

Beach:

MODERN LUXURY

The Hamptons
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ISLE STYLE

Jonathan Adler and
Simon Doonan
at Home on
Shelter Island



Plus

FROM ARCHITECTURE AND
INTERIORS TO LANDSCAPE
DESIGN—THE TOP TALENTS
OF THE EAST END



NATURAL FORCES

These architects and landscape designers craft serene, sustainable sanctuaries that celebrate the natural beauty of the Hamptons.

BY WENDY BOWMAN



A WISH FOR THE UNIQUE ►

Modernist architect Nick Martin first developed a passion for design around age 9 while traveling extensively alongside his mother as she participated in architectural archeology digs worldwide. He went on to work with Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman in NYC, and today his firm, **Martin Architects** (martinarchitects.com), has completed 38 custom high-end homes, a dozen locales for artists and galleries, and numerous restaurants and commercial spaces throughout New York, Connecticut, the Caribbean, Baltimore and Costa Rica since its formation in 1998. Most recently, the firm created the sophisticated European design aesthetic for the flagship Wölffer Kitchen restaurant, along with the fourth addition in the past 10 years on a celebrity client's magnificent Hamptons beach house. Known since its inception for implementing trade-secret methods to ensure a low- to zero-carbon footprint without sacrificing budget or style, the firm now is completing the Harbor View residence situated on a sloped site overlooking Three Mile Harbor in East Hampton. "The relationship between materials and scale and the light angles of the sun and wind patterns is key in this project; we utilized concrete, rain screens in cedar, steel and glass," says Martin. "We're also using various sustainable design methods, including passive and active solar design strategies, and a geothermal system." Coming soon is a modern, multilevel home carved into a sloping 4-acre ocean site in Amagansett, complete with a blend of indoor-outdoor spaces and an infinity pool overlooking the ocean. "Challenging sites, scope or program make our team sing," says Martin. "Solving complicated issues in a creative and unique way is our signature, whether [its] wetlands, hillside sites or a wish to do the unique, modern organic architecture in a timeless elegance."

DESIGN WITH A TWIST

Growing up, Julia Grayson admired her mother's ever-growing cache of *Architectural Digest* magazines. "They became my design bible," says the owner of **Grayson De Vere** (graysondevere.com), a luxury interior design firm that also provides staging, design consultation and renovation services to residential properties in the Hamptons, as well as in the greater Greenwich, Conn., and New York City areas. "I loved perusing interiors and admiring the personalities and lifestyles associated with them: Jackie O, John Saladino, Billy Baldwin, Bill Blass. I recognized that how a room was dressed had the ability to evoke such different feelings." She honed her creative skills through the years—first studying at London's Inchbald School of Design, as well as renovating and designing John Lennon's former home while living in England. Upon her return to the States, she redesigned and staged her husband's former Greenwich home that had lingered on the market for years. "I surprised the heck out of our broker by staging the property between two of her showings without telling her," says Grayson. "The house sold in two weeks, and the luxury staging side of my design business was born." Today, Grayson works with private clients, architects and local developers on interior design and staging projects spanning from Paris to Montana. "I enjoy the challenge of the architectural variations that each of my projects brings, as well as the creative puzzle," says Grayson. "Whether a town house for a Russian oligarch in the West Village, a 19th century Shingle-style mansion on the water, a West Side pied-à-terre for a director or a brand-new house in the Hamptons, I revel in hunting and gathering the best of global design to find the optimal solution, and each property has its own." Look for the firm's shop in East Hampton and Grayson's work at the Hampton Designer Showhouse running through Sept. 4.



