

ARCADIA NEWS

ARCADIA Home & design

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Phoenix

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480.287.5242

Lara Broadrick

Rebecca Clayton

Shawna Warner

Robin Orscheln



Russ Lyon

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY



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3850 E. Indian School Rd. #1
Phoenix AZ 85018
602-840-6379 • arcadiahd.com

Publisher
Greg A. Bruns
greg@arcadianews.com

Editor
Amanda Goossen
amanda@arcadianews.com

Design & Layout
Michele Morrett
michele@arcadianews.com

Advertising
Donna Wirtel
donna@arcadianews.com



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Arcadia may not feel the deep freeze that most of the country must suffer through each winter, but that doesn't mean our yards are safe from a little freeze. Writer Kathleen Shipman offers five tips to bring the plants, garden and grass back to life after Jack Frost has passed through.

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For Justin Beckett, owner and Executive Chef at Beckett's Table in Arcadia, home is where he cooks pancakes for the family. Discover what Arcadia Home and Design learned about one of our neighborhoods most talented chefs, after a morning spent in his Central Phoenix home and kitchen.



Editor's Note

It's an exciting month here at *Arcadia Home & Design*. This is our first ever February edition, as we embark on a year with four editions of *Arcadia Home & Design* instead of two, as we did in the past.

I've been hoping for a February edition for quite some time. With the amount of wonderful gardening advice that can be shared with our readers before it gets too hot, I'm excited to have a platform for our writers, some experts and a few of our masterful researchers to share a bundle of information that will apply to the gorgeous Arcadia spring weather we all love so much.

Speaking of our weather, this month we have a terrific article by Kathleen Shipman explaining how to bring back those plants and your yard, after winter has been a bit too harsh. We may not experience the snow that most of the other country must deal with, but our cold nights still wreak havoc on our greenery.

Also, we've been given the extreme pleasure of spending time in the home of local architect Cathy Hayes as she proved to us that a small space and a little know how can create a living space that everyone will wish was theirs, even if it's just over 900 sq. ft.

I hope you enjoy this edition of *Arcadia Home & Design*. If you or someone you know would like to have their home featured in our publication please let us know!

Enjoy and thank you for reading!

Amanda Goossen



5 WAYS TO Refresh THE YARD AFTER A FROST

By Kathleen Shipman

2 Transform your Lawn from Brown to Green

It doesn't take long to get your grass back to its natural lush state. It just needs some water, fertilizer, and a little TLC. Use this time to be sure your irrigation system is up to par.

- Inspect sprinkler heads for proper coverage
- Check for leaks
- Start a watering routine

Even though you may want your yard to stand out from your neighbor's, it is important that you don't overwater your grass. Living in the desert, we need to conserve this resource. For great tips on how to keep your landscape vibrant all while saving water, go to the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association website, www.amwua.org.



I Cut Back the Frost Bite

Don't let a warm week in February fool you into thinking the winter has ended. Those nighttime freezing temperatures are still a possibility until the end of the month. To be safe, wait until March to cut back your frost bitten plants.

- Cut your plants ½ inch below the frost line
- Shape to your desired preference



For more tips visit the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association. www.amwua.org/pruning_frost.html

3 Prepare a New Vegetable Garden

According to the Desert Botanical Garden, February is a great time to prepare a new vegetable garden for spring planting. Here's how to do so.

Begin by working a digging fork or rototilling the ground to approximately 12-18 inches deep. Avoid this process if the soil is too wet, as it may be damaging. Apply compost liberally, (several inches) and combine it with the loosened soil.



4 Bring New Life to the Yard

Springtime is the perfect time of year to do some planting! Baker's Nursery provides a helpful chart to determine what's best to plant for each season in Arizona. Check out some of their suggestions for seed planting in March.

Seeding Plants:

Alyssum • Cosmos • Sunflower
Petunia • Dahlia • Viola
Marigold • Lupine • Balsam • Salvia
Hollyhocks • Four O'clock

And don't forget...

Turn that winter yard cleanup into a compost pile! By combining your leaves, yard clippings, and kitchen scraps, you will create the richest organic fertilizer there is.



Go to the Desert Botanical Garden website and read their Desert Gardening Guide on Composting. www.dbg.org

5 Fill in your Yard with Colorful Accents and Natural Designs

At Berridge Nurseries, they believe decorating your garden with colorful pots and accessories can be just as enhancing as the actual plants themselves. They like to call it, "planting happiness." Why not bring vibrancy to your yard with waterless additions such as pottery, statues, stepping stones, or a wrought iron bench.

