

# NEW AMERICAN LUXURY

EXCLUSIVELY FOR  
THE LUXURY TRADE  
PROFESSIONAL

THE PREMIERE ISSUE  
NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2011  
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

DESIGN INNOVATIONS / 032

Betty Duff's interior design for NBA all-stars

GLASS CONSTRUCTION / 079

Federal meets modern in historic Georgetown

VAN DAM CUSTOM BOATS / 098

Handcrafted custom boats for the seafaring elite

ALBERT, RIGHTER & TITTMANN ARCHITECTS / 105

A grown-up camp retreat on Martha's Vineyard



## MOUNTAIN LIVING

High-end homes on rugged  
Western terrain

40

### GOOD KARMA

Henrik Fisker,  
founder of Fisker  
Automotive,  
discusses his sexy  
sports car with a  
conscience

67

### THE MOBILE CONCIERGE

Vertu's stunning  
handsets offer  
exclusive lifestyle  
assistance at the  
push of a button

100

### SPEED + SPECTACLE

New York-based  
Asymptote  
Architecture's Abu  
Dhabi hotel built  
around a Formula 1  
racetrack





## Beyond Bamboo

Worldly eclecticism characterizes modern Hawaiian design



SHIRLEY WAGNER, ASID  
Designer, Owner



DIANE BOBEK  
Designer

**COMPANY**  
Fine Design Hawaii  
PO Box 7019  
Kamuela, HI 96743  
808 885 8992  
[finedesignhawaii.com](http://finedesignhawaii.com)

WHILE THE REST OF THE UNITED STATES STRUGGLED in an economic upheaval, Hawaii's luxury homeowners were sitting pretty—and so was one of the big island's top interior-design firms, Fine Design Interiors, Inc. With a clientele that ranges from young professionals to well-established vacation homeowners, Shirley Wagner, ASID, and her team of three create interiors that complement the natural beauty of Hawaii and still have a style that is fresh and eclectic.

With its stable real-estate market and tourism industry, Hawaii continues to enjoy a rich mix of influences—stylistic, cultural, and otherwise. This diversified feel extends to the interior designs of the archipelago's most opulent homes, which often look beyond the islands for inspiration. More traditional island looks have given way to the incorporation of fine Asian handicraft, a result of the state's close proximity to thriving overseas markets. Hawaii has become a hotbed of eclectic design.

### PASSION FOR CUSTOMIZATION

Wagner, a designer for 28 years, has spent her entire career in Hawaii. Fine Design's clients want to incorporate the beauty of the island with their individual styles, bringing the outdoors in, and weaving a blend of design styles with an understated touch of luxury.

The Fine Design team also includes project designer Diane Bobek, whose passion for color, texture, and unique fabrics is visible in each of her projects. "From the beginning of a



Refresh your home, refresh your life with inspirational, unique and luxurious Southeast Asian furniture and home decor accents from Baik Designs.



rare antiques

artful accents

exclusive furniture

**BAIK DESIGNS®**

gentry pacific design center  
560 north nimitz highway  
808 524 2290  
baikdesigns.com



02



03

#### 01 CHARLES DICKEY HOUSE

This historic Honolulu home is known for its distinctive style of Hawaiian architecture, which utilizes pocket-sliding doors, often a feature in resort homes today. Renovation of Charles Dickey's 1930s, 4,000-square-foot home took nearly a year and cost approximately \$500,000. "It was an honor to work on his home," Wagner says. "He set the course for Hawaiian architecture, and we still use his rooflines and ventilation." Photo: Hal Lum

#### 02-03 NAUPAKA RESORT HOME

This resort residence is among the team's most unique projects. Located near an alkaline, natural fishpond, the refurbished 7,500-square-foot home features authentic Venetian-plastered walls, travertine flooring, mahogany cabinetry, and modern, minimalist furnishings. Photos: Michael Rudd

project to the end, we're creating a vision," Bobek says. "I love seeing the client's excitement."

#### WORLDLY HAWAIIAN STYLE

First-time clients often attribute bamboo and Buddhas to island design, but the aesthetic has grown way beyond those preconceptions, fusing traditional elements of the Hawaiian-resort lifestyle with both modern and ethnic looks. Wagner and Bobek agree that luxury Hawaiian design is much more contemporary and global than it used to be. In fact, Fine Design has a long-standing relationship with Baik Designs, an Indonesia-based company that imports teak products, one-of-a-kind pieces, fabrics, carvings, and unique furnishings that add a touch of the Pacific to high-end interiors. Wagner says she has built a solid relationship with the family-run company over the past 12 years. "They let us know when they're planning a trip to Indonesia so we can place orders for unique pieces," she says.

Bobek and Wagner agree that what sets their designs apart is the fusion of the modern and the nostalgic. For example, the firm loves to incorporate classically Hawaiian elements into a room that still seem fresh, not dated. A trademark design element used by the company is the Indonesian-style daybed, or Hawaiian *punee*. "In each of our designs we try to find a place for one of these. They're the ultimate in comfort and have an aesthetically pleasing line," Wagner says. Comfort and aesthetics are the foundations of fine design in Hawaii.

Written by Anita R. Paul