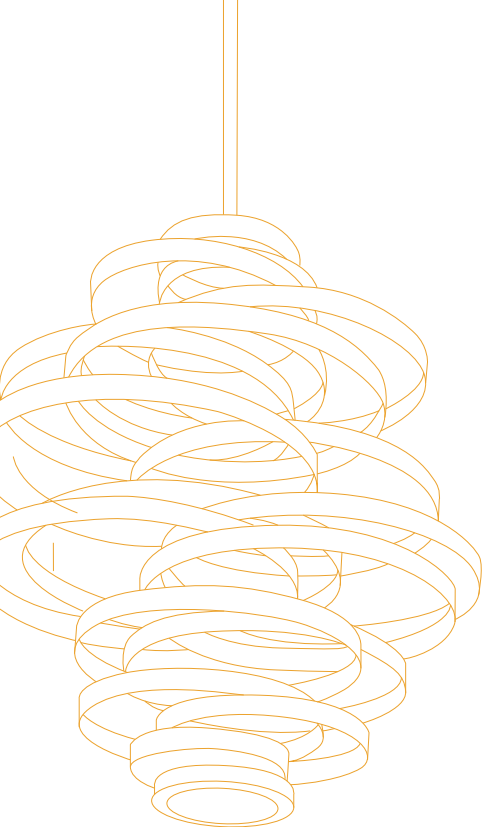


INTERIOR DESIGN®

best of residential

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN





foreword by Cindy Allen

There's no place like home. There *is* no place like home. There's no place...You get the drift.

Never has that wizardly saying rung more true, when you consider the chaos of our hustle-and-bustle, tech-driven lives.

Home has become the ultimate sanctuary. It's our refuge, our getaway to escape the world—or engage in it full-on. And we're definitely not in Kansas anymore. We traveled the world from Minnesota to Monte Carlo, from Hawaii to Kuwait, and back again.

I'm delighted to present *Interior Design Best of Residential*, the newest book in our growing series (*Best of Year*, *Best of Hospitality*, and *Best of Office* preceded). You'll see in the following pages what boundless imagination and enormous commitment can accomplish.

Who stands behind all this vision and talent? According to our 2010 Universe study, there are more than 25,000 design firms in the United States, and 52 percent of them handle residential projects. That translates

to a whopping 26,000 individual designers potentially working on your home! The scale of the firms—from small studios with fewer than five designers to businesses employing 20 or more—may vary, but the results in this book are uniformly s-t-e-l-l-a-r.

The money involved is nothing to sneeze at, either. Consider this: Among residential design firms, the average home is valued at \$2.3 million, and designers specify nearly \$1.8 million in products a year. And we can't talk about the home without celebrating its heart, the kitchen, and everyone's favorite private oasis, the bath. Clients clearly agree, putting their money where their mouth is: The average kitchen renovation costs \$86,000 and a bathroom, \$47,000.

If you're interested in today's trends, we've made it easy for you. The book is divided into eight chapters we think defines them: Inside/Outside, Vintage Modern, City Living, Modern Family, Getaways, Green, New Tradition, and Global Inspiration. Prepare to be dazzled...and inspired. Just tap your heels three times and you'll be there.



EliasElias AR

WEST 12TH STREET CONDOMINIUM
NEW YORK



The architecture and interior design firm, with offices in Miami and Guadalajara, was contracted to turn a three-bedroom waterfront apartment into a more spacious two-bedroom. In the process, the team carved out two full baths and dressing rooms, a powder room, an eat-in kitchen, a combination living/dining area, and a media area. The apartment is perched on the southwest corner of the building, a luxury condo tower overlooking the Hudson.

With views this stunning, who needs art? The collection scattered throughout makes a compelling argument. Curated with a consultant, the paintings, photographs,

and sculptures exert a quiet though powerful presence. Fiery accents of red and orange spark against the soothing earth-tone palette and exotic woods.

The lush terrace, which measures upwards of 1,500 square feet, is open on three sides to take maximum advantage of the riverside location; it also can be accessed from any of three rooms. Diverse greenery thrives in the custom wood planters bordering the space, and a complete irrigation system ensures it will stay that way.

The space is spare, open, and bright: Inside or outside, from any vantage point, the views please and dazzle.

Clockwise from top: An abstract sculpture in the Paul Evans vein—which later reveals itself as figural—presides over the living/dining area. A custom Odabashian International rug helps delineate the light-filled dining space. The intimate eat-in kitchen. ➤





1,500 sf terrace
Conversion from 3 bedrooms to 2

PROJECT TEAM ALEXIS ELIAS (LEAD DESIGNER), RICHARD ELIAS,
MAYRA LÓPEZ, DAVID COHEN, GISELA ANDERSON
ARCHITECT OF RECORD VICTORIA BENATAR
PHOTOGRAPHY ANTOINE BOOTZ
www.eliaselias.net

Clockwise from right:
The bedroom of the
master suite. Many
furnishings—this
dining room table,
chairs, and chandelier
among them—are the
handiwork of Hudson
Furniture. City
Beautiful Carpentry
custom built the
terrace deck and
planters; the Organic
Gardener landscaped.
A double-wide portal
bisects the living and
dining areas.

