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Home » Dispatch » [The Kips Bay Decorator Show House Opens in N.Y.C.](#)

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May 16, 2012

## The Kips Bay Decorator Show House Opens in N.Y.C.

By Jordan Kisner | New York, Design



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The Kips Bay Decorator Show House, an interior design bonanza held each year to benefit the Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club, opens its doors on May 16 with an eye-popping display of various styles and aesthetics. Thirty prominent designers have taken over two bi-level units at the Aldyn Residences on Riverside Boulevard, each choosing a room and making it his or her own.

For many participants, the experience is quite personal. "Normally when I design, it's a collaboration between myself and clients," Lynne Scalo, whose white lacquered retreat features oversized portraits of Steve Jobs and Andy Warhol. "But here, my only collaborator is the architecture, and that's a really wonderful opportunity to showcase my point of view as an artist."

That connection is apparent throughout the house: Alexander Doherty's version of an art collector's inner sanctum features several pieces from his own art collection on the wall, and a mirror-paneled library by Jamie Drake is filled entirely with his own books.

For others, the 40th annual showcase is an opportunity to escape into fantasy. Raji Radhakrishnan composed her corner unit as though it were the private home office of the head curator of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, incorporating Art Deco and modernist elements, custom photo murals of the King's Chapel at Versailles and a gilded plaster ceiling medallion designed by Radhakrishnan herself. Charlotte Moss turned her suite into a taste of the French countryside, layering trompe l'oeil wallpaper and garden photography, freestanding trees and an immense antique birdcage from her own collection.

Even without the lavish interiors, both units are impressive, with oversized pools and sweeping views of the Hudson River. But with the addition of each decorator's dream pieces—witness the \$115 million antique desk in David Scott's sophisticated, richly textured gentleman's study, or the massive 1820s Neoclassical secretary from Germany in a dining room by Patrik Lönn—the scene is fairly stunning. May 16–June 14; 60 Riverside Blvd.; [kipsbaydecoratorshowhouse.org](#).

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### TOPICS

- » Accessories (1)
- » Art (52)
- » Arts + Culture (32)
- » Aspen (1)
- » auctions (5)
- » Automobiles (5)
- » Aviation (2)
- » Ballet (1)
- » Bars (2)
- » Beauty (18)
- » Bespoke (1)
- » Books (8)
- » Cars (1)
- » Charity (1)
- » Chicago (1)
- » Cocktails (3)
- » Cooking (2)
- » Culture (2)
- » Dance (4)
- » Design (6)
- » Dining (14)
- » Dinner Out (1)
- » Drinks (1)
- » eCommerce (1)
- » Events (1)
- » Exhibitions (2)
- » Fashion (46)
- » Festivals (6)
- » Films (8)
- » Fitness (2)

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- » Wine (4)
- » Winter Sport (1)
- » Yacht (1)



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