

Maine Home

February 2014

+ DESIGN

The Interior Design Issue



INSPIRED



BY REBECCA FALZANO

INTERIORS



THE beginning of a relationship between an interior designer and client can resemble a first date. First impressions. Casual conversation that gives way to a deeper understanding. And questions—always questions: *What do they surround themselves with? What brings them joy? How do they live? What do they gravitate toward?* Perhaps most important, though, is that there's a lot of listening. That's because good interior designers know it isn't about them, but about their clients—that the best design reflects those who live there.

For this year's Interior Design Issue, we chose a handful of spaces by designers who do an incredible job listening. The spaces they create are soothing and restful. Electric and eclectic. Vibrant and bold. Neutral and subtle. They are the perfect combinations of beauty and function, but above all they are one-of-a-kind, just like the people who live in them.



RESTFUL RETREAT

Designers: Louise Hurlbutt & Bonnie Weeman
| Hurlbutt Designs

Transforming a 1940s ranch-style cottage from small and cramped to open and airy for a young family with two active sons presented a unique opportunity for Louise Hurlbutt and Bonnie Weeman. The design included removing several walls and a central fireplace to transform the formerly seven-foot-high ceilings into cathedral ceilings. An open plan evolved, with a new kitchen, dining, and living space looking through large picture windows onto a golf course.

Inherited antique furniture was refurbished, reupholstered, and brought back to life, adding a sense of history and style. Colors flow from room to room and, along with the rich woods of the antiques, bring warmth to the house. The White Sand wall color is carried throughout the house—in the kitchen, dining room, and living room and down the hallways. “It is light and fresh,” says Hurlbutt, “and beautifully complements the many antique wood pieces and the new custom-stained wood floors.”

A design philosophy centered on attention to detail and comfort makes this summer vacation cottage a place to relax and enjoy the views. “The cottage had good bones that had stood the test of time,” she says. “Now, with the renovations completed, it is ready for the next generation.”

For more: hurlbuttdesigns.com | 207.967.4110



In the boys' bedroom (above, top), twin beds with cottage headboards flank a plank side table in Riverwash finish from Hurlbutt Designs, a rustic look that is solid enough for rough-and-tumble young men. A Jamie Young jute table lamp has a custom lampshade that complements the Cuddledown seersucker striped bedding and seahorse pillows from Hurlbutt Designs. On the walls is Benjamin Moore's Misty Blue.

In the family room (above), comfortable furniture invites you to settle in for an evening of movies, games, or puzzles. Whale artwork from Longstreet Galleries hangs above upholstered furniture and decorative pillows from Best Slip Cover Company and an Alashan basket-weave throw. The weathered chestnut coffee table was made by a local artisan for Hurlbutt Designs. Lampworks glass orb lamps sit on side tables that are family heirlooms. Drapery fabric is Pindler and Pindler, and the beadboard walls are painted in Benjamin Moore's Decorator's White.

Custom-painted rush-seat chairs by Hurlbutt Designs flank a refinished antique dropleaf table that is a family heirloom (opposite). In the reflection of a Sarried round wood mirror is a Maine map by Van Theil and nickel accent lamps from Hurlbutt Designs. The walls are White Sand by Benjamin Moore.

Photography Jeff Roberts





ART FILLED & INTIMATE

Designer: Krista Stokes

Krista Stokes helped two former New York City residents find connection to their space through distinct expressions of art, function, and comfort—he, an evolving artist with a revolving assortment of photography, paintings, and sculpture; she, a pure sentimentalist relating to the layering of objects and memories. Stokes guided them in their renovations, melding their stories (and their belongings) into their 1,200-square-foot house.

“The result,” says Stokes, “is a mix of transient and anchored pieces that backdrop the vibrant narrative of their lives.” Using her design philosophy of honoring what you have, Stokes helped the couple curate their beautiful collection of artwork and meaningful accessories into an intimate, comfortable, well-lived-in space.

For more: kristastokes.com | 207.251.9890



Photography Nicole Wolf

Artist David Allen's paintings frame a shuttered window in the cozy sitting area off the kitchen (above, left). On the walls is Titanium by Benjamin Moore, a soothing hue that serves as a subdued backdrop to the colorful artwork. The cozy corner couch is from Endicott Home Furnishings, and contemporary lighting is by Jonathan Adler.

The living room (above, right) gets its vibrancy from the yellow walls (Sanguine C2 from Port Hardware) and from Allen's arresting artwork. The couch is from Young's Furniture, and the patterned pillow is from Spaces in Kennebunk.