Or, take advantage of Arizona's own natural accent pieces. Boulders, river rocks, and petrified wood are just some examples of creative desert décor.



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Arcadia

Tucked away on a large corner lot, this home features gorgeous hardwood flooring and vaulted wood-beamed ceilings, and a luxurious master suite with a private patio.

4BR | 5.5BA | 5,330 SF | \$1,825,000

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Arcadia

Privately gated and in a premier Arcadia location, this home was custom built in 1996 and is an incredible value today with a gourmet kitchen, home office, gym, and private master suite.

5BR | 6BA | 5,206 SF | \$1,595,000

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Phoenix

Perched high above the Valley but only minutes from everywhere, this wonderful Mid-Century Modern home enjoys panoramic views from nearly every room.

3BR | 3BA | 3,597 SF | \$1,595,000

Raquel Barbey 602.526.4571



Arcadia

Originally constructed around 1915, this fully restored and renovated Mexican colonial hacienda on one acre was chosen as the Heard Museum Designer home.

4BR | 4.5BA | 5,200 SF | \$2,665,000

Karen Ganz 602.469.6709



Phoenix

Enjoy Camelback Mountain and lush fairway views from this beautiful home with a versatile floor plan located on the Arizona Country Club golf course.

4BR | 4.5BA | 4,964 SF | \$1,150,000

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Arcadia

This classic Arcadia ranch has been updated throughout with contemporary styling and finishes with a floor plan set for entertaining.

5BR | 4BA | 3,400 SF | \$899,000

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Walt Danley





Sweet Salvage

By Katie Mayer

✧ Stepping into Phoenix's Sweet Salvage store is a bit like an exploration. Strong pieces of American history are tucked away among romantic trinkets from faraway lands. Crinkled letters and old photos peek out from a vintage box, while delicate fabrics float near industrial fixtures and rustic cabinetry. A hint of mystery exudes from every display.

Is it a cozy French farmhouse? A rich 19th century study? Or a mid-century modern living room?

The answer is all of it – and much more.

And if that isn't ambiguous enough, Sweet Salvage isn't a store – yet it isn't quite a flea market either.

Sweet Salvage is a shopping event that occurs for four days each month and sells a variety of antique, re-purposed and pre-owned furniture, art and home pieces from around the country and world. During the other approximately 26 days in each month, Sweet Salvage designers scour estate sales, flea markets, the Internet and more to find unique pieces to sell to the public.

But it's the staging that makes Sweet Salvage unlike many stores carrying similar items. Each month, 11 designers meet and select a theme for the event. The designers then interpret that theme in any way they choose and embark on picking trips to select and buy the items that fit their vision. A 5,000 square foot warehouse is then parceled out to each designer, who creates a "vignette," or staged space, with all of their items for sale.

On opening day, customers can see a variety of vignettes, which each tell a story and showcase clever uses for the pieces, while incorporating a variety of design ideas.

"There is a theme so it feels cohesive, instead of too loose...like a flea market," said Sweet Salvage owner Kim Rawlins. "Having a beautiful space makes you feel better for creating, so we want to really drum up enthusiasm for embracing your home, but not in a big box way."

There is everything from rustic farm tables, to vintage suitcases artfully arranged and old mail cubbies sitting atop a rustic desk to form an entirely new piece of furniture. There is even a 12-foot aged wood, hand-chiseled window from an old church. In all, there are thousands of pieces for sale.

"We find the authentic things that really make it come together," Rawlins said.

Like Christmas morning

The morning air is chilly and the smell of rich coffee and sweet pastries for sale from The House Brasserie floats through the breeze as the excitement builds.

It's opening day for January's Sweet Salvage event, and a crowd of nearly 100 is already lined up around the building – near 7th Avenue and Camelback Road – waiting for the doors to swing open.

"I come and wait in line every month," said Arcadia resident Sarah Hubbard. "Usually I have a whole bunch of Arcadia girls with me."

Inside, the Sweet Salvage merchandise is artfully arranged to fit the theme "For the Love of Home." Nearly 40 employees scurry about with excited energy, never standing in one place for too long. One tilts a frame; another fluffs a pillow, and still more put the final touches on their displays before the crowd files in.

"When it opens, it's like Christmas morning," said Heather Moeller, the store's creative director.

One regular customer, who lives just south of Arcadia skipped work to attend opening day.

"Sometimes I come here not really looking for anything, but it's just comforting to be here," the woman said. "I'd just like to stay in there a few days."

