Throw away your preconceived notions about rustic furnishings...today's informal, well-worn looks are more stylish than ever, with nary a splinter of wood or splash of peeling paint in sight. Instead, you'll discover bold new shapes, bright colors and whimsical features like a wheelbarrow bench or a cushiony couch perched atop ornate footings. It's a whole new age in the rustic realm, where the relaxed approach to design is rendered in a fresh array of profiles and textures.

GWEN DONOVAN

# ARCHETYPES

#### **SARA TOUIJER**

Touijer Designs is a full-service residential firm with extensive experience in interior design, ranging from construction management and renovations to overseeing every detail of the decorating process. From ground-up construction to smaller decorative installations, the spaces created by Sara Touijer are distinctive, memorable and reflective of each client's taste and lifestyle. Their individualized approach achieves timeless spaces with distinction and functionality. Recent design projects include a colorful, 3-bedroom apartment in New York City and a gut renovation of a Ranch style to Modern Farmhouse in Rye, New York. touijerdesigns.com





#### **BRAD FORD**

Brad Ford is a high-end interior designer based in New York City. With a highly edited vision and a strong hand, Ford has a spare, modern aesthetic with a warm soul. Originally from Arkansas, he moved to Manhattan and established Brad Ford ID in 1998. Ford's work has been featured in national publications, and he has served as a spokesperson for Samsung, Bulliet Bourbon and Nest. In 2014, he created the annual Field + Supply, a modern take on a traditional arts and crafts fair.

bradfordid.com

#### **GHISLAINE VIÑAS**

Ghislaine Viñas began her design journey studying interior design at Philadelphia University. In New York City, her studio has completed many residential, commercial and hospitality projects – from apartments, townhouses, lofts, offices and a coffee shop, to offices and homes in Los Angeles, New Jersey, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and a private yacht in Florida. Viñas has several product lines – from wallpapers to furniture, and has won the Interior Design Best of Year Award several times. Her firm has appeared on HGTV and "Open House NYC," among others.





#### **LORI MILLER**

Lori Miller, among Long Island, New York's most prominent interior design firms, was raised in a family of professional contractors. Miller learned the mechanics of the business, but her love of art and painting gave her an eye for working with color. Using her degree in counseling and interior design, Miller translates what her clients need and brings their vision to life. Miller is described as creative, tasteful, a gifted professional and fun to work with. lori-girl-creations-inc.business.sitewebsite.com

# $\left[\begin{array}{c} 16 \\ \text{RUSTIC} \end{array}\right]$

## SARA TOUIJER





## Java Lounge Chair carlosmotta.com.br

"An exceptionally comfortable piece, the Java chair is made of reclaimed Peroba Rosa wood molded laminates. The base is made out of iron and wood at the ends, resulting in a uniform and strong appearance. A combination of rustic and clean designs, this piece is a representation of Motta's progression in his sophisticated yet laid-back attitude."

## Rustic Bed lalunecollection.com

"Branches are meticulously cut and positioned by hand by our skilled craftsmen to create the intricate patterns on the headboard of this majestic Rustic Bed, as well as its detailed bedposts, finials and decorative rail – a masterpiece of design and craftsmanship."

#### Walnut Slab Desk

bradgreenwood.com

"Many of my desks have secret compartments, antique accessories, accent lights and reading/writing lights. I envision my desks to be someone's favorite place to journal, write letters, read, conduct business and reflect upon the day."

#### Asturias Armchair

carlosmotta.com.br

"The Asturias armchair is a bold option with a sophisticated, rustic feel. This line of furniture uses reclaimed and demolition wood. A versatile piece, this armchair is suitable for both indoor and outdoor spaces."

## **BRAD FORD**



Pauillac Wardrobe

"I think this wardrobe is the

perfect blend of rustic and

refinement. The form itself

is so modern, but the wood

detail in the center gives it

such interest and literally

brings the piece back down

liaigre.com

to earth."

## Chris Lehrecke Dresser ralphpucci.net

"This dresser could almost be a piece of art. I think the materials used along with the references to nature are brilliantly combined to create interest in what could otherwise be an often overlooked piece of furniture."



Chieftan Chair

"This is by far one of my favorite

chairs of all time, especially for a

rustic setting. Designed by Finn

Juhl, the Chieftan Chair feels like a

warrior ready to fight. The natural

leather makes it feel a bit rugged, yet

the scale and proportions along with

the fluid lines give it a softness both

functionally and visually. It's truly

fair-design.com

the perfect chair."

#### Drexel Bed

gregoriuspineo.com

"I really like how handsome the Drexel Bed is from Gregorius Pineo. I like the wood texture and hand forged metal work paired with the rush headboard. All of this along with the scale of the bed has to make for one good night's sleep."

## GHISLAINE VIÑAS







## LORI MILLER



# Raw Lounge Chair jensfager.se

"This chair is hand-carved with a band saw machine so every chair is unique. I love that the design is modern yet it has a rustic feel. It perfectly blends the two styles, resulting in a chair that would be perfect for any modern rustic interior."

