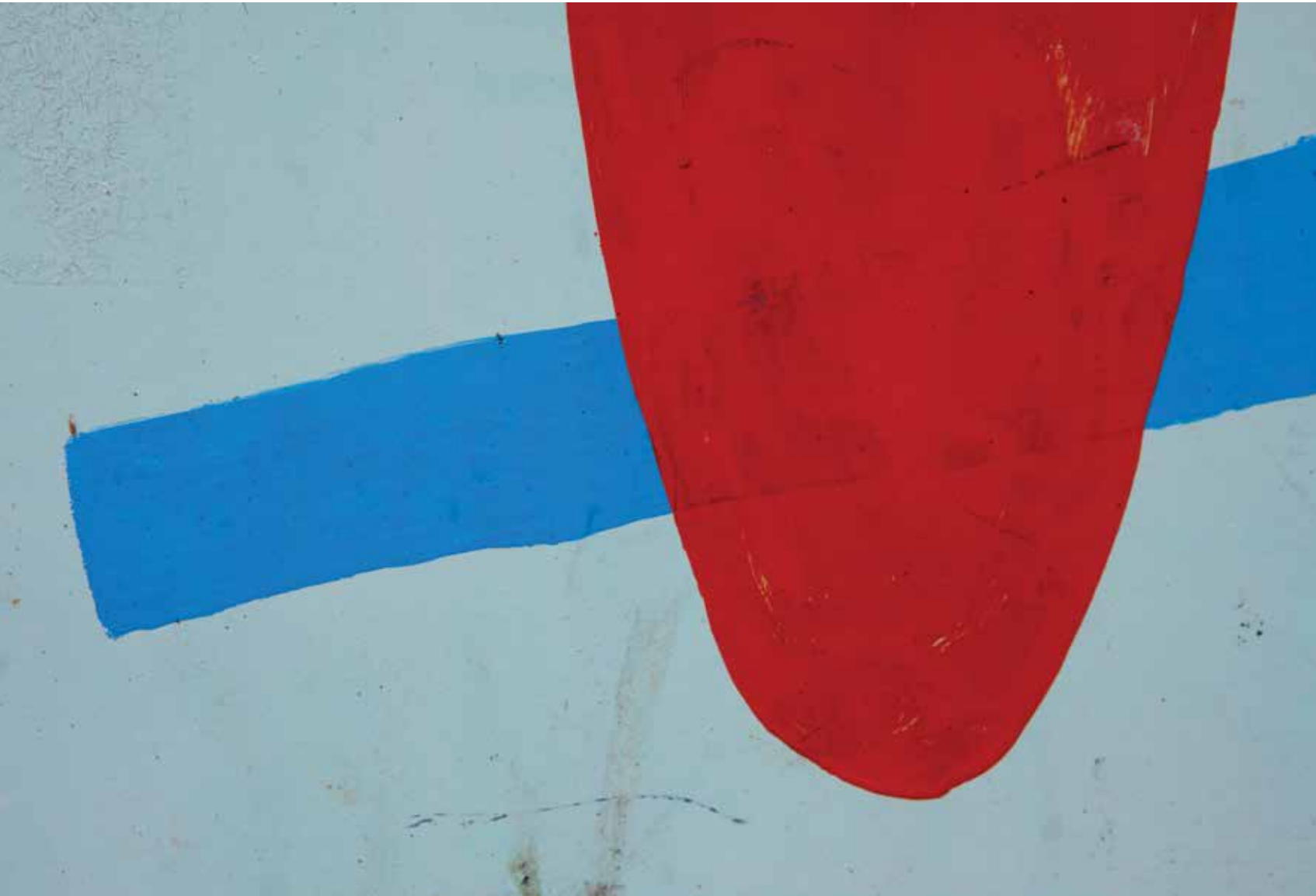
"Residue" is a re-purposing of urban signage and urban communication. "Residue" consists of original photographic images made of tiny slivers of graffiti tags, residue left behind from the creation of these graffiti tags or any given cover up of the graffiti tag by differing authorities.

Canvases include, but are not limited to: fuse boxes; signs of all shapes, sizes and functions; newspaper stands; doors; trash cans; poles; post office boxes; porta potties; dumpsters; or any other outdoor surface real estate.