Photography François Gagné



The master bedroom in a soaring corner turret (opposite) has southeasterly exposure and expansive views of Casco Bay. A French opera chandelier hangs in the vaulted ceiling as a beautiful statement piece. To control both light and winter cold, Johnson provided custom-made English-style curtains by Maine Street Design Co. Work Rooms that are lined and interlined with a flannel bump and mounted on one continuous custom metal rod. The curtain fabric is a pinecone and tassel print, a subtle nod to the couple's Maine heritage. The fully upholstered bed is finished simply and elegantly with soft linens punctuated with a bold zigzag print on the shams. Fabrics are by Romo, Villa Romo, and Mark Alexander.

The dressing rooms (top, left and above) feature custom built-ins by Freeport Woodworking.

In the master bath (top, right), a vintage map of Casco Bay from Galerie in Falmouth hangs above the tub. A vintage stool and prints were found at the Union Antiques Fair, and scattered rugs throughout are from Bradford's Rug Gallery in Portland. Roman shades are a lightly lined linen shear, and custom shutters add privacy.

A VIEW-FILLED SANCTUARY

Designer: Brett Johnson | Maine Street Design Co.

This master suite is in a converted John Calvin Stevens carriage house in Cumberland that has been modified to suit the needs of the couple and their two children. Brett Johnson's mission: create a sleeping sanctuary, his-and-hers dressing room closets (both with personalized custom built-ins and both in an extremely confined space), and a shared master bath that is both luxurious and functional. "The biggest challenge was adding visual volume to a small space," he says.

In the bedroom, soaring ceilings and ample windows open the room up to the outdoors and the sweeping views of Casco Bay and Sturdivant Island. The cool blues and subtle greens complement the natural linen fabrics. In the dressing room, the built-ins designed by Maine Street Design Co. embrace the Shaker ideal: a place for everything and everything in its place. Every nook and cranny in both dressing rooms was utilized and serves its own specific function. The bathroom features a large soaking tub with equally beautiful views.

For more: mainestreetdesign.com | 207.541.9187



Photography Jeff Roberts

Japonica wallpaper by Anna French complements the room's neutral palette with clusters of cream flowers on a silver-gray background (above). The Carlyle dining chairs are upholstered in a citron fabric called Spot On by Thibaut and are contemporary versions of mid-nineteenth-century American Sheridan-style furniture. Neutral creamware soup tureen and vases from K. Colette are reminiscent of eighteenth-century Leeds, and sit well on the rich, wooden tones of the dining table. The sisal rug is from Bradford's Rug Gallery. Window treatments are side panels made of silk in a solid ivory color that hang on handcrafted metal rods with custom, contemporary floral finials from the Finial Company in a speckled silver, gold, and green finish. Both the Crystal Lights chandelier with silver-leaf finish and strings of glimmering crystal droplets and the single-wide-bevel mirror sconces are available at Fogg Lighting and reflect the ever-changing light in the room.

Sideboard accessories (opposite) include a sunburst mirror and chinoiserie-style beige and white ginger jars from Simply Home.



BALANCED & BEAUTIFUL

Designer: Leandra Fremont-Smith Interiors

Leandra Fremont-Smith's clients dreamed of a dining room that was not only stylish but also conducive to entertaining. The dining room in their classical-revival-style home is centrally located on the first floor, adjacent to an elegant Carrera marble entryway. The challenge was designing the room to complement the house's mixture of Federal, Victorian, and contemporary styles. To do so, Fremont-Smith chose a neutral palette of elegant whites, ivories, and grays punctuated by metallics for a contemporary twist. The room's tall ceilings and sophisticated wainscoting called for wallpaper, a traditional chinoiserie floral pattern with clusters of cream flowers on a silver-gray background. "The elegant floral paper has an element of surprise," she says, "a silvery hue that reflects light in the evening, transforming the room into an enchanting dining experience." Solid silk drapery panels, Sheridan-style dining chairs, and ginger jar accessories complement the elegant scheme of the room. The wood tones of the furniture help ground the room and warm the space. A hint of green in the dining room chair fabric complements the slight shade of green in the flowers on the wallpaper. The different textures of the hand-blocked wallpaper, sisal rug, and classic "stumpwork" pattern in the chair fabric add elements of interest and depth.

