



MEET THE DESIGNER

AS SEEN IN  
CTC&G  
Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

# Ghislaine Viñas

For this color-focused issue, our compass pointed toward designer Ghislaine Viñas who inserts vivid tones and hues into residential and commercial interiors. Designer of wallpapers for Flavor Paper, her new line of fabrics for HBF Textiles will be introduced in June.—*Sharon King Hoge*



**I**t never occurred to me that color was something to be scared of—it was like opening a box of crayons, seeing all those choices and thinking ohmygod, how exciting is that,” says Viñas, who attributes her audacious use of color to growing up in South Africa and the Netherlands. “Durban is on the sea, and Holland’s historical bright trims, shutters and doorways left an indelible mark—inky greens and blues, burnt oranges, gorgeous mustard tones. From the doors in the Netherlands, you can come up with an entire palette.”

Known for pushing boundaries, she devises hybrid shades and unusual color pairings. “It’s my passion, coming up with plans and ideas of what you want your colors to do,” she explains. Viñas lives in Tribeca and Bucks County with her husband and two teenage daughters, who are allowed to design their rooms however they want. “It’s the first experience of self-expression,” says Viñas. “I close the door, and they can even draw on the walls.”  
*ginteriors.com.*



**1. Why is white your favorite color?** There’s something clean about it, like crisp white sheets.

**2. Is there a color you’re growing weary of?** We’re all going to get sick of this millennial pink very soon. It’s been trending for so long, and it is kind of everywhere.

**3. What new color is attracting you?** A taupe-y earthy color that I’m using in my HBF fabric line and I’m mixing it with a very soft, soft yellow. It’s a most unusual color for me, but I love that combination, wacky and freaky together. It’s unexpected.

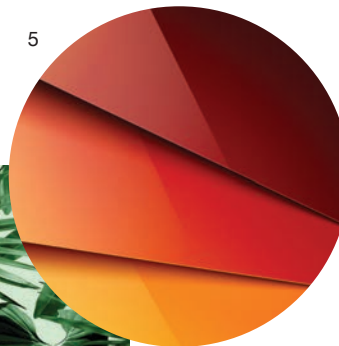
**4. If you could pick a color of the year, what would it be?** Benjamin Moore’s Cabana Green #2039.

**5. What color have you avoided?** It used to be maroon, I hated it for so long. But I’m coming around to realizing the potential it has with orange and bright red and it’s not so bad.

**6. Which is your favorite Flavor Paper wallpaper?** Wild Thing. It’s in my bedroom. It’s based on all the foliage found in Durban where I grew up—big tropical leaves—and my husband photographed them personally. It’s lively, fresh, overscaled and kind of crazy, but it makes me very happy.

**7. What’s your favorite color food?** Yellow—cheese, bread and butter, the most evil delicious foods around.

**8. If you could create a color, what would you call it?** Calypso. I’ve always loved that word. It would be a happy color.



VIÑAS: BILL ZULES; YELLOW/GRAY VIGNETTE: JAMIE J. VIÑAS