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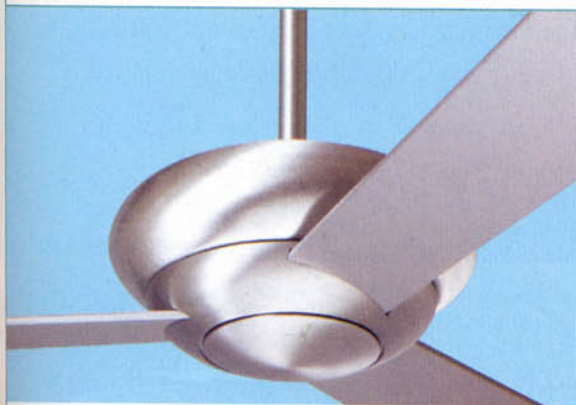
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TRADE SECRETS

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How do you define good design?

Balance. Good design combines form and function, connecting architecture and interiors. Great design balances shapes, textures and periods, until finally, what is created is a graceful balance of the clients' personality and my own aesthetic. I think that the most successful projects are finished, though not 'decorated,' and incorporate plenty of empty space and art.

Do you have a favorite piece of furniture?

Many of my custom designs for furniture are my favorites as they were created out of a need for something specific, like clean and functional cabinets, dining tables made from acrylic, soft furnishings and rugs specific to the space. They are simply designed and beautifully crafted by artisans who work with the materials that I love. I like to use my custom designs to anchor spaces, mixing them with found pieces, art and accessories to keep the look unique and dynamic.

Where do you shop for great design?

I love to shop on the Internet as it makes finding what you are looking for much easier, though I still need to see and touch before I buy. Some of my favorite shops in New York sell handcrafted furniture, like BDDW and Hudson Furniture. Others have the modern classics that I loved and lived with growing up, like Fritz Hansen and Suite NY. Then, I find some of my favorite mid-century pieces and one-of-a-kind antiques in shops where furniture is elevated to artwork status like Magen H. Gallery, Demisch Danant, Antik, Liz O'Brien and Wyeth. There are so many, I wish I could name all of them!

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