For more: leandradesign.com | 207.831.0013







CAREFREE COMFORT

**Designers: Linda Banks & James Light |
Simply Home & Banks Design Associates**

Linda Banks and James Light joined forces to redesign a small, nondescript ranch with a stunning view. Their goal: create a place for a young family to trade in their fast-paced California lifestyle for a restful summer of getting lost in the beauty of Maine.

Banks's architectural work involved opening up the views, managing flow, and creating a lower-level bunk room for visiting cousins as well as an extra guest room. Light pulled together the furniture floor plan and a palette that wouldn't compete with the amazing views. "Comfort was the first consideration," says Light. "Second was carefree durability." The family wanted to feel comfortable letting the kids be kids and lending out the keys to family and friends.

With a nod to the '70s ranch and respect to the colors outside the window, Banks and Light gave the family everything they asked for and more: comfort, durability, style, and the opportunity for a lifetime of memories on the Maine coast.

**For more: simplyhomepage.com |
banksdesignassociates.com | 207.781.5651**

The sitting room off the kitchen (opposite) features a Visual Comfort lamp and a custom-bound and sized Fiberworks carpet from Simply Home. Acapulco chairs and a Skagen coffee table create a cozy conversation corner.

In the front hall (above, left), yarn skein vases from Simply Home are displayed under artwork by Stephen Gleasner.

The master bath (above, right) features custom cabinetry, lighting, curtain, and hardware by Simply Home, as well as a faucet by Waterworks.





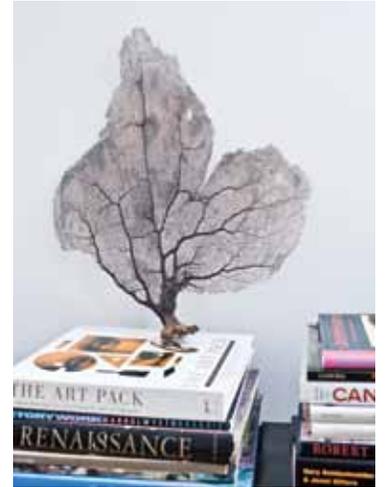
UNDERSTATED ELEGANCE

Designer: Ariana Fischer | Ariana Fischer Interior Design

Ariana Fischer's inspiration for this farmhouse in a charming seaside village came straight from her client—an “elegant, organized, down-to-earth, fun, judicious, stylish” woman, says Fischer, “with discriminating taste and a deep connection to the old-school vernacular of a New England lifestyle.” After the three-bedroom, 1,800-square-foot gable-roofed house was gutted, Fischer and her client culled through items to decide what would work in the new streamlined space that she would share with her two teenagers. “We focused on her aesthetic and values so that the house is a real manifestation of her. Decisions had to be very well thought out and judicious, as there was no room for error.”

Fischer embraced the architecture, using furnishings to add the homeowner's imprint. Dark painted floors add a sophisticated element to the old farmhouse and, coupled with a classic white, set the tone for the whole house. Fischer built on the classic New England aesthetic with a collection of the homeowner's antiques, while adding in feminine elements—a French chandelier in the dining area, pink curtains in the office, a chair upholstered in a metallic light purple linen. The rooms are filled with a spare elegance—components of contemporary tailored details punctuated with warm, well-worn pieces.

For more: arianafischer.com | 207.210.6450



The kitchen (opposite) was designed with classic elements that never go out of style: a Carrera marble island, nickel fixtures that age to a beautiful patina, a butcher block for prep cooking next to the stove, custom cabinetry by local builders, and vintage stools from a flea market.

Contemporary photographs hang above an antique writing desk that is used as a sideboard in the dining room (top, left).

