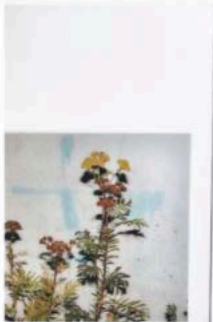


SUMMER

A S P I R E
DESIGN AND HOME



QUIET
BOLD
COLOR

UNORTHODOX
ARCHITECTURE
SEEKING THE SUBLIME



ARCHETYPES
HANDPICK THEIR
FAVORITE WALLPAPERS

ON THE MARKET: LOS ANGELES | MANHATTAN



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Kimberly Murray



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Mark Vierberg

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VIRGINIA TOLEDO AND JESSICA GELLER

Toledo Geller

Virginia and Jessica founded Toledo Geller over a decade ago and continue to create successful design by getting to know their clients and understanding how they live, their wishes and their concerns. A living room in Weehawken, New Jersey gets a dose of harmonious color.

toledogeller.com

"Sometimes a color is so intense that it can be hard on the eyes. While we would rather the pendulum swing more toward bold rather than a neutral palette, when designing for clients we strive to achieve a livable balance between neutral and bold colors. In most of our projects, black weaves its way throughout; it can be impactful in tempering vibrantly colored rooms, and adds an element of sophistication.

We embrace color in so many ways, whether it's bold paint, dynamic wallpaper or vibrant upholstery. We prefer contrasting trim and details, and sometimes will do neutral walls with a colored trim. In rooms that lack natural light we will go dark to embrace the cave like feeling. A darker color, like Farrow & Ball Parma Gray, can make a smaller room feel larger as the darker color obscures the edges, creating the perception of a larger space. For the lighter rooms, it largely depends on the North, South, East, or West exposure of the room."

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KIYONDA POWELL

Kiyonda Powell Design Studio

Kiyonda Powell comes from a family of artists and musicians and is the founder of her eponymous design studio in Washington, D.C. She has a bold, masterful eye and a distinct design personality. In an Atlanta, Georgia home, the designer adds her signature touch to brighten the space.

kiyondapowell.com

"This room is a good example of having a neutral base with finishes layered with fun color pops throughout the space. My client has a large book collection (categorized by topic). We found these cool spine bookshelves for a non-traditional way to display them. We could not have been happier with all the color the books provided on this wall. If a client is willing to push the envelope a little with wall color, I suggest checking out the lighter colors at the top of the paint fan deck charts. Select a color that works with the overall scheme in a soft wash of color that can almost become a neutral. Artwork and textiles as wall display also provide color with less of a commitment. These might be the gateway for a client to get comfortable and explore more color. I love how color can stimulate a mood or spark a feeling. We can always find ways to use those brights without having to sit in a room with sunglasses! More subtle uses of the bright colors can be with art and accent furnishings, or even with trim. My preference is to use the bold and bright wall colors in spaces with defined rooms versus open floor plans.

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ANNIE ELLIOTT

Bossy Color Design Group

Annie Elliott has a background in art history, working at some of the nation's top museums. She translated her love of art and color, and her training in scale, balance and proportion, into a career in interior design. In her own home in Washington, D.C., Elliott brings the sunshine in with her favorite color.

bossycolor.com

"Our living room is tricky. It's north facing with only one gigantic window, so the light is limited. We've painted our living room many times: it has been two shades of dark blue-gray, an intense red, white, light yellow and pale pink, to name a few. We are delighted with this egg-yolk yellow – it's fun and cheerful, and it stands up to the gloom! Thomas Jefferson had a dining room this color. Because the yellow is so intense, it was important for the wallpaper in the foyer to have a white background to give your eye a break from the saturated color. This wallpaper (Paradiso by Nina Campbell) has a lot of color – teal, chartreuse and purple peacocks! But they're set against a field of cool white with a light gray trellis pattern. Interestingly, there's no actual yellow in the wallpaper, but that's one of the reasons it works so well. The colors coordinate without being overtly matchy."

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SANDRA FUNK

House of Funk

Sandra Funk is the founder and principal of House of Funk, a full-service and online design firm in New York and New Jersey, creating thoughtful homes with an emphasis on clean lines and soulful touches. In this home in Montclair, New Jersey, a client's favorite color becomes the theme for an elegant living room.

houseoffunk.com

"For this living room the client wanted bright, peacock blue. We came up with the scheme to do the color from the crown molding to the base, including every bit of trim AND every wall (on the fireplace, new built-ins and window sills). We lacquered everything in high gloss. The sky's the limit with great color, but we always look for depth of color, which is why we tested many colors before we knew we had the right one. When working with bold color, it's important to layer in neutrals and different degrees of depth of the color you're using. We then repeated a dustier version in the striped velvet on the sofa and on the shiny velvet faux-fur and wool pillows. You'll see that color in different values repeated throughout the space. We also layered in accessories to create visual interest. We brought in tons of neutrals, wood tones, metals, marble, tile and great lighting. All of this ensured that the room didn't feel flat."