

**WINNER**

Amanda Martocchio  
Architecture + Design's  
ENTRYWAY

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# at home

*a-list issue!*



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JUDGE

## RICHARD HARTLAGE

Landscape Architect  
Land Morphology  
landmorphology.com

**The moment I knew what I wanted to do:** I had an epiphany at five years old.

**My early influences:** Roberto Burle Marx and Gertrude Jekyll, just for polar opposites.

**My big break:** Mountsier/Hardie Garden in Nutley, New Jersey.

**I'm inspired by:** Everything—I can't stop looking and seeing.

**My favorite design era:** The Arts and Crafts, because I started there and developed my deep love of planting design by studying William Robinson and Gertrude Jekyll. We practice in many styles now, so that's like asking which is your favorite child.

**Currently on my radar:** *The Authentic Garden*, published in 2015; a field guide to the gardens at Chihuly Garden and Glass, due this February; and a book

on sustainable strategies for estate and private gardens, due in the spring of 2018.

**A must-have item:** My miniature schnauzer, Astro.

**My style in three words:** Lush. Appropriate. Emotive.

**The best compliment I've ever received:** One of my clients told a potential client: "He isn't the least expensive, but he is the best value and will make you exceedingly happy." And I did.

**Three qualities that got me where I am today:** Passion, persistence and continual learning.

**My last DIY:** I just ripped my front garden apart again to match my new house color—it's all vermilion with matching trim, with a very dark navy front door and charcoal front steps and porch.



JUDGE

## JENNIFER POST

Designer  
Jennifer Post Design, Inc.  
jenniferpostdesign.com



**The moment I knew what I wanted to do:** My background is in theater design, which is immediately apparent in my work; opening a door is like raising the curtain. I've always had an innate passion for organizing, curating and designing the world around me.

**My early influences:** Abstract expressionist painters, minimalist furniture designers, and my family.

**My big break:** Early on, I was fortunate enough to design spaces for clients who allowed me to express my vision to the full extent. These projects were published, and things quickly came together from there!

**I'm inspired by:** Nature.

**My favorite design era:** Midcentury European furniture design.



JUDGE

## RUSSELL GROVES

Architect  
Groves & Co.  
grovesandco.com



**The moment I knew what I wanted to do:** From an early age, I loved blocks and Legos—I was always building something. Growing up, I had a strong interest in design and art, which eventually led me to the Rhode Island School of Design. I was studying a broad range of arts—fashion, photography and filmmaking. During my sophomore year, I was convinced by the dean of architecture to pursue architecture. His advice and the resulting decision dramatically changed the trajectory of my career and helped shape the designer I am today.

**My big break:** I had several great opportunities starting out as a young designer, first as an intern with Richard Meier Architects, then with Kohn Pedersen Fox and eventually as project architect with Peter Marino Architect. I started my firm in 1999 with my first project, the incredibly successful Tea Box at Takashimaya. It won an American Institute of Architects award and really launched my career.

**I'm inspired by:** I find inspiration everywhere, most often in nature. I'm constantly dragging something back to the

office—bark from a tree, a rock or an old board—and then asking our millworkers and painters to match the color or feeling.

**What's next for me:** We're working on several large residential development projects in Manhattan, residences in New York, estates in Napa and Florida, and multiple homes for Michael Kors as well as his executive offices.

**Current trend I'm loving:** All things ombre, especially Rosemary Hallgarten's use of ombre in her finely knit linens and draperies. In fact,

**Currently on my radar:** Traveling to Morocco for inspiration!

**What's next for me:** We have some amazing new projects in the City starting up this fall.

**Current trend I'm loving:** I don't follow trends; I design for longevity. Your home should never go out of style!

**A must-have item:** A sketchbook.

**My style in three words:** Two words—elegant minimalism.

**Three qualities that got me where I am today:** Ambition, organization and conviction!

**My last DIY:** Gardening in the country.

**I always start a project by:** Taking the time to understand the space and what it has the potential to become.

I just had a bed cover fashioned from her alpaca linen.

