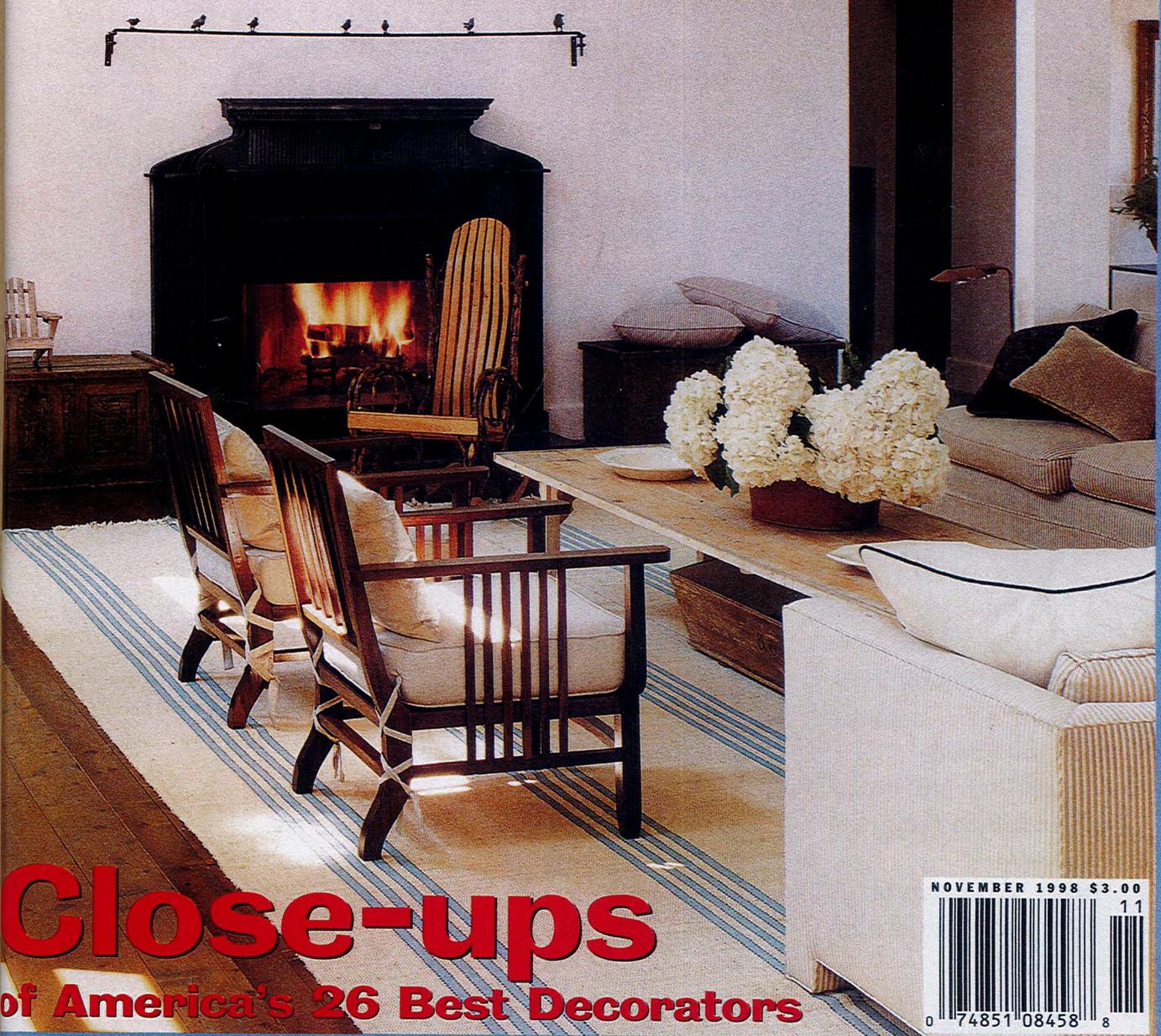


COLLECTOR'S ISSUE: The Best Tables, Chairs, Chintzes, Porcelains, Lamps

house beautiful

The Best of the Best



Chests of Drawers, Damasks, Art Glass, Aubussons, Sisal, Stenware, Block Prints, Bookcases, Velvets

Close-ups of America's 26 Best Decorators

NOVEMBER 1998 \$3.00



Sterling, Sofas, Scones, Carpeting, Coffee Tables, Stainless Steel, Paisleys

ELECTED BY THEIR PEERS: AMERICA'S TOP DESIGNERS

For the past two years House Beautiful has published our pick of the 101 top decorators, but for our special Best of the Best issue this month we decided to do something different: We polled our most recent honorees for their nominations of the top ten. Thanks to a two-man design team and a tie, they came up with twelve. Starting here (in alphabetical order) is our list of these designers, along with photographs of their recent work and some of the more trenchant comments made by the nominators. We asked the same polling group to list the professionals they felt represented "the next wave," and the fourteen who emerged are also profiled on the following pages. House Beautiful thanks the designers who took the trouble to help us and salutes the 26 winners, who appear in two group portraits by Timothy Greenfield-Sanders on pages 134 and 152.