Hubbard said that during January's show she hopes to find a petite chandelier, but that she likes to keep an open mind, and usually comes home with much more than she intended.

"Last month, you couldn't fit a pencil in my SUV," she said with a laugh.

Still, Hubbard's favorite Sweet Salvage finds are her two white corbels, from a convent in Maine that now form her fireplace mantle.

Arcadia husband and wife shoppers Gordon and Kay LeBlanc said they enjoy coming to Sweet Salvage events to purchase items for their garden.

"The way everything is displayed is just so beautiful," said Kay.

"And it smells clean in there, unlike a typical antique store," Gordon said.

As the doors open, the crowd steps in a

few at a time to allow everyone to enjoy their experience. At the end of the day, designers will pull out fresh pieces from the back of the store to fill in spaces where items have been sold – preventing the store from feeling picked over.

When the event ends, some of the items are sold in other places, some are re-purposed and refreshed for the next show, and others are donated.

"A commitment we made as a group is to keep it fresh," Rawlins said, "so each month they can expect it to be new."

Sweet dreams come true

While today's Sweet Salvage customers embrace the idea of an event-style store, some doubted the concept would work.

And when Rawlins, along with general manager Stephanie Williams and Moeller prepared to hold their first Sweet Salvage event in summer 2011, they too were scared.

"People were like, 'How are you going to pay your rent?'" Rawlins said.

So the ladies tried to get the message out as much as they could.

"We were like, okay, I invited 10 friends and you invited 10 friends, and hopefully a few of them will come," Williams said.

"I had to strongly believe it was going to happen," Rawlins said, "but I cried the night before to my husband."

The next day when Sweet Salvage debuted, they were astounded. There was already a line wrapped around the building.

"It was absolutely a dream come true," Rawlins said.

The three designers and colleagues knew at that moment that they had created something magical. And what makes them even happier today is the joy it brings to their customers, whom they casually call "our friends."

A hand-selected team

Just as every Sweet Salvage vignette comes together eclectically, yet seamlessly, so did the designers who bring them to life.

Rawlins, a petite blonde originally from Minnesota, spent her career working in the car business before opening an antique store on Cave Creek Road in 2008. Through working there, she met Moeller a jack-of-all-trades daughter of a designer, who was the first person to tell Rawlins that her Sweet Salvage idea "wasn't crazy."



Sweet Salvage owner, Kim Rawlins

"She embraced the same energy," Rawlins said.

Williams, a formal floral designer, was the third to join the team after her display in another store caught Rawlins' attention.

"She was that cool girl," Rawlins said. "We asked her to join us."

"I said 'yes' right away," added Williams.

Today with a total of 11 designers – including two men – Rawlins said people ask her all of the time how they can get their displays into Sweet Salvage, but Rawlins insists that the designers must be hand-selected.

"It's really about the synergy of the group," Rawlins said.

They help one another bring their spaces to life, just as they help their customers with their homes.

"I think that we help people find their own style and define it," Moeller said.

"Our guests come in here with a sense of 'I like that piece and I want to put it in my home,'" she added, "and that's okay, because everybody has a story and their house is reflective of that story."

More about Sweet Salvage

Sweet Salvage is located at 4648 N. 7th Avenue in Phoenix and opens the third Thursday of every month. The next event will be held Feb. 20-23 and the theme will be "Raw and Refined." For more information, visit www.sweetsalvage.net or www.facebook.com/sweet.salvage.





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BRIAN NORTH
Visionary

Relentless, dynamic and energetic, Brian North, residential broker for Green Street Realty in Phoenix, Arizona is a passionate REALTOR who knows no bounds. The independent brokerage is gaining strength in the competitive Phoenix market, ranked number three in the state for per capita production, and his team, North&Co., is at the head of the pack.

Brian has the heart of an entrepreneur, starting in sales at just 15 years old selling shoes. "I've always been in sales and coming to real estate was a gradual process," he explains. "I was investing for myself and I wanted to grow my business into something more. I got addicted to the pace of real estate. I love the thrill of the deal and the relationships that we build in this business." Starting with just a business card and a handshake, he built his career from scratch, working hard to establish a network of clients and a strong foundation for his business.

Brian has such a passion for building businesses that when he was approached by the owner of Green Street Realty to assist him, he couldn't refuse. "We decided that a brokerage was the best way to build a scalable business and to surround ourselves with the kind of people that share our same goals," says Brian. "With the brokerage we wanted to establish an atmosphere that operated more like a firm and less like a loose group of agents," he explains. "We pride ourselves on our business etiquette. We all look the part, carry ourselves like professionals, and share a work ethic that carries the business forward." This sense of professionalism echoes through every aspect of the brokerage and they have taken the most traditional elements of sales and modernized them for the contemporary client.