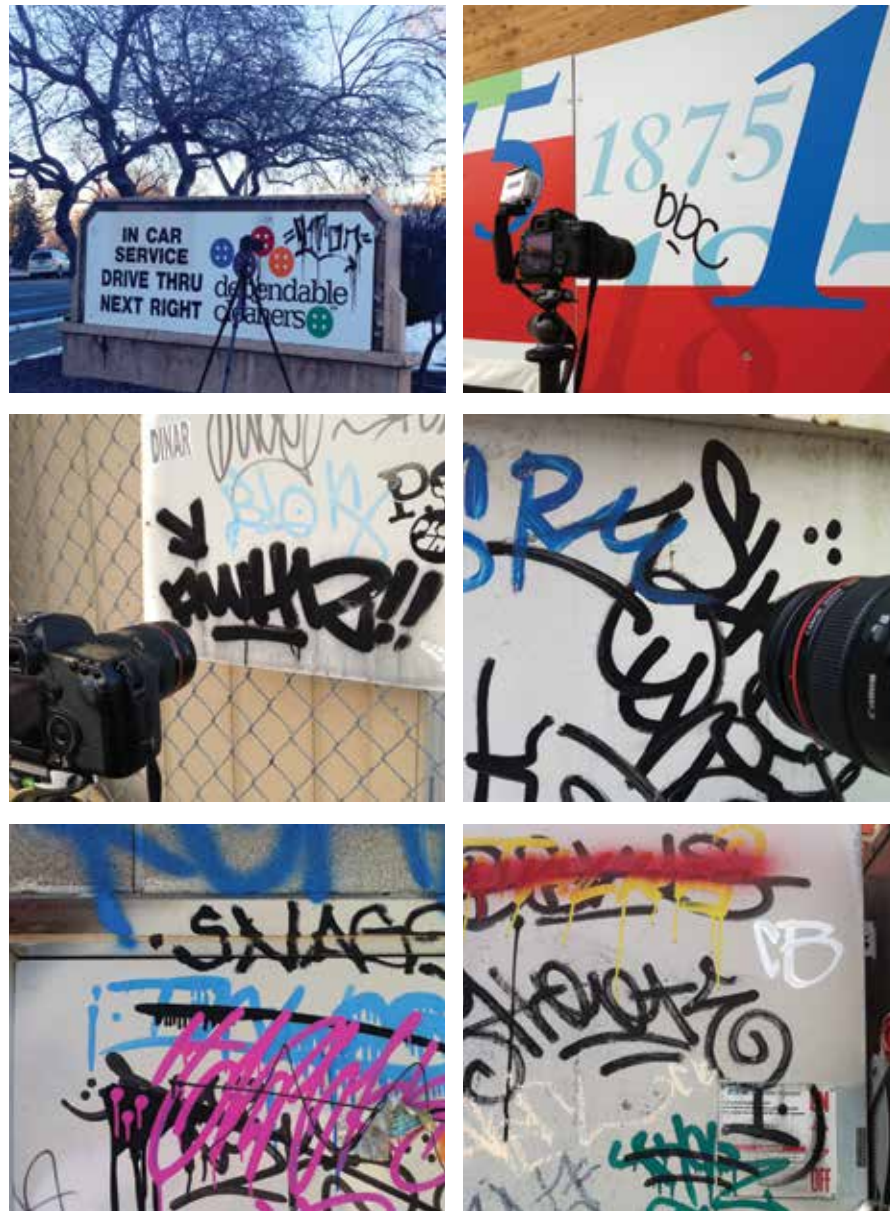
The graffiti tags are ciphered urban scrawls, in public view, yet functioning as secretive autographs, meant to leave one's mark or mark one's turf. Within these ciphered scrawls and other visual fodder, lies another world of painterly terrain ripe with artistic possibilities. I appropriate the urban scrawl and find specific convergences, confluences and graphic unions to create my own unique oeuvre d' art. So what began as an ephemeral, encrypted personal brand, becomes an amazing opportunity to make original photographic imagery that resemble abstract expressionist paintings.











GREG FRIEDLER

Greg is a curious observer and acute documentarian of the full spectrum of the human condition. Greg is best known for his photo-anthropological studies of people, clothed and unclothed, in New York, Los Angeles, London and Las Vegas. He has had two films made about his photography books, one in 1999 for the BBC, while shooting *Naked London*, and one in 2007 for Showtime, while shooting *Naked Las Vegas*.

The breadth of Greg's work is rare as he shoots disparate projects, drawing on differing genres and styles and traditions, simultaneously. He creates mixed-media paintings as well, which are derived from his female nudes. Currently, he is working with German publisher Alexander Scholz, of Galerie Vevais, to produce his 6th monograph, "Greg Friedler: HUMANITY". He is also working with Spanish filmmaker Guillermo Roques on a short documentary film which examines Greg's process of shooting the "Residue" project.