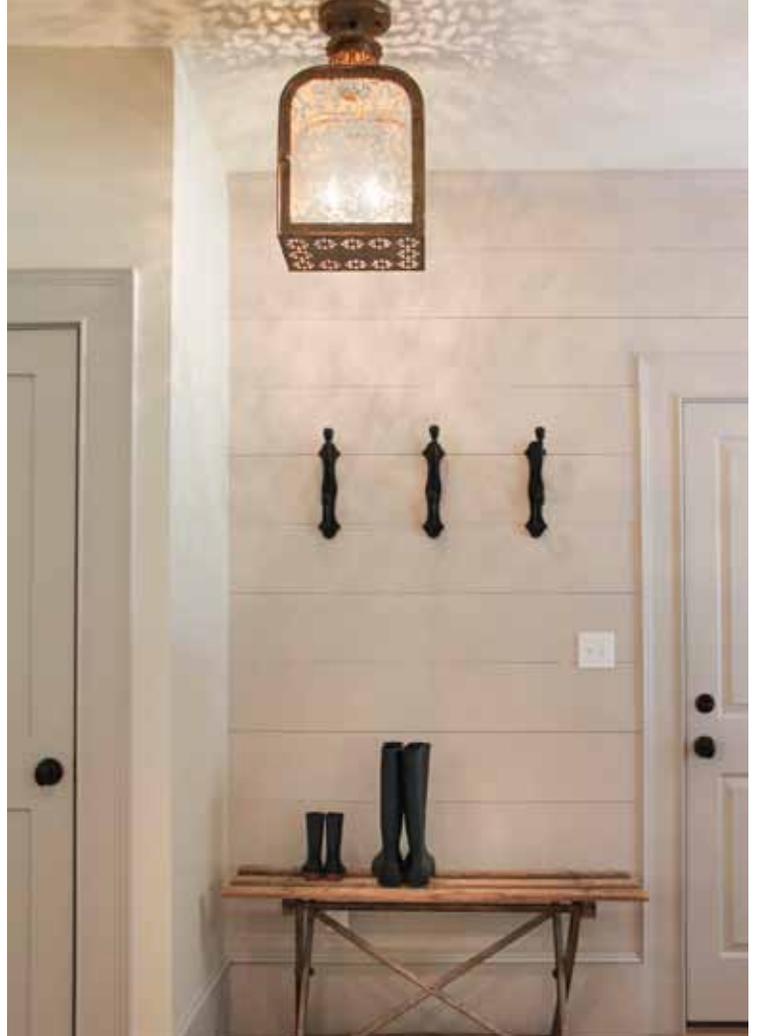
A Warhol print (top, middle) adds an edge to the warmth and comfort of the living area, which features a velvet tufted sofa with linen pillows and a wool sisal rug that balances the dark floor.

The dining area (top, right) showcases a marriage of austere New England aesthetic with feminine elements: linen sheers on the windows, a simple French chandelier, and tailored slipcovers.

The homeowner's office (above, left) indulges a luxe feminine side with floor-length, dark pink velvet curtains and includes a long wooden worktable and meaningful mementos.

Coral from a family trip sits atop books in the living room (above, right).





Photography Christina Achee

RUSTIC YET REFINED

Designer: Nicola Manganello | Nicola's Home

Open family living is at the heart of this contemporary farmhouse by Nicola Manganello. Living and dining spaces flow together in plain view of the kitchen, encouraging friends and family to find their own niche without sending them apart. When mealtime arrives, everyone comes to the table, where people can linger for hours or drift on to a nearby couch or chair to continue the conversation.

The materials drove Manganello's color palette: natural oak cabinets in the kitchen, slightly whitewashed to bring out the grain, and hemlock beams left in their authentic form. "I always turn to unique materials—tiles, textures, natural and treated wood—to create atmosphere," she says. Structured details, paneled ceilings, stone work, and reclaimed timbers lend a sense of scale and personality. Manganello selected lighting that is at once industrial and warm. Exterior spaces were designed to naturally flow from interior to exterior, inviting guests and loved ones to enjoy the natural beauty of Maine.

"I am a detail collector," says Manganello. "I collect objects everywhere—yard sales, flea markets, auctions, junk shops. I appreciate a found object's beauty, its impact, its essence, even if I don't yet know where it belongs." Manganello incorporated rustic elements into this contemporary farmhouse, from the metal casters on the base of the island to the hand-painted terra cotta tile in the front foyer. "Each item was designed with a function in mind," she says.



The custom-designed hood in the kitchen (opposite) was fabricated out of zinc. Lighting, custom oak cabinetry, and counters are by Nicola's Home. Manganello designed the island with custom metal cuffs and six-inch industrial casters.

In the master bathroom (top, left), marble floor tiles were arranged in a herringbone pattern. The tub is copper, and lighting and tile are from Nicola's Home.

An antique collapsible bench in the hall (top, right) provides a place for boots. Large cast-iron hooks mounted to the shiplap wall add function to an otherwise plain wall, while the light fixture casts "the most amazing shadow" on the ceiling, according to Manganello.

The living room (above) is set off by a beautiful hemlock wall with a stain applied to enhance its grain. All furnishings are styled by Nicola's Home.

For more: nicolashome.com | 207.847.3466