**A must-have item:** Dogs. Well, pets of any kind really, but especially dogs. At least two. I have a very small, five-pound Yorkshire terrier, who is now thirteen years old, and a two-year-old snorkie (miniature schnauzer/yorkie mix). I'd love a third, but my partner is, justifiably, against it.

**Three qualities that got me where I am today:** My OCD, my very strong Virgo traits and my personal drive. I'm like a dog with a bone; I don't give up on something—for better or worse.

**My last DIY:** I used to be quite the handyman—electrical, plumbing work, even furniture-making. Now I'm more of a cleaner/organizer. I'm a mean sweater folder—I'd give a Gap employee a run for their money.



JUDGE

## RICHARD MISHAAN

Designer  
Richard Mishaan Design  
richardmishaan.com



**The moment I knew what I wanted to do:** I was always referred to as the artistic one; I didn't know what to make of it. While at architecture school, I realized I was more interested in what Europeans call interior architecture. That is when it all became clear to me.

**My early influences:** My mother, her mother and travel.

**My big break:** I'm still waiting for it, LOL.

**I'm inspired by:** Jean-Michel Frank, Syrie Maugham, Le Corbusier and Mies van der Rohe, and Giacometti and Matisse.

**My favorite design era:** Art Deco and modernism from the '30s and '40s.

**Currently on my radar:** The Soicher Marin art collection being launched at High Point Market.

**What's next for me:** Creating my own hotel brand, which I've been working on for four years.

**A must-have item:** Velvet leopard print fabric.

**My last DIY:** Floral arrangements are

a passion of mine, so I guess that's the one.

**The best compliment I've ever received:** A client telling me they now love their home so much because they're finally comfortable in it because it works so well.

**Three qualities that got me where I am today:** Attention to detail, the courage to mix it up, and the ability to listen to clients to give them what they want.

**My style in three words:** Maximalist classical comfort.

**I always start a project by:** The initial conversation with a client is key; they tell you all their likes and dislikes. It's best to hear it from both the husband and the wife, as you will often hear they want opposite things, and that's where the fun begins.



JUDGE

## KEITH WILLIAMS

Landscape Architect  
Nievera Williams Design  
nieverawilliams.com

**The moment I knew what I wanted to do:** I was born into a design lifestyle. My father was in the ad agency business, and I always admired his work and graphic design and wanted to follow his lead. But it wasn't until the first day I started working with my business partner, Mario Nievera, that I actually knew what I wanted to do...or better yet, what I was meant to do.

**My big break:** My son, Maxwell, was my big break. When he was born, I was allowed three weeks of leave from my job in the advertising department at the local newspaper. That time off allowed me to work with Mario on a trial basis, and here I am, nineteen years later.

**I'm inspired by:** Roberto Burle Marx, Garrett Eckbo, Thomas Church and, of course, Mario.

**My favorite design era:** The '70s midcentury modern. I like the original design approach to the architecture, the crispness, cleanliness and minimalist feeling.

**Currently on my radar:** I'm working on a new outdoor furniture line

and a new line of planters with Pennoyer Newman.

**Current trend I'm loving:** Synthetic Turf.

**A must-have item:** Lanvin sneakers.

**My style in three words:** Simple. Clean. Fresh.

**The best compliment I've ever received:** I was driving past a project I completed several years ago and noticed a new house a few doors down. The front entrance to the new house had an elevated garden entrance with lushly planted pots that created a connection between the entrance of the home and the street. The entry garden was flanked by two small motor courts, which allowed anyone entering the home from the motor courts to pass through the garden. This was identical to what I had designed several years ago down the street. At first I was upset, but after a few minutes, I realized it was actually very flattering and in its own way a compliment.

**Three qualities that got me where I am today:** Loyalty, passion and originality.

