

THE PREMIER LUXURY HOME AND LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE





letter from the publisher

pring may begin in March but really comes into its own in April when the sun starts to make its presence felt and the flowers start to bloom. Our April issue is dedicated to the resurgence of our beautiful Hamptons landscape now that spring has arrived. We can't wait to get out into the garden.

Featured on this month's front cover, Tim Davis and Thomas Davis of The Corcoran Group present a beautiful traditional home that is the epitome of perfection in Water Mill. This countryside estate features over 9,500 square feet of living space on three exceptionally detailed levels. A true Hamptons retreat, this stunning home features a wine cellar, gunite pool and a fully equipped outdoor kitchen for resort-style indoor and outdoor entertaining. Outside, it's the ultimate in privacy with lush gardens, all set behind a gated entry.

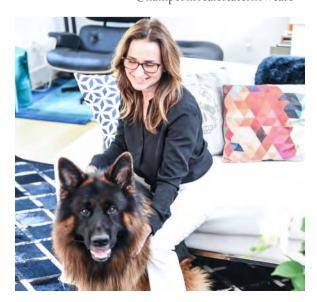
Now that spring has sprung, we have some great garden features for you to check out. First, we catch up with Michael Giannelli, owner of East Hampton Gardens in this month's spotlight feature. Green thumb or not, get inspired by Kelli Delaney Kot's "The Flower of Now" and Annie Sisk's "Exciting Landscape Design Trends for Your Home." For the garden newbie, Anne Halpin's "Start A Garden This Year" will give you tips and resources on growing your own vegetable or flower garden. Also, growing an indoor garden is a cinch with Hannah Selinger's "Now Trending: An Easier Houseplant."

Also in this issue, our Designer Showcase this month features Matthew Miller of StudioLAB and his new, light-filled modern farmhouse in Sagaponack; Skye Sherman takes us around the world from France to Thailand on a trip through the international dining scene in the Palm Beaches. This month's travel feature transports us to the Montmartre in Paris - bon voyage! Have you looked in the mirror lately? Beverly Stephen has, and in this month's shopping feature she's picked out a few new shapes and styles of mirrors to help ponder who's the fairest of them all.

Enjoy the issue!

Claudette Greenstein

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: Kristin L. Grav





A SAGAPONACK NEW-BUILD AFFORDS BOTH A SENSE OF OPENNESS AND A RARE COMMODITY: PRIVACY

TEXT BY NINA THOMSON PHOTOGRAPHY BY AMANDA KIRKPATRICK

Building a house on the east end of Long Island is not for the faint of heart. Matthew Miller, the founder of the Manhattan architecture and interiors firm StudioLAB, knows this from direct experience, having designed, built, and decorated his own family's home in Sagaponack in 2019. As if that weren't enough, he also took on the formidable challenge of acting as the project's general contractor. This baptism by fire led Miller to start a secondary company that specializes in design-build projects in the Hamptons.

A few months after Miller completed his house, a neighbor paid him a visit. He was so taken by Miller's place that he ended up enlisting StudioLAB to design, build, and decorate one much like it for his young family. Not exactly like it, mind you, but a bigger iteration. (Needless to say the furniture and finishes are different, and there are some other critical differences too.)

"It's a play on a modern farmhouse in the Hamptons," Miller says of the 6,000-square-foot structure distributed on two stories. "Super-traditional houses can be a little boring, and they lack some of the nicer aspects of a modern house such as light and views and a more open feeling. More glass."



We like to keep things neutral and light, especially in the Hamptons. Furnishings and artwork are opportunities to create pops of color.

In Miller's design, that means long runs of double-height windows that reflect wonderful soft daylight back into the rooms. "This house is a long rectangle," says Miller, "which gives you two-sided spaces that have light from both sides. The light is filtered so it never picks up too much heat."

The house consists of three separate volumes — two gables and a central volume — that form a single contiguous mass via a bridge. In

addition to serving as connective tissue, the bridge creates, among other things, a natural sense of privacy. Miller located the family's sleeping quarters on the second floor, with the childrens' bedrooms in one gable and the primary bedroom suite in the other so that "the kids and the parents feel private in their wing."

Common areas are on the ground floor, and a two-bedroom guest suite is tucked away on the first floor. "What I think is important in a house is a clear understanding of public and private zones," says Miller, "You don't want them to criss-cross. You don't want to walk out from your bedroom to the kitchen."

What Miller calls 'public zones' — the kitchen and living room and dining room — are openplan, each flowing into the other. The effect is airy and sleek with lots of shiplap (Miller likes it because he feels it has a softer look



than drywall), oak floors, and white walls. The furniture is a mix of mid-century modern and Scandinavian-inspired in hues of blue and grey.

"In general I like to put the accents of a house into the furnishings rather than on the walls," says Miller. "I'd rather paint a living room bright white and have a blue sofa than paint the walls blue and have a grey sofa. We like

to keep things neutral and light, especially in the Hamptons. Furnishings and artwork are opportunities to create pops of color."

Most new-builds are delivered empty, leaving the homeowners to scramble to furnish it. But when this house was handed over — twelve months after construction commenced — it was dressed to the nines. "We don't have every piece

of furniture picked out from the beginning," Miller elaborates, "but during the course of the build we figure out what we're going to order so that when the construction is finished all that stuff is there. Through 3D renderings, we can figure out what everything is going to look like and we get a really good understanding of the house."



