



# CONNECTICUT COTTAGES & GARDENS

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## *Summer's Big Easy*

LIGHT AND AIRY INTERIORS  
A PAINTERLY GARDEN | TRAVEL FOR GOLF AND ANTIQUES  
IDEAS FOR SUCCESSFUL OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING  
WATCHES FOR HIM AND HER



CONTRIBUTORS

## CTC&G Faces



### **Roger Bartels, AIA and Christopher Pagliaro, AIA**

Roger Bartels founded Bartels-Pagliaro Architects with partner Chris Pagliaro in 1974. Since 1996, the firm has occupied a spacious loft overlooking the waterfront in the historic district of South Norwalk. Each brings something distinct to the table, but the duo's designs consistently make most of the sitting and the natural daylight. We explore one of their Westport houses, whose interesting curves and neutral décor allow the views to do the talking, on page 48 ("Geometry of Joy").

### **Laura Bohn**

NYC-based Laura Bohn started her architecture and interior design business in 1980. She has worked in commercial spaces and residences here and abroad and was inducted into the Interior Design Hall of Fame in 1998. Bohn's design is clean and fresh (perfect for our summer issue!), and she is consistently finding innovative ways to design incredible bathrooms. Turn to page 72 to glimpse the daring bathrooms, light, airy interiors and open flow of a Madison spec home Bohn redesigned for one young globetrotting family who spends the warmer months on our coastline ("Remaining Neutral").



### **Richard Mishaan**

Richard Mishaan's career has spanned architecture, interior design, fashion and furniture design. Best known for his ability to blend collectibles and antiques with fine art and furnishings, in 1998 Mishaan opened a gallery/retail space on Madison Avenue, Homer Designs. Aside from work with private clients (and numerous show houses), Mishaan also designs a furniture collection for Qu Mei, China's second largest furniture retailer. He just released his first book, *Modern Luxury* (The Monacelli Press), a pictorial and narrative tour of his boldest rooms. *CTC&G* peeks inside on page 56 ("Bold Strokes").

### **Clodagh**

Interior and product designer Clodagh has a simple mission: making sure each corner of the environments she creates is beautiful. To each project she brings a mix of the unexpected, the innovative and the holistic—her trifecta of true luxury. Today she heads an international studio of designers and architects that has been recognized with an impressive array of awards and commissions. Clodagh has just released her second book, *Your Home, Your Sanctuary* (Rizzoli). For our summer issue, Clodagh helps readers bring some R&R inside with tips on creating a Zen-like master bath (Kitchen & Bath IQ, pg. 32).





# Soothing Spa-ces *by Clodagh*

A DESIGNER INSPIRED BY THE QUIET COUNTRYSIDE TELLS US HOW TO CHILL OUT-IN THE BATH

**Q** How do I capture the feeling that I get at a spa in the master bathroom of my own home?

**A** A beautifully designed master bathroom can function as a self-renewing indulgence, allowing homeowners to invest in a space that is just for them. Grooming and bathing are very personal activities, so I recommend first establishing your needs for the space. For example, whenever possible I make a separate toilet room, away from the bathtub, giving ample space and attention to the separate purposes of each area. In the bathing space, I like to include extra seating, as well as reading lights, well-lit mirrors and plenty of hooks for plush robes and towels.

Bathrooms are often the smallest rooms in the house, but a feeling of spaciousness is determined much more by the clarity of energy flow than by square footage. Vertical storage spaces for makeup and toiletries should be concealed to create a seamless appearance. Functional details such as his-and-hers medicine cabinets allow each person to feel considered. Cabinetry and furniture should be sturdy, giving a permanent feel to the space.

To fully achieve the feeling of a spa, try to marry the sensible with the sensual. Consciously stimulate a sensual experience that is happy and optimistic, serene and centered, to create a sanctuary-like retreat in the bathroom. Each of the five human senses can stimulate these feelings of comfort and relaxation.

Sight is probably the first sense to consider—visual design works in degrees, from the largest sweeping view to the smallest, most captivating detail. A sculptural soaking tub is just as important as the fixture that is chosen to accompany it. Select natural earth-toned colors, such as straw, bone and slate, for the bathroom. This allows the space to remain timeless and to reflect a “silent design” so that contemplation and relaxation can be at each person’s forefront of the experience.

Smell, although subtle, is also vital. Incorporating aroma into the design of the bathroom can be transformative; a single whiff can transport you to the south of France or the woods of your childhood. Aromatherapy is something I utilize in all my projects. Lemon and



**Relax, Rewind, Rejuvenate** | Compartmentalize! For an ultra-soothing environment, Clodagh recommends keeping bathing and grooming spaces separate (ABOVE).

citrus scents can be used in the morning to enliven the senses; lavender, on the other hand, may help calm a restless night’s sleep.

Touch is a very intimate sensual experience. Integrate materials that are rich in sensory expression while maintaining a functional role. Incorporating natural materials that play to our human instincts makes a space more enjoyable. Using river rock material to surround the base of a bathtub, for example, is a great way to satisfy our need to feel connected to the world around us, and also offers a tactile element.

Carefully consider the closeness to which your body will come to the materials that you are choosing. You would not purchase a sweater if it was itchy or rough, nor should you use an abrasive material within this intimate space. Comfort is key to creating a relaxing space.

Sound can be easily used to set the tone for your bathroom space. The sound of falling water can be deeply soothing. Make your bathroom your own and ensure that it silently supports you and provides for your needs.

*Have a question about kitchen or bath design or appliances? E-mail it to [Kitchen&BathIQ@CandGpublications.com](mailto:Kitchen&BathIQ@CandGpublications.com). Each month select questions will be answered in this space by design professionals.*



**Mother Earth** | A muted palette of slate, straw and bone for fixtures, countertops and accessories is both chic and calming (ABOVE).