Brian never takes his success for granted. He knows that his business will only grow through sustained and diligent attention. "I reinvent my business three to four times a year," he explains. "I am constantly reviewing our practices and injecting dollars and time into the aspects that work and throwing out the others. We always have a very close eye on market conditions so that we can be proactive rather than reactive to changes as they occur." Because of his careful attention, he was processing short sales in 2006 well before the market demanded these types of sales. By 2010, they were refocusing their efforts on re-sales and away from distressed properties, and today they are readjusting as the market once again shifts under their feet. Always one step ahead, North&Co. is an agile brokerage that is able to meet any challenge head-on.

While running a brokerage would be enough for most, Brian loves the business too much to be away from the action. Within the brokerage, Brian has built North&Co., a team of talented, hard-working agents that includes Kris McLaughlin, Heather Wilson, Greg Corbett, and Cheri Reeves. "We think of ourselves as practicing real estate by trade," says Brian. "We are trades people who are not afraid to answer the tough questions and do whatever it takes for the client. There is no sense of pretentiousness with us, just hard work and good service." Brian sees himself as a mentor and partner with his team, and his highest hopes for each of them is that they will all find their own success and build a strong career. "I love my team and want each of them to excel," he says.

As is true with the brokerage, Brian is always looking for innovative ways to change the practice of real estate with his team. "I love listening to other agents talk about things that don't work for them and trying to find a way to rejuvenate those practices," he says. "For instance, many agents have given up on open houses altogether labeling them a waste of time. Instead of abandoning them, we have re-invented them. We hold open houses with six properties at a time, creating maps of the properties and drawing in much more traffic than a traditional open house." Brian is not afraid to try new ideas and invest in experimentation. He reaches deep into his pockets for marketing utilizing a wide variety of media from print to billboards to the Internet.

Continually on an upward trajectory, Brian's focus is not on his stellar production numbers or his list of accomplishments, but on staking his reputation on the highest quality service to both his clients and his colleagues. "My greatest goal is that someday I'll be voted REALTOR of The Year," he says, "not from any vain pursuit, but because the award is voted on by my peers. Their recognition of my work would be the best accolade I could imagine." Everything Brian does is working toward this end goal and with this kind of outlook he will leave an incredibly positive mark on his community as he builds his bright career.

For more information about Brian and North&Co. visit www.NorthandCo.com or call 480.250.6687 or email brian@northandco.com

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CHERI REEVES
Property Specialist

Cheri may have been raised in Arizona, but she has managed to travel all over the world in not only her professional, but personal adventures. Previously working in international business, some of her favorite destinations include Thailand, Dubai and Hong Kong. After spending so much time away from her roots, she decided to plant her feet back in Phoenix. Cheri quickly found a home with North&Co. and hasn't looked back. What are her plans for the coming year? "I have a lot of experience in the luxury market and am looking to bring additional culture to Arcadia. I have a genuine love for travel and look forward to bringing more international buyers into the market to see how much Arizona and Arcadia have to offer."

GREG CORBETT
Property Specialist

Originally from Colorado, Greg moved to Arizona in 1993 and became a licensed Realtor in 2004. Since then, Greg spent four successful years as an on site agent in new home sales and then moved into the resale market in 2008. After several years working all over the valley with multiple offices, Greg finally found his home in Phoenix with North&Co. and has been there ever since. His outlook for 2014? "This should be the first year in quite some time where we see a healthy market which means homes will sell if you price them right. The demand for our amazing community will remain strong as usual."

HEATHER WILSON
Property Specialist

Heather started her sales career selling new homes for a thriving Valley home builder in 2004. She excelled as a member of a sales team, winning the Peer Award for Excellence. It was during this stint that Heather learned the home building process from start to finish. Her passion for remodeling older homes led her to live and sell in the Camelback Corridor and Arcadia areas. After 5 years at Realty Executives, Heather and her sister, Kris McLaughlin, joined Green Street Realty. The sisters teamed up with Brian North to launch North&Co. last year and have experienced great success. As for Heather's favorite Central Corridor and Arcadia hotspots? "I'm loving the cozy see-and-be-seen nature of The Henry. The Stand is a family favorite for weekend burgers, tacos and shakes. And Chestnut's Nutella coffee cake alongside Cartel's herbal tea is perfection."

