



## The Pop Master

Kansas-born designer **Trip Haenisch**, who established his own firm in late 2007 after an 11-year partnership with designer Martyn Lawrence-Bullard, is one of the city's busiest decorating bees ([triphaisch.com](http://triphaisch.com)). Since branching out on his own, he's been juggling multiple projects in multiple countries for savvy A-listers attracted to his unique take on trend-resistant, playful sophistication. The secret? It's all in the mix, and nowhere is this more apparent than in his own home, where art, furniture, color and a healthy dose of humor mingle in a series of open-plan rooms. "What you don't put in a room is equally important as what you do," says Haenisch. "This is something that Waldo taught me, and it's really an important lesson," he says of the designer Waldo Fernandez. What did make the cut in his one-bedroom WeHo condo is a can't-miss combo that includes many pieces of Haenisch's own design as well as photography and mint-condition vintage furniture that has been collected over a lifetime. "In my bedroom, I designed the bed à la Nakashima. It's low to the ground, which I love, and I wanted something organic to juxtapose the art," says the designer. Those pieces include a Peter Beard work featuring Elizabeth Taylor, who is the godmother to Haenisch's son, Jake. "And then the heavysuit lady in the swimsuit (left) is one of my favorite Lisette model photos." Playful? Unexpected? Pretty much impossible to recreate? That's the point. "Part of what a client is paying for is originality, for not having the same scone as one of his or her friends. Designers who constantly repeat themselves? That's just commerce, and I don't want to be that person."

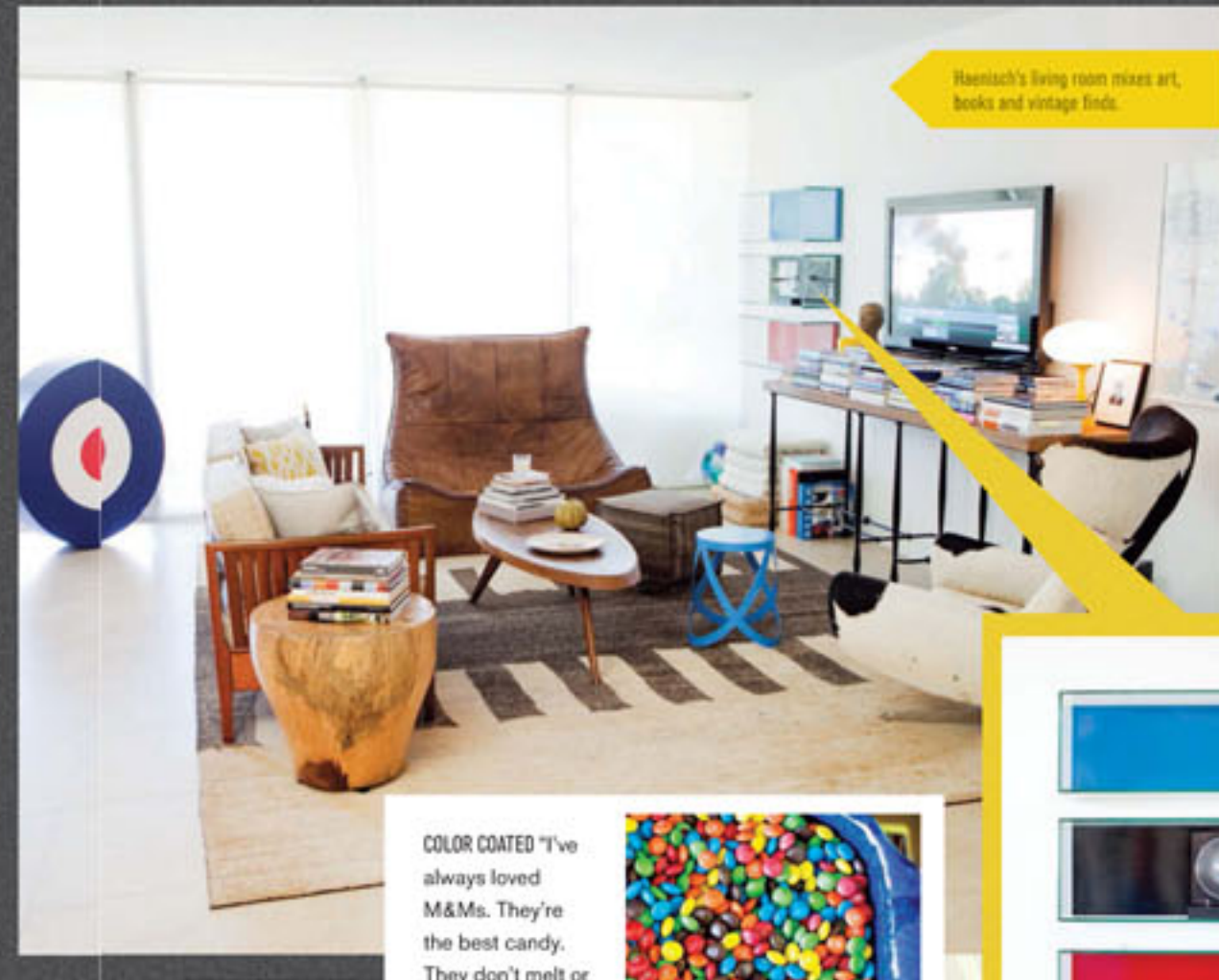
ANGELINO 8455 WILSHIRE SUITE 1412 LOS ANGELES

