

# Suburban Classic™

SUMMER 2009

## top designers

from NJ, NY & CT

the world of  
& Patrick Mavros  
the legacy of Rolls-Royce



+ We Visit  
Sea Island, Georgia



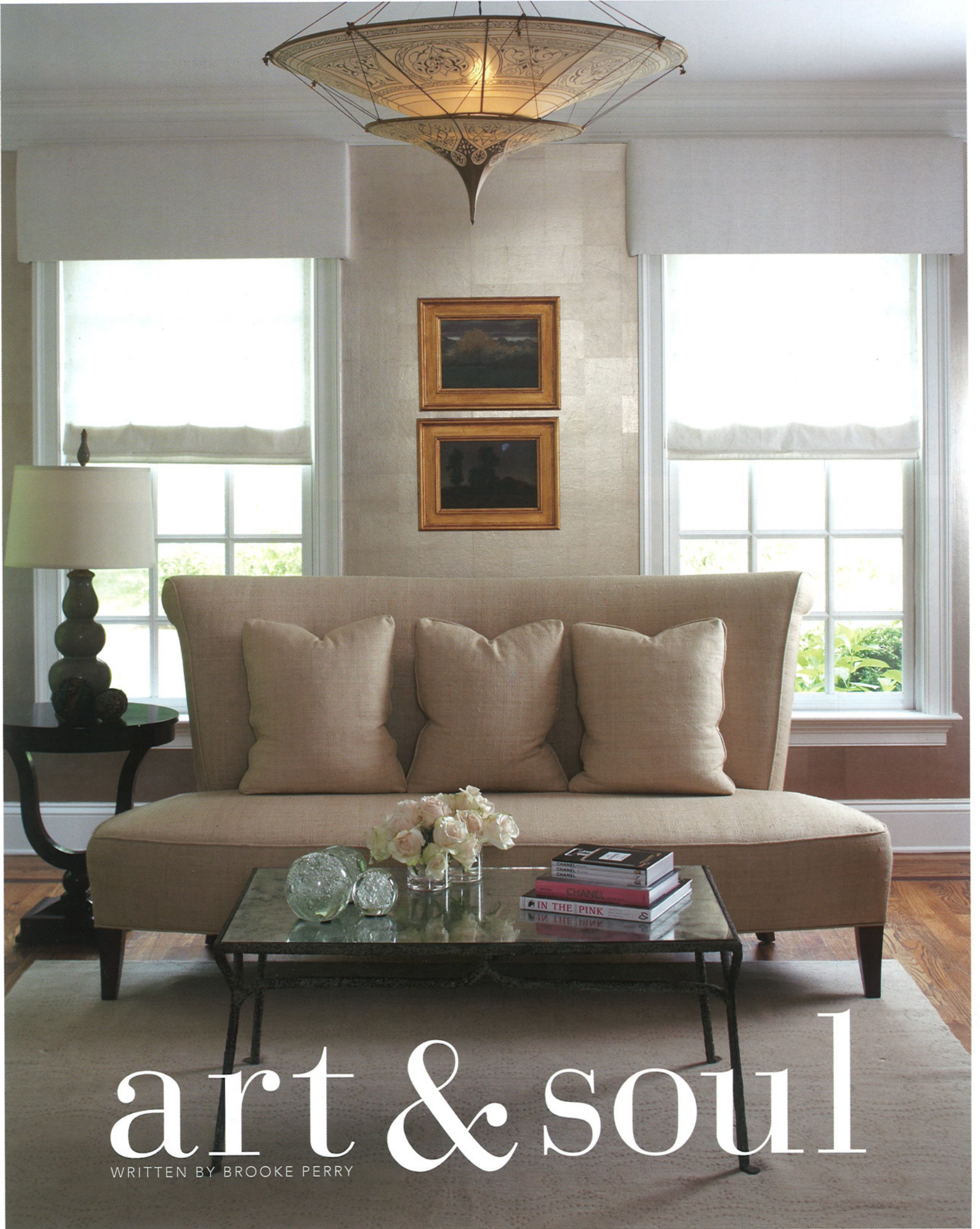
THE DISTINCTIVE INTERIORS OF DESIGNER LYNNE SCALO PROVIDE A TIMELESS EXAMPLE OF THE PERFECT COMBINATION OF STYLE AND COMFORT.



OVAL EXTENDING DINING TABLE AND LYNNE SCALO-DESIGNED DINING CHAIRS IN BASKET WEAVE LINEN (THIS PAGE), PLATINUM LEAF WALLPAPER BY MAYA ROMANOFF; FORTUNY CHANDELIER; LYNN SCALO SOFA IN RAW SILK (OPPOSITE).

PHOTO: PHILLIP ENNIS





# art & soul

WRITTEN BY BROOKE PERRY



# W

hen Lynne Scalo tackles a new design project, one thing is certain: fine art will find a way in. For the Westport, Connecticut-based interior and furniture designer, art is very often the jumping-off point for designing an entire room.

