

# ATLANTA HOMES™ & LIFESTYLES

CELEBRATING  
35  
YEARS

*welcome,  
WINTER!*

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS  
OF TASTE & DESIGN



art and comfortable but exquisitely made furniture—are perhaps a lost art. Similarly, **JOHN CRAFT** is known for his unerring eye for elegance, while the late Jim Essary and Bill Cook of **ESSARY & MURPHY**, remain celebrated for their reverence for tradition.

Few decorators will ever achieve the level of admiration of **DAN CARITHERS**, and in the '90s (and beyond), his discriminating point of view set the scene for our city's toniest traditional residences. The designs of design duo **TOM HAYES** and **TOBY WEST** are similarly synonymous with gracious Southern hospitality, with a little swagger.

A master at achieving that inviting residential feel in commercial design (long before "residential" was a buzzword), **HUGH LATTA**'s insistence on infusing refined comfort into hospitality design is inspiring the next generation. Speaking of the next generation, in the '80s, **CHARLES GANDY** and **WILLIAM PEACE**, with their firm, Gandy/Peace, made waves in what was then a city defined by tradition by ushering in an era of cosmopolitan style for a rapidly changing Atlanta. Their edited, contemporary influence soon multiplied, inspiring then-budding designers such as **BARBARA WESTBROOK** and **AMY MORRIS** to carry their torch, each with their own tailored, streamlined, but always inviting, approach.

If taste is innate, then these women—who march to the beat of their own drummer—possess singular style: **NANCY BRAITHWAITE**, **JACKYE LANHAM**, **CAROLYN MALONE** and **RITA CARSON GUEST**. While Braithwaite's signature style is as minimalist as Lanham's is layered, their commonality lies in striking powerful notes through collected, thoughtful and stately selections. Malone's penchant for softness, and reverence for authentic materials, result in seriously serene spaces, while Guest's interiors possess a nearly scientific balance of form, function and unadulterated beauty.

Design brilliance, of course, reveals itself in many forms, and those who carry a unique purview might also be said to have the most fun. An artist himself, **JOHN OETGEN**'s interiors are showstopping with a dash of whimsy, but, it's his particular



*clockwise from top left* A snapshot into Suzanne Kasler's personal home reveals her penchant for soft, sophisticated interiors. A showstopping master bedroom by Robert Brown for a former Decorators' Showhouse is clean-lined and comfortable. A grand living room by Jim Essary and Bill Murphy of Essary & Murphy is just as timeless today. This lusciously layered bedroom was conceived by decorator Dan Carithers. *opposite* A contemporary but classically informed dining room by Amy Morris. A room with a view at a Buckhead high-rise by Beth Webb. Jackye Lanham's tailored style meets Norman Askins' architectural brilliance.

STYLE  
NEWS

# 35 Masters of DESIGN

One thing that hasn't changed since this magazine's inception in 1983: the influence of designers with unparalleled perspectives. Here, we honor 35 whose mark is indelible



SUPERB STYLE! When we first published in 1983, a select few purveyors of taste and thoughtful design reigned supreme: **EDITH MANSFIELD HILLS**, at the height of her career, would soon be inducted into the *Interior Design* hall of fame. The grand dame's legacy can't be understated; she also influenced the career of protégé **CAROL KLOTZ** of Regalo Antiques, who, like fellow female pioneers **JANE MARSDEN** and **DOTTY TRAVIS**, were as renowned for their design prowess as for their style-setting showrooms filled with fine antiques, imported furniture and fabrics.

Also at the pinnacle of their career in the early '80s was decorator **T. GORDON LITTLE**, who was celebrated for his imaginative interiors. A gentleman of similar dynamism and respect was **DAVID BYERS**, a decorative arts lover who furnished many a house on West Paces Ferry, including the iconic Rhodes residence (Pink Palace), the Governor's Mansion and the Philip T. Shutz collection at the Atlanta History Center.

Client education has always been a focus for Billy Baldwin protégé **STAN TOPOL**, whose attention to perfect proportions, fine