**MELANGE À TROIS** In the dining room area, Haenisch mixes three artists' works: Alex Rodriguez's superhero statues, Archie Scott Gobber's *Trustworthy* piece and Studio 65's high-density foam Bulls Eye table, which disassembles into tables or seating.

Donatello Bersani table and Nakashima chairs in the dining room.



**SUPER POWERED!** "This is sort of superhero-goes-West Hollywood," says Haenisch of his dynamic duo. "One of them alone is a little effete. Together, they're hysterical. They need each other."

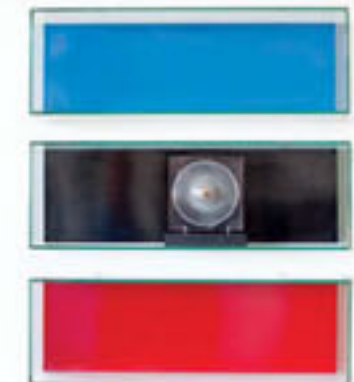


Haenisch's living room mixes art, books and vintage finds.

## Tower Time!

Haenisch's one-bedroom pad is located high up in the celeb-favored *Sierra Towers* in West Hollywood. "I love the open floor plan; I love my view of the hills; and I love the service in the building. It's second to none," says the designer. "I wasn't so sure about living with so much color, but the color and humor seem to lift my spirits."

**COLOR COATED** "I've always loved M&Ms. They're the best candy. They don't melt or go stale. And they add color!"



**TRIP-TYCH** In the living room area, Haenisch created and installed these functional, bold-colored, Plexiglas pieces as an "homage to Donald Judd, one of my favorite artists, who was born and raised in the Kansas area where I'm from," says the designer. In the center is an Edmond Vernassa Plexiglas sculpture, circa 1980.



**NIGHT STUDENT** "When I'm working on a project I always have insomnia, then when I work everything out—every detail—I sleep like a baby. It's like a designer Rubik's Cube," says Haenisch. And what of those wee morning hours? Research! "I use 1st dibs ([1stdibs.com](http://1stdibs.com)) a lot and pore over web sites of my favorite shops around the world." Among his fave design books are those by Jacques Garcia, Axel Vervoordt and Christian Liaigre, as well as books on modern furniture by Paul Evans, Tom Dixon and Ron Arad.



**WALL PLAY** "Objects in rooms shouldn't seem decorated; they should seem collected, over time and with consideration," says Haenisch. "Part of my job is to guide clients to take them somewhere new, but always with great care and respect for a 'No, this isn't ultimately me.'" As for the designer himself, his passion is photography. In his living room area, he placed Susan Landau's photo, *Bumps, Humps and Dips*, in a prime location, but had to leave many other treasured pieces out of the mix. "I have many more photos that won't fit on my walls, but I work so much that my office has many more that I enjoy," says Haenisch.