KRIS McLAUGHLIN
Property Specialist

Kris brings a unique marketing perspective to real estate. After graduating cum laude from Wake Forest University with a Bachelors of Arts in Communications, Kris had a successful career in advertising sales and marketing at Wired Magazine in New York City and San Francisco. Moving to Arcadia in 2005 to partner with her sister, Heather Wilson, Kris brought her skill set, ten years of sales experience and passion for connecting with people to the Phoenix real estate market. Together, they go above and beyond to serve their clients' needs. Why does she love to be a part of North&Co.? "It's made up of a group of Realtors who really care about their clients and their community. We have a vested interest in the preservation and improvement of Arcadia neighborhoods. It's where we live."



NORTH&CO.

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The gift of
Smaller Spaces

By Amanda Goossen

Photographs by Mike Baxter, Baxter Imaging



❖ *Cathy Hayes is Arcadia.*

To discover that she actually grew up in a small suburb of Chicago is like finding out that the tooth fairy might be a childhood fantasy. It doesn't seem possible.

Hayes Inc. Architecture and Interiors is responsible for some of Arcadia's most beloved institutions. La Grande Orange wouldn't possess its well known coolness factor, Chelsea's Kitchen wouldn't feel like a bustling home away from home and Sanctuary Resort and Spa would be missing many of its key elements, without the hard work and vision of architect and designer, Cathy Hayes.

Growing up in River Forest, a community closely tied to the larger area of Oak Park in Chicago, Illinois, Cathy was surrounded by architectural inspiration. Beautiful

ranch-style homes were the foundation, while a local celebrity, Frank Lloyd Wright had a home and studio just blocks away from where Cathy grew up.

"I connect with Arcadia because it reminds me of where I grew up," said Cathy. "I knew I would live amongst similar minded people."

Cathy felt such a pull to the community, in fact, eleven years ago she would purchase a 1,500 sq. ft. home on a 7,000 sq. ft lot just blocks away from her office, next door to LGO.

And then she would transform that home, using everything she knew, to design a living space encompassing her every architectural belief.

For Cathy, smaller is better and she proved that by

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“I CONNECT WITH
ARCADIA
BECAUSE IT
REMINDS ME OF
WHERE I GREW UP.”

Continued from page 11

taking her 1,500 sq. ft. home and reducing it to 986 sq. ft.

She would bring the outside in, designing a home that opens up to the yard with both doors and windows to develop a home open to its environment 90% of the year.

“I like to think of it as an expensive tent,” Cathy laughed.

Seven months after purchasing the home, Cathy would begin construction, setting an example of what could be done in a short 4-month period of time.

“My contractor advised me to plan everything beforehand because the house was too small to do otherwise,” said Cathy. “We bought all the appliances and materials and stored them in my office, I acquired permits and plans. When we started we were completely prepared.”

The plans for the home would hold two very important elements, both of which are key aspects of Cathy’s approach to design.

First, the home would be built according to a shade study. A shade study determines the way the sun affects the home and its ability to stay cool.

Using a shade study, Cathy would determine that her home was in the worst possible location for the southwest sun, as it would hit the home and heat it dramatically. By simply adding seven citrus trees to the existing two,

which sat on the southwest side of the house, Cathy would design a microclimate.

Adding solar screens to the westside where the late afternoon sun would hammer the walls and windows, the sunrays would suddenly be used to the homeowners advantage.

The second design element used by Cathy is her desire for usability.

“It’s so important to be critical about all the decisions you’re making, especially in a small house,” said Cathy.

Things such as drawers in the kitchen instead of deep cabinets, windows that open out instead of side to side and sink handles on the wall instead of on the sink are all elements that work to make a person’s life easier and more functional.

“Sink handles on the wall allow water to drip down and make them easier to clean,” said Cathy. “They also open up the counter space.”

To this architect, function is just as important as aesthetic.

“Life is much more balanced this way,” said Cathy. “Angst is simply removed from your day when there is order in your life and home.”

Growing up with eight brothers and sisters, Cathy admits that life had to be in order to survive.

Continued on page 14



“I LIKE TO
THINK OF IT
AS AN
EXPENSIVE
TENT.”





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THE Catherine

BY DIDIER CAUDRON

✿ French painter Didier Caudron was once a well-established doctor. At the age of 57 however, this completely self-taught artist began exhibiting his work, which would quickly thrust him into a world of praise and admiration.

Back in Phoenix, however, Cathy Hayes, while looking for art for a new restaurant she was designing called Chelsea's Kitchen, would stumble upon a gorgeous painting by an up and coming French artist.

