

MODERN LUXURY

BY THE PUBLISHERS OF **HOUSTON** AND
MODERN LUXURY DALLAS MAGAZINES

Interiors

TEXAS

BEST OF DESIGN

CELEBRATING TEXAS' TOP TALENTS

IN THE MIX
A MODERN TWIST ON TRADITIONAL IN THE WOODLANDS

COLOR IS KING
A DAZZLING DALLAS DWELLING'S BRIGHT IDEAS

PLUS
2016'S HOT NEW HUE & WISE WORDS FROM
STYLE STARS NATE BERKUS & SIR PAUL SMITH

BEST OF Design

From showstopping interiors to wow-worthy home accessories, our second annual roundup of Texas' top architects, designers, products and more—including readers' picks—proves that design talent runs deep in the Lone Star State.

BY JESSICA ELLIOTT, STEVEN LINDSEY, RHONDA REINHART AND HELEN THOMPSON



1 BEDROOM PHOTO BY BEN JOHNSON; MARE TUNISIAN PHOTO BY JILL SCOTTE; JEWELRY PHOTO BY RICHARD KRAE



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1. AT HOME

A master bedroom makeover by Ben Johnston, winner for best bedroom design

2. BIZ

Marie Flanigan of Marie Flanigan Interiors, winner for best classic interior design firm

3. OUT & ABOUT

The dining room at Juniper, winner for best restaurant interior design

4. PRODUCTS & PIECES

Mark Moussa, founder of Arteriors, winner for best lighting design





/ Best Bedroom:
Ben Johnston /

For this master bedroom makeover, **Ben Johnston** of Houston's Avondale Design Studio added a wow factor to every single surface. Replacing the carpet with wood floors came first. Next up: wrapping the walls in a striking Maya Romanoff wallcovering. Finally, Johnston brought some drama to the ceiling with a spiky Arteriors chandelier. The furnishings got an upgrade too. A custom headboard sets the scene for a gilded mirror and rich, metallic bedding. Retiring for the night never seemed so glamorous. 912 Lovett Blvd., Ste. A, Houston, 713.876.0432, avondaledesignstudio.com

SLEEP ON IT
From left: A pair of
oversize lamps by
Visual Comfort flank
a custom channel-
back headboard in
this glam master
bedroom; designer
Ben Johnston.

BEN JOHNSTON PHOTO BY JULIE SCHAFER, BEDROOM PHOTO BY BEN JOHNSTON, KITCHEN PHOTO BY CHUCK WILLIAMS

READERS' CHOICE

BEST KITCHEN: KATHY ANDERSON

Kathy Anderson's client wanted a white, modern kitchen, but she also wanted it to be warm and inviting. So Anderson, principal designer and owner of Eklektik Interiors, brought together the best of both worlds in this new-construction project in Piney Point Village. White quartz countertops keep things sleek and low-maintenance, while wood beams and hand-scraped wood floors add an almost-rustic charm to the room. The space is highly functional too: Double islands make prepping and serving a snap, and four ovens mean the homeowner can entertain large groups with ease. 1300 Shepherd Drive, Houston, 832.804.6300, eklektikinteriors.com



MASTERFUL MIX Wood beams and wood floors add warmth to this sleek, modern kitchen.

SPECIAL PROMOTION

BEST of DESIGN AWARDS

Ben Johnston

Avondale Design Studio

713.876.0432, avondaledesignstudio.com

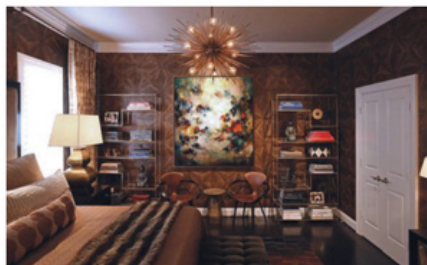
Ben Johnston is a Houston-based designer known for layering his clients' homes with inspirational textures and elements to create distinctive spaces that are refined, glamorous reflections of the people who inhabit them. He juxtaposes contemporary furnishings with pedigreed antiques and family heirlooms to create rooms that feel simultaneously current and curated. Accents such as dynamic metallic wall sculptures and statement art pieces reflect his affinity for unexpected moments that both delight and surprise. These theatrical elements are brought into careful balance through the use of clean lines and tailored details. Ben attributes his aesthetic sensibilities to both his training as an architect and his time spent living and working abroad in both Japan and Italy.

Since opening Avondale Design Studio with partner Kathryn Berardo in 2011, his work has appeared in several shelter publications and received numerous design awards and industry-wide recognition. Ben was named a '2014 Rising Star of Design' by the Decorative Center and a '2015 Leader in Design' by the Houston Design Center. Most recently, two of his projects were published in the new book, "Decorating with Carpets: A Fine Foundation," for Stark Carpets.

Ben enjoys sharing his knowledge and passion of interior design, appearing as a design contributor on syndicated television segments, and as an invited speaker at various industry events and fundraisers throughout the city.

For more information about Ben Johnston and Avondale Design Studio, visit avondaledesignstudio.com.

Photography by Julie Soefer



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