PRODUCED BY CAROLYN SOLLIS AND SARA MARISA BLISS

Joe D'Urso →

39 Cooper Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937
tel: 516-329-3634, fax: 516-329-3634

"An American classic. Totally original. Total design honesty. His work is clean and unaffected by fashion and media. He is a great influence" —Tom Fox and Joe Nahem
"Leader in clean, intelligent minimalism" —Clodagh



David Anthony Easton ↓

72 Spring St., 7th Fl., New York 10012
tel: 212-334-3820, fax: 212-334-3821

"The best traditionalist!" —Christopher Coleman
"No one in America today can re-create the grand, sprawling 'English country house' better than David Easton" —Arthur Dunnam
"Master historian of architectural references"
—Paul Wiseman



Mariette Himes Gomez, *see page 136*
504-506 E. 74 St.
New York 10021
tel: 212-288-6856
fax: 212-288-1590

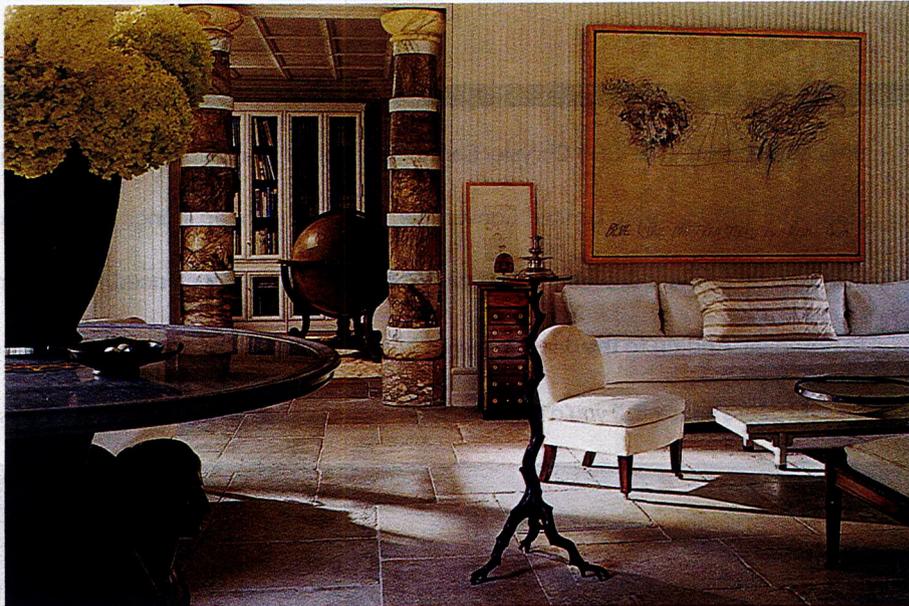
"Today!" —Mario Buatta
"Definitely a designer whose work is classical 1990s. A minimalist who packs a punch"
—Mary Douglas Drysdale
"Clean and simple without being self-conscious"
—Madeline Stuart
"A superstar who never fails to please the eye"
—Eric Cohler

ERIC ROMAN, OBERTO GILI



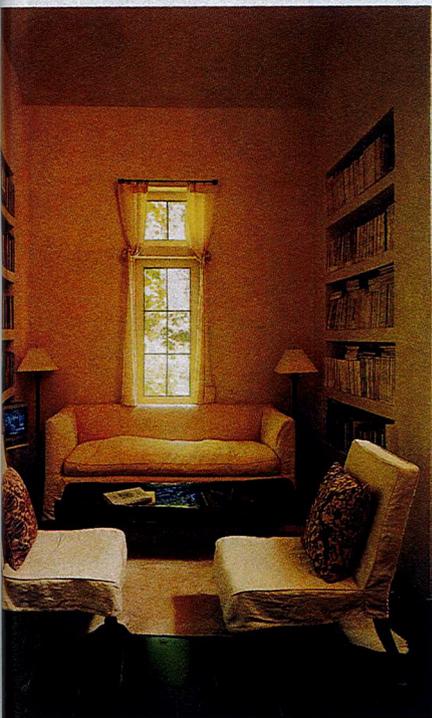
John Saladino, see page 144
200 Lexington Ave., Suite 1600
New York 10016
tel: 212-752-2440
fax: 212-684-3753

"A master of yesterday for today"—Mario Buatta
"For his cinematic, romantic vision"—Lee Mindel
"Taught me about elusive color and richness. He has a magical eye for sensuous fabrics, a refinement of ultimate comfort and timelessness"—Laura Bohn
"Makes modernism look lyrical"—Jarrett Hedborg



Stephen Sills and James Huniford ↑
30 E. 67 St., New York 10021
tel: 212-988-1636, fax: 212-988-2006

"Dared to inject theater into interiors without losing simplicity and function"—Greg Jordan
"Unique and cerebral blend of 19th-century ideals and elements with the best of late-20th-century design"—Arthur Dunnam
"Defiantly original"—Madeline Stuart



Rose Tarlow ←
8454 Melrose Place, Los Angeles 90069
tel: 213-651-2202, fax: 213-658-6548

"Impeccable. Precise beauty"—Kerry Joyce
"Exquisite taste and a bold sense of scale that makes things classic and traditional seem bold and forceful"—Thomas O'Brien
"Inspired a generation of designers with her deceptive simplicity"
—Jacquelynne Lanham

Vicente Wolf →
333 W. 39 St., 10th Fl., New York 10018
tel: 212-465-0590
fax: 212-465-0639

"Cool and luminous; a wonderful editor"—Clodagh
"Spare and sophisticated"—John Wheatman
"Innovative, clean, modern without being boring or industrial"—Charles Spada



TIM STREET-PORTER, THIBAUT/JANSON; VICENTE WOLF

THE MASTERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TIMOTHY GREENFIELD-SANDERS

*Standing,
left to right:*

Joe D'Urso,

William Hodgins,

Albert Hadley,

David Easton,

Peter Marino,

Vicente Wolf,

John Saladino,

James Huniford

*Seated,
left to right:*

Mark Hampton,

*Mariette
Himes Gomez,*

Rose Tarlow,

Stephen Sills

*Starting on the
next page are two
masterworks
and starting on
page 58 are
more pictures
and information.*



*Sitting for their House Beautiful portrait are the twelve
American interior designers chosen by their peers as the leaders in the field*

PRODUCED BY CAROLYN SOLLIS AND WENDY GOODMAN



FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE READER INFORMATION