A few years later, while traveling through the South of France, Cathy would meet and spend time with the now established painter. After getting to know the man and his family, she would ask him to do more work for her and her ever-growing list of projects.

What would come next is a beautiful piece of art.

In 2008 Cathy would commission Caudron to do a painting for the Estate House, a restaurant she was working on in Old Town Scottsdale. The finished piece would arrive to Cathy with the name Catherine.

The piece, Caudron would explain, was named after his friend. A beautiful white flower placed in an otherwise mix of reds and oranges was the particular element of the painting that he specifically called Catherine.

Two years later, in 2010, when the Estate House would close its doors, Cathy would be given a gift. The painting now hangs beautifully in her home.

Continued from page 12

"We were eight kids sharing one bathroom," said Cathy.

And because of this, one of the most important rooms of the house was the bathroom, where an oversized shower was absolutely mandatory.

"I like to have east morning light in the master bedroom so you start your day with the sunrise," said Cathy. "I haven't woken up to an alarm clock in many years."

Large glass walls bring morning light to both the master bathroom and bedroom.

"It illuminates my bathroom just beautifully."

To Cathy Hayes it's the simple way a person, builder or designer can make a home better, more usable, that truly makes the difference.

"I've learned that we need to respect ourselves and our time," said Cathy. "If we live orderly, if our home is functional for our life, we can do that."

"It's the simple things in life," someone once said. And with her small home, morning sunlight and ability to cool her home with shade and citrus trees, Cathy Hayes is living proof that the mantra is true.

"I LIKE TO HAVE
EAST MORNING
LIGHT IN THE
MASTER BEDROOM
SO YOU START YOUR
DAY WITH THE
SUNRISE."



Handmade

IN PHOENIX

By Amanda Savage

Phoenix is slowly budding to the bloom of its Renaissance – and designers have a lot to do with it. The number of quality local designers is climbing annually and their creative concepts are bringing new ideas and an innovative visual aesthetic to the Phoenix landscape.

Custom, locally made furniture is in demand and on the rise. Many local designers are finding success and moving from their garages to studios and warehouses, while exporting their products to international clients.

Although brought together by common trade, the designers leading the local pack could not be more different. Their styles and motivations contrast significantly but they seem to all share the same goal of wanting to see the Phoenix design scene flourish and to build a supportive community around local, handcrafted goods.

The Artist

Benjamin Hall – Mile112

www.benjaminhalldesign.com/mile112

Some of the most painful times in life breed the most important and beautiful experiences, and without those times full-time architect, part-time furniture designer Benjamin Hall may have never found his calling.

“I was dating a girl in high school. Things weren’t going well. I got home one day to a laundry list of chores my parents had left for me, and I just said screw it. I packed my car full of popcorn, some cash, my guitar and sleeping bag and I just hit the road. I drove all night and found myself in this little town called San Luis Obispo on the coast of California. I called my parents at 2 a.m., they were freaked out, they had no idea where I was. My dad ended up getting me a hotel room at a Best Western,” explained Hall.

A young Hall wandered for a few days, playing his guitar, making some cash and one day found himself wandering onto a college campus (Cal State Polytechnic). He happened to sit-in on an architecture class, and “I was just wowed.”

After taking part in a summer school program for high-school students, Hall found himself at the University of Arizona studying architecture, then, as a graduate, he moved to Washington state and worked for a well-known architect.

Hall reached a burn-out phase in his career, and his landlord offered up a cabin he owned in central Washington, asking that Hall “bring it up to speed.” Hall spent six months in the remote cabin (found only by a mile marker, it was number 112), and eventually, got bored. So he made a chair.

“I liked to watch the stars at night, and needed something to sit in.”

So with some materials in his car, he put together his first piece, a pin press chair called the “Stargazer.”

From there he started making sketches and taking part in small projects here-and-there, but it wasn’t until he moved to Phoenix, and expanded his tools and workshop, that he really started to push the furniture side of his business.

Hall’s designs are simple, clean and fresh. He approaches design with an almost childlike curiosity, experimentation and an enthusiasm to learn. He is interested in exploring new mediums and really getting to understand the materials he works with.

“I treat it as an art. I wouldn’t call it a hobby or a business. It’s an art,” says Hall.

He describes his style as gritty, refined and elegant. He explains that his process is about “boiling down what the essence of the goal is, and trying to reinvent it.”

Currently Hall sells one-of-a-kind creations on his website and makes custom orders for residential clients. He’s an architect first.