## Stitching Concrete Bench florian-schmid.com

"This is the perfect rustic bench. Made from concrete, the design of this is softened by the blanket stitching around the edges. I love that a hard material is made to look soft and inviting. Perfect bench for a modern rustic setting with a little tongue-incheek attitude."

# Beams Console pietheineek.nl

"This large bulky console is no wallflower. It's rough and rustic, but the addition of the bold orange color puts a twist on the way one might think of rural furniture. Ever since I saw this piece at Piet Hein Eeks warehouse a couple of years ago I've been smitten. Of course, it's Dutch AND orange so that's a double love affair for me."

## Wheelbarrow Bench

weltevree.eu

"You know you're in the countryside when the inspiration of your bench is a wheelbarrow. The minimalistic mobile bench by Rogier Martens for Weltevree is crafted from ecological preserved Accoya wood and is both fun and an incredibly functional piece of furniture, great for indoor and outdoor use."

## Chelsea Bed

"Even the description of this is rustic: Dani Rustica Nabuck in Grigio. How handsome is this piece with its high back and padding? I can't wait to sleep on this beauty from Desiron."

## Monaco Lounge Chair palecek.com

"I love this chair. Made of pencil pole rattan, it has a very informal appeal from its textures with a more traditional shape. Can easily be mixed with any decor."

## Everly Pendant Light palecek.com

"What is better than natural abaca rope for a rustic farmhouse? This pendant light from Palecek. Classy and elegant, this can go in any room and over any piece of furniture. With its dimensions of 31" wide and 22" height, it is very versatile."

### Walker Sofa

centuryfurniture.com
"Decorative details adorn the
wood base of this dreamy sofa.
Love the nailhead adornment
for the finishing touch."

SPRING 2019 WWW.ASPIREMETRO.COM

#### **ASPIRE**SIDE**CHAT**

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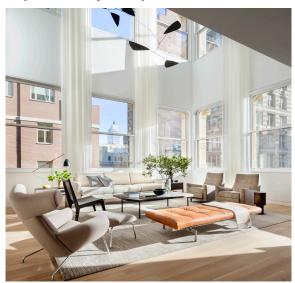
## Prospectus

## Four designers articulate their creative process

#### **Brad Ford**

I've always been drawn to spaces that are highly edited. I tend to like simplicity, but there's a fine line between subtle and boring. With fewer pieces come fewer opportunities to make bold statements, so you have to really think about the forms and materials being used as well as scale and proportion. I like strong, organic shapes and natural materials that are plush and textured. I also like rough-hewn woods and leather; things that bring an earthiness to a space. All of this combined can still create a dynamic space, but it requires just a bit more thoughtfulness and strategy. I always say you can get someone's attention just as much by whispering as you can by shouting.

PROJECT: Tribeca Loft. Photo by Scott Frances



## Lori Miller

I would say that most often I lean toward a traditional design style. Traditional design incorporates the use of multiple textures, patterns and colors. Growing up in the 60s, everything was overly simplified with white or mauve mica and black-andwhite walls. There was even a collection of wallpaper books called black-andwhite handprints. For me, omate furniture has beauty and craftsmanship in its designs. When combining florals and cane with crown molding and dark, rich woods, it makes an elegant statement. Versailles has history and what is old is always new again. To make a creative statement I feel that traditional design allows this process to occur.

PROJECT: Beachfront studio. Photo by Ric Marder Imagery



PROJECT: Montauk beach house dining room. Photo by Garrett Rowland



#### Ghislane Viñas

My design style is modern but also eclectic because we love riffing off traditional or other styles. For instance, we love to do our own take on rustic or our version of Gothic Revival. We love to put our imprint on any look or style we take on, and we especially love creating interiors that feel fresh and inspiring. It's really important to me that our work stays fun and current, so although I have a really strong modern aesthetic, I'm really not ever looking to repeat myself. I'm always looking to collaborate with clients who will challenge and excite me, and we are very successful when we have clients who think outside of the box. I'm always going to bring a clean modern look to my interiors, but it's the twists that make the projects unique.

PROJECT: Seating areas with African masks and splatter art. Photo by Regan Wood

## Sara Touijer

To define my design style is like asking me which one of my kids I like best! I like classic styles that withstand the test of time mixed with the freshness of contemporary pieces. I'm a lover



of all design styles, but if I had to define my style it would be a combination of transitional, traditional and eclectic. I'm drawn to this combination of design styles because it has a flexibility to it. There is a curated freshness when mixing these styles. It feels pulled together without being pretentious. Layered without being overwhelming and cluttered. My life is similar to my designs. I try to keep everything in perspective and not sweat the small stuff or get overwhelmed with insignificant details. I enjoy being able to guide my clients to their own personal aesthetic.