"Good design goes hand in hand with fine art and one can't be done properly without the other," she says. "A well-designed interior is not about having a lot of things - it's about having the best things and fine art figures prominently in that equation."

To ensure the artwork takes center stage, Scalo prefers a clean white wall. "It sets up a dramatic backdrop and communicates a glamorous, yet restrained elegance," she says. Of course, Scalo's definition of a "clean white wall" bears some translation: recent projects have included wall coverings of silvery platinum-leaf, creamy organic linen and soft, hand-tinted shades of taupe and ivory. "The idea is not un-

like the effect that one great piece of jewelry has when paired with a simple white t-shirt," she says. "It's assured and glamorous and yet entirely unpretentious."

Interestingly, though Scalo's signature might be the white wall, when asked which is her favorite room in the house to decorate, her answer is immediate. "The guest bedroom, without question," she says. "It's one of those little-used rooms that can be decorated into a jewel box. A place where one will not spend every day, but one can retreat and feel energized by heavy doses of color and pattern." For a recent client's guest bedroom, Scalo achieved an "old-school, Palm Beachy look," using fabric-covered walls and matching window treatments and chairs - all in Kelly Wearstler's green and white Imperial Trellis pattern. "This room has a fun, upbeat spirit. It's joyful," she says. Breaking up the wash of green and white is an iconic photograph of Audrey Hepburn as Holly Golightly in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.



PHOTO: LAURA MOSS

LYNN PICTURED ON A CUSTOM SOFA WITH CHIC AND KID-FRIENDLY RESIN AND STEEL COFFEE TABLE (ABOVE), TIMELESS HEPBURN STYLE WITH FABRIC AND WALLPAPER BY KELLY WEARSTLER FOR F. SCHUMACHER (BELOW). ARTWORK AVAILABLE THROUGH LYNNE SCALO.



PHOTO: LAURA MOSS





PHOTO: CHICHI UBINA

“Whether it’s a peacock perched in a bedroom corner or a small Renoir in the powder room, my aim is to introduce a bit of glamour and whimsy to a room.”

CUSTOM SOFAS AND CHAIRS IN SCALO’S RAW SILK; CUSTOM ACRYLIC COFFEE TABLE; A PAIR OF URNS FLANK A CUSTOM-BUILT BANQUETTE (ABOVE), PEARL AND BONE MIRROR OVER JULIAN CHICHESTER CHEST (BELOW).

Hepburn-style glamour is a Scalo signature. “Whether it’s a peacock perched in a bedroom corner, a small Renoir in the powder room or a silk-draped chandelier in the dining room, my aim is to introduce a bit of glamour and whimsy to a room. It’s those imaginative, correctly chosen touches that come together to create a show-stopping setting,” she notes.

When it comes to identifying significant works of art (those that do double-duty as great investments), clients and friends agree that Scalo has a highly trained eye. She regularly peruses area art galleries, attends prestigious art shows like Art Basel in Miami Beach and even reps a handful of talented, emerging artists.

In her Westport showroom, clients find a well-edited mix of art work, furniture – including many of her designed pieces – and light fixtures. She opened the showroom in 2000, originally to showcase her furniture designs, but clients soon began tapping her for entire design projects. No doubt they were mesmerized by the showroom’s understated simplicity and easy symmetrical lines. “It’s a reflection of everything I love – from pieces I’ve designed and things I’ve gathered on my travels to noteworthy works of art for those who are interested in building or growing an art collection. I’ve put it all together in a way that is harmonious and classical.”

In art work and design, Scalo’s approach fo-

cuses on substance and quality. “I seek to create furnishings and rooms that will stand the test of time,” says Scalo. “It is the juxtaposition of old and new that really interests me. In the end, my designs echo the past but are firmly fixed in the 21st century. Interiors today need to be livable, of course, but the best ones also convey a sophistication and intelligence that suggests modern classicism.”

Rooms that evoke a broader world-view are another Scalo trademark. “I might pair a Fortuny Italian chandelier with a classic French chest, a Moroccan inlaid mirror and a hand-knotted rug from Afghanistan to achieve a look that is both worldly and striking in its simplicity.” It also affords Scalo the opportunity to pursue what she calls “ethnically friendly” design, giving our global neighbors a leg up. The rug, for example, helps to support Afghan woman and children.


Likewise, eco-friendly design is another interest. “Today, there are a wide range of green materials that are both glamorous and sturdy. This approach is particularly favored by my clients who have young families and pets. From no VOC paint to organic fabrics, it’s possible to design an entire room in an environmentally responsible way,” she says. {To learn more about Lynne and view current design projects, log on to [www.lynnescalo.com](http://www.lynnescalo.com)} 



PHOTO: PHILLIP ENNIS