His products can be found at Modern Manor, Funky Boutique and at model homes used as staging bait.



The Bunky Day to Night Stool by Benjamin Hall Designs.



Phoenix resident Thomas Porter uses reclaimed barn wood to create unique pieces for the home.

The Naturalist

Thomas Porter – Porter Barn Wood

www.porterbarnwood.com

Thomas Porter has made a name for Porter Barn Wood, as a premiere spot to find reclaimed barn wood. He runs a wood yard available to the public three days each week, and a custom shop at a separate locale that produces wood and metal doors, tables and other home goods.

Surrounded by woodwork at a young age, the idea of wood as a business sparked for Porter when he helped a friend transport an old barn from out-of-state to Phoenix. Through that experience he saw the demand for reclaimed wood and decided to fill the niche.

Now, Porter has crews in “top-secret” locations in the Midwest that scavenge, breakdown and ship old barns to him.

Most of Porter’s barn wood comes from traditional, American farms dated from the 1700s and 1800s.

Some of his favorite woods come from nearly extinct American Chestnut, which was wiped out at the turn of the century, making some chestnut wood pieces over 200 years old.

In March Porter’s team will be tearing down a few barns on a property that dates pre-civil war.

“The main house on the property was ravaged by Shermans—scavengers for Sherman’s army—they knocked down the door with a horse and you can still see the footprints in the front of the house,” said Porter.

“We love the history behind the wood almost as much as we love the wood-working,” said Porter.

As one could guess Porter’s style is rugged and natural. What he describes as “organic industrial.”

“We like to bring stuff in that’s natural. We like the natural defects and the

imperfections in things, and we like work around those artistically. We like the live edge of the tree. The imperfections are what make things beautiful,” said Porter.

With business booming Porter has plans to develop a new property that will serve as a yard, workshop, storefront and blacksmith shop.

“We won’t just have the woodworking and building supplies, we will also have a blacksmith shop that we’re adding this year. We’re taking over an existing blacksmith shop. We’ll be gearing that up quite a bit. Doing more finishing. Adding vintage markets and creating a sort of urban Phoenix community for reclaimed wood and reclaimed barn wood projects.”

Porter Barn Wood has supplied reclaimed wood for the Union at the Biltmore Fashion Park, Handle Bar In Tempe, Dierks Bently’s Whiskey Row, The Western, Giant Rustic Pizza, Bourbon Jacks in Chandler, Sedona Wine and Beer Company, The Good, Bad and the Ugly, EVO, Chloe’s at Cityscape and many more.

The Problem Solver

Dean Heckler – Heckler Design

www.hecklerdesign.com

Heckler Design is famous for two things: the steel iPad stand, the Windfall, and One Less Office desk designs.

Furniture design became a guilty-pleasure for Heckler when he was working full-time as a UX/UI interface designer and owning his own software company. When he had extra cash, he would have one of his sketches made. Design was a treat.

When he brought his original, highly modern desk design to life, he didn’t expect other people to like it. But when friends and family responded positively and wanted one, he began to see the potential in his designs.

Hall slowly transitioned away from

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software full-time, to consulting, and worked towards growing his product business. In late 2008 and early 2009, he was able to completely eliminate software from his workload.

Dean specializes in functional design.

"I'm drawn to problem solving. If there's a way of making it simpler, I want to implement it. I don't consider something done until I've made it as simple as possible," said Hall.

Heckler Design is making a move to a large 6,000 square foot warehouse in mid-February along Grand Avenue. Here, Hall will dedicate 1,500 feet to offices and 4,500 feet to a new warehouse.

Currently most of Heckler's Design sales happen online, with one local store, Customatic in the Biltmore Union, selling some of his desks.

You can see his iPad enclosures and stands at dozens of local (and national) Valley businesses like Fate Brewery and Greater than Coffee. The stands protect the iPad while also putting it on display. A Windfall cash register is also now available.



Desk by Hecker Designs.

The Industrialist

Vintage Industrial – Greg Hankerson
www.shop.retro.net

Vintage Industrial is a husband-wife partnership, design and manufacturing company that makes fresh pieces inspired by French Industrial.

Greg Hankerson was always a creative kid. "I got into art projects and liked music and I wanted to be a rockstar at one point. That kind of fizzled and I followed my dad's dream, to work in accounting and do



Desk base by Industrial Vintage.

net" became the foundation of Vintage Industrial. He started posting his creations on his blogs and people started buying them.

Hankerson's designs are motivated by the femininity and warmth the French brought to industrial design.