To see more of Greg's work, please visit his main art website:
www.gregfriedler.com

IN PRINT

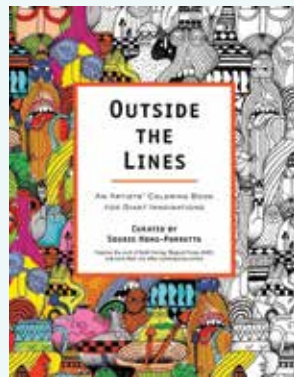
WORDS: Kevin Janowiak



100 WORKS OF ART THAT WILL DEFINE OUR AGE

Kelly Grovier • Thames & Hudson

Critic Kelly Grovier predicts which contemporary art will stand the test of time—a daring task given that many of the featured artists don't even have a gray hair. But the end result is a fun exercise that's sure to spark conversations and possibly arguments. The point is to explore art poetically rather than with a scorecard. The nominees take many shapes: sculptures, video installations and even performance art. Blockbuster names like Banksy and Damien Hirst are given equal billing alongside relative unknowns. Despite the book's Buzzfeed-like title, this is a serious guide and not a superficial list. The author carefully builds a case for each work, mixing historical context with personal reflection. Even if your favorite art didn't make the cut, you'll still enjoy this ambitious survey of the last two decades.



OUTSIDE THE LINES: An Artists' Coloring Book for Giant Imaginations

Curator: Souris Hong-Porretta • Perigee Trade

So what if your age is in the double digits? Pick up some crayons and let your inner child out with this endearing and sometimes edgy coloring book. There are more than 100 line drawings begging to be filled in and stuck on the fridge, some by famous names like Keith Haring and Shepard Fairey. A few illustrations could give little ones nightmares (think skulls and machine guns), but most feature kid-friendly fare like giraffes and spaceships. Grown-ups will appreciate all the amusing riffs, like one page completely covered in black ink. *Outside the Lines* is the perfect gift for someone trying to be the cool Uncle, slightly countercultural but with a warm gooey heart.

FURNITURE BY ARCHITECTS

Driss Faith • Images Publishing



When a 10,000-year-old tree falls, it deserves a better fate than firewood. Hand over that ancient log to an architect, and you can end up with a showpiece dining table that will live forever. Architects are increasingly working indoors and filling rooms with one-of-a-kind designer furniture. This book is a tidy compilation of their customized interiors, all small-scale projects with a big punch. Flip the pages and you'll realize that ashtrays and chairs can be just as spectacular as skyscrapers. Many pieces are modern nods to natural forms, from a honeycomb gardening system to a coffee table cut from driftwood (charmingly called the "Flotsam and Jetsam table"). But high-tech plastics are in the toolkit as well. *Furniture by Architects* is a global best-of but often shows its Australian roots. It's refreshing to see so many marvels from the Southern Hemisphere rather than the familiar design hotbeds.

LUCIENNE DAY: IN THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE

Andrew Casey • Antique Collector's Club



Stare at Lucienne Day's textiles long enough, and you can practically see the mood of post-war England lifting. It may seem strange to call colorful wallpaper and carpets optimistic, but Day's abstract shapes said that it was okay to make playful objects again. This book is bursting with eye-catching patterns that look just as fresh as they did 60 years ago. But it's also a highly detailed account of her rise from art student to international personality (including her big break, the 1951 Festival of Britain). The tone is a bit dry and overloaded with dates and names, but new interviews with colleagues spice things up. Day may have designed for the masses, but she was ultimately a rare gem.

sources // references

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DREAM CHAIR.

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Carl Hansen & Son recently partnered with Architect Tadao Ando who designed a chair that effectively challenges the notion of what constitutes a lounge chair. Given free rein by Carl Hansen & Son, Ando designed a chair in tribute to Danish designer Hans J. Wegner—and in true Wegner fashion. Ando used bent wood to create a chair with striking lines and a shape formerly thought impossible to achieve with wood. The minimalist, sculptural design has the connotation of floating to encourage time for dreaming. Ando's architectural style is evident in the design. Many times he uses one material to create an entire space—often concrete. Here, his medium is wood. He is also famous for his incorporation of natural light in his architectural designs. Perhaps the cutout in the chair is Ando's way of letting the light shine through. The chair is available in oak and walnut with or without an upholstered seat and adjustable neck cushion.



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