

ELLE DECOR's *A*-LIST

Coming up with our first A-List of 25 interior designers wasn't easy. The editors of ELLE DECOR spent weeks sifting, sorting, discussing, and examining. We studied photographs, paged through back issues, and navigated websites. We argued—constructive, make that conversed in lively fashion—late into the night. The goal was to produce a list of authentic tastemakers in the U.S. whose rooms reflect the passions of ELLE DECOR—high style, serious comfort, magical ideas—and whose innovative approach to the art of decoration will be studied for generations. We've also included a shortlist of five up-and-coming interior designers we think are on their way to influencing the way you live, emerging talents you might not have heard of yet but whose intriguing spaces promise bright futures.

These lists are only the beginning, however. At elledecor.com you will soon find more information on each of these 30 in our new Designer Registry, as well as our selection of design's Grand Masters, those talents whose work is already so prominent and influential that their status is unquestioned.

Each year ELLE DECOR's A-List will grow richer and more diverse. Because if there's one thing we know, it's that design never stops getting better. So without further ado, welcome to our magazine's inaugural salute to America's best and brightest, from the long established to the rising stars. And if you think we've overlooked an inspiring designer or design team, let us know. On ELLE DECOR's A-List, there's always room for more.

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5 Designers to Watch

You may not have heard of them yet, but these five young talents are already creating rooms that are superstylish—and distinctively their own

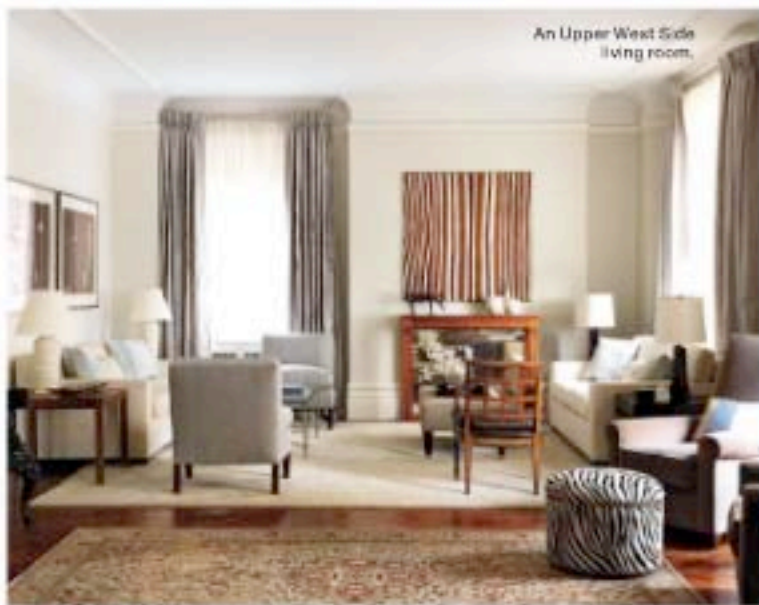


A living room in Connecticut.

▲ JESSE CARRIER

Working with his wife, Mara Miller, Carrier has cornered the market on clean, sunny interiors with an emphasis on warm, wide-ranging elements: bentwood pieces by Thonet.

Robsjohn-Gibbings chairs, Robert Klma print fabrics. Clients include designer Jason Wu and editor Anna Wintour (her office and Vogue's lobby). carrierandcompany.com.



An Upper West Side living room.

▲ KATIE LYDON

Modern, sass, and occasionally retro, the interiors of British-born Katie Lydon have a coolly contemporary vibe—though she enriches their crispness with

antiques (an 18th-century French chest of drawers, a 19th-century Chinese chair), vintage pieces by blue-chip names, and striking modern art. katieilydon.com.



A California dining room.

▲ MARIE TURNER

Part of the broadcast mother-and-two-daughters firm M. Elle Design, Turner trained at Christie's and with David Collins in London, giving her a strong background in Continental

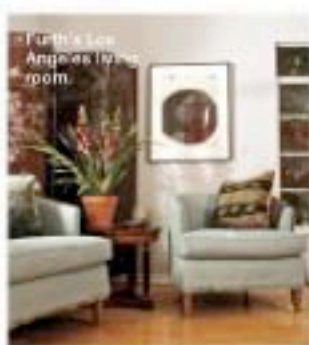
style. Her serene rooms are dappled with discreet pops of color, Hollywood Regency accents, and intriguing custom-made furniture. melledesign.com.



A living room in San Francisco.

◀ GRANT K. GIBSON

A San Francisco-based decorator and style blogger, Gibson outfits rooms with approachable, engaging style, whether the impact is Francophile (fish-gilt-wood mirrors, Louis XVI chairs) or tawny masculinity (neoclassical furnishings, zebra-skin rugs). His work is always eclectic, livable, and easy on the eyes. grantkgibson.com.



Furth's Los Angeles living room.

◀ OLIVER M. FURTH

This Los Angeles-based decorator is thoroughly grounded in classical traditions, though he approaches them with aristo irreverence and West Coast optimism. Furth's twisting interiors go from suave and swank to colorful and cheeky, and often include reclaimed materials. olivermfurth.com.

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