"In the early 1800s (the French) were making industrial pieces for factories but really put a lot of love and thought into it. It wasn't just a table with four legs, they made it really ornate and pretty," Hankerson explained.

Over the last three years Vintage Industrial has grown from the Hankerson backyard to a large warehouse in South Central Phoenix with a staff of

about 20.

the family business," Hankerson explained.

But as accounting became dull, Hankerson was in search for a creative outlet, and coincidentally his wife needed a new table.

"So I made something and she loved it – I didn't like it."

So Hankerson set out to make something he did like, and in the process made a lot of tables.

This project to make 'the best table' combined with Hankerson's active blogging and the owned domain name "retro.

Currently Vintage Industrial ships to commercial and residential clients across the globe, spreading as far as Australia and Dubai. Notably, their designs can be found in Lamb & Flag retail stores across the country and locally at the Four Seasons Scottsdale (to name a few).

While the current space allows the business to double and still be comfortable where they are, because of shipping costs, Vintage Industrial expects to open shop on the East Coast and in Europe within the next five years.

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At Home with Chef Justin Beckett

By Amanda Goossen
Photographs By Michael Baxter

✿ Chef Justin Beckett stands proudly in his Arcadia restaurant on a nightly basis, behind an abundance of burners, pans and various cooking utensils, preparing masterful plates for hungry locals, visitors and friends. With a large open kitchen, patrons are always in perfect view of Beckett's hard work as he meticulously prepares plates that are not only delicious and intensely satisfying but have made him a household name amongst foodies and families alike.

But to Justin Beckett, owner and Executive Chef of Beckett's Table, his Arcadia restaurant is the second most important place he creates delicious home-style cooking. His number one spot for whipping up a meal is his home kitchen, with his wife Michelle and their two beautiful boys, Greyson (6) and Tobin (4).

When Justin and Michelle moved into their Phoenix home seven years ago, they were saddled with a project. An original 1950s home, which had been owned by the same person for the past 18 years, the space would need a little



tender loving care. The effort would mean a home with the layout, ranch-style and history they loved but with newer floors, paint, stripped wood beams and an entirely new kitchen.

Affinity Kitchens in Scottsdale helped the Becketts design a kitchen that would be practical and family oriented while also working with the overall style of the home.

Large, sleek and refined Viking appliances were used throughout the space, from the large stove to the refrigerator and wine locker. Counter space that most would envy is made even more special when you discover that the counter tops are made completely of sealed concrete, ensuring easy cleanup.

"The way the counters were smoothed and poured gave them their unique look," said Justin.

For the man who spends most of his life in a kitchen, the cleanability and uncluttered look of the kitchen was one of the most important factors of the design.

Appliances that are normally found scattered throughout most home kitchens are all hidden away, placed out of sight. Even the microwave is behind cabinet doors.

Light switches are on the wall outside the kitchen space and all electrical outlets are



Chef Beckett's son, Tobin (4), gets to work in his own kitchen as dad prepares a meal.



hidden underneath the cabinetry. There are only four seams on the entire length of the large counter space, making sure that no time is wasted cleaning grout or wiping away stubborn crumbs.

Justin Beckett decided on things for his home kitchen that most home chefs would never think of, but can definitely admire.

The functionality and cleanability leaves more time for Justin to spend with his family. The sleek glass table, which extends from the kitchen counter makes a great space for his young boys to sit and watch their dad cook.

Unless they are cooking themselves, on their retro red pretend kitchen, positioned just a few feet from their father's feet.

"On the weekend we make breakfast and the boys like to use their pretend kitchen while I'm cooking," said Justin.

Perhaps the boys are practicing for their future, just as Justin prepared in his own family kitchen as a child.

"I was the oldest of 5 kids," said Justin. "My mom asked me to help out and I chose the kitchen as my space."

His experience would lead to a first job as a dishwasher and eventually the decision to attend culinary school.

"I used the money my parents gave me for an SAT tutor to buy my girlfriend an anniversary present," said Justin. "I was then on a mission to find a college that didn't require SAT scores."

A friend mentioned culinary school as an option and Justin never looked back.

"I love the rush of it all," said Justin. "I love



creating something that nourishes other people."

His favorite things to prepare? Breakfast for his family. Fresh pasta. Mexican food, especially enchiladas. And braised meats.

"I love to make sandwiches," said Justin. "They are probably my favorite food group."

Another is one of the basics.

"I love vegetables," said Justin. "I love creating a menu and a recipe according to what's in season. And I really like getting people to eat vegetables they don't think they like. They almost always change their mind."

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