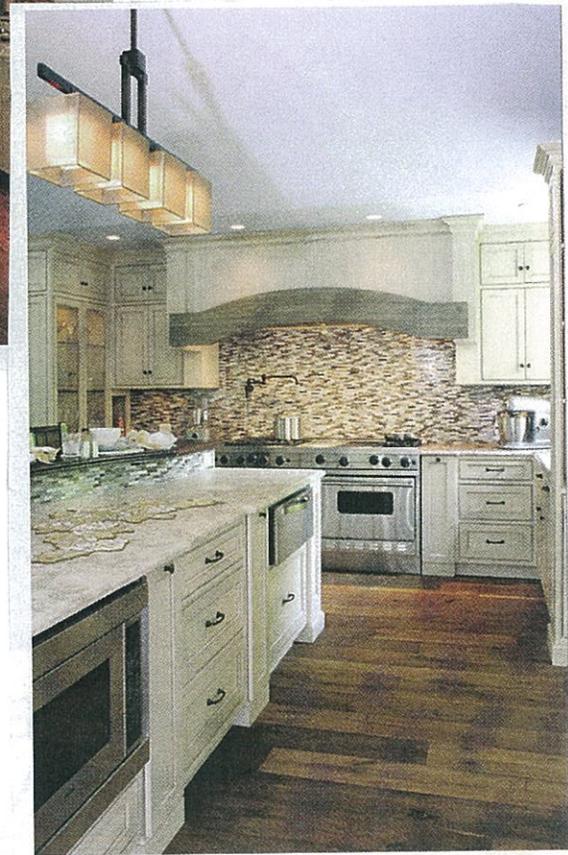


Cooking With Style

By Samuel T. Clover

THE KITCHEN OF THE HC&G 2007 IDEA HOUSE SETS THE STAGE FOR GOOD DESIGN



Nice Curves | Tom Vecchio of Bilotta Kitchens took cues from the arched entryway (LEFT) in designing every aspect of the kitchen, including the barrel-vaulted ceiling **Chop Chop** | The two-tiered island (BELOW) features a limestone countertop on the lower level and a dark-stained mahogany on the upper level. Its outward curves echo the entryway and the hood mantel, which looks like driftwood. The 60-inch Viking range takes the place of wall-mounted ovens. See Resources.



THE 2007 *HC&G* IDEA HOUSE

August 15, 2007

Cooking With Style *by Samuel T. Clover*

THE KITCHEN OF THE *HC&G* 2007 IDEA HOUSE SETS THE STAGE FOR GOOD DESIGN

As the heart of the home, a kitchen has to meet a variety of requirements—ease of use, maneuverability and a style that's appropriate for both those intimate dinner parties and everyday living. For the 2007 *HC&G* Idea House, Tom Vecchio of Bilotta Kitchens had yet another challenge: to blend it in with Kyle Timothy Blood's casually elegant family room at the opposite end of a large, open space. Furthermore, unlike a traditional, enclosed kitchen, this room had limited wall space available to accommodate cabinets and appliances. "This was a bit of a challenging layout," Vecchio confesses. "There are only two main walls, and the rest is broken up by doorways and windows."

To fuse the two spaces, which are separated by a dining area, Vecchio took cues from the wide, graceful archway that defines the kitchen entrance. "The kitchen is like a stage," Vecchio explains. "It's a large focal point and you can see it from the entire family room space. I wanted to blend it in with the family room so it almost became a part of it." To do this, he asked builder Rich Gherardi to install a barrel-vaulted ceiling that mimics the archway, and installed a curved range hood that is accentuated by an arching mantel the color of driftwood. In addition, the top level of the two-tiered island at the kitchen's center also curves outward. "If you were to look at it from above, it is the same shape as the mantel, and if you're standing behind it and looking into the family room, you can see that the curvature of the island matches the arch shape and the ceiling shape," Vecchio says.

For cabinetry, Vecchio chose mahogany, which was painted and glazed to attain a beachy, windblown effect. "I knew some of the other designers were creating something beachy in feel, so we tried to keep things light, comfortable and relaxed. We chose mahogany because it's very durable, and the grain is different from other woods and picks up a whole different look when you paint it and glaze it," he says. Mahogany paneling was also applied to some of the appliances—all Viking, supplied through Delia, Inc.—including the twin built-in refrigerators, which otherwise would have overwhelmed views from the family room. (Two refrigerators were installed to accommodate large parties; built-in units are shallower than stand-alone refrigerators.) The 60-inch range, which includes two ovens to take the place of a conventional wall-mounted double oven, boasts a glimmering stainless steel finish that's complemented by an earth-toned glass mosaic backsplash.

Even the doorways were designed to feel more like a family room than a kitchen. Two glass-fronted china closets flank the archway on each side, and the entrance to the adjacent laundry room features two bookcases "so you don't feel like you're walking between cabinetry," says Vecchio. It's quite an entrance, indeed.

Meet the Idea House Designers

LED BY DESIGN DIRECTORS Brian Brady and Franco Biscardi of Brady Design, Inc., a team of more than 20 emerging and nationally known interior designers participated in the 2007 HC&G Idea House in Amagansett. Located on the former Warner LeRoy estate, the house was designed by architect Steven W. Semes, AIA, and built by Richard Gherardi of Sand Dollar Development.



DAN BARSANTI & PATRICIA HEALING

Healing Barsanti
44 Main Street
Westport, CT 06880
Office: 203-226-5105 x 202
Mobile: 917-821-7191
E-mail: Dan@healingbarsanti.com
Assistant Kim: kim@healingbarsanti.com
Designed: Foyer



SORAIDA BEDOYA

Urban Archaeology
2231 Montauk Hwy
Bridgehampton, NY 11932
Office: 631-329-0124
E-mail: soraida@urbanarchaeology.com
Designed: Master Bathroom and Guest Bathroom



BROOKE ACKERMAN BICK

Brooke L. Ackerman Interiors, LLC
211 E. 70th Apt. 6G
New York, NY 10021
Home: 212-879-2254
Mobile: 917-941-5118
E-mail: bickermanbick@yahoo.com
Designed: Spa Retreat



KYLE TIMOTHY BLOOD

Kyle Timothy Home, LLC
P.O. Box 5080
East Hampton, NY 11937
Mobile: 917-597-2312
Fax: 631-267-2423
E-mail: Kyle@kyletimothy.com
Designed: Family Room



BRIAN BRADY (RIGHT) & FRANCO BISCARDI

Brady Design, Inc.
22 Main Street
Southampton, NY 11968
Store: 631-283-3111
Mobile: 215-901-5611
E-mail: bbrady@bbradydesign.com
Designed: Living Room



NANCY CORZINE

Dennis Hunt, Showroom Manager
Decoration & Design Building
979 Third Avenue, Ste. 804
New York, NY 10021
Showroom: 212-223-8340
E-mail: dhunt3201@aol.com
Designed: Media Room



SHEILA DELANEY

SKD Interior Design
400 E. 84th St., Ste. 15A
New York, NY 10028
Mobile: 917-742-4581
E-mail: sheilade@gmail.com
Designed: College Age Bedroom



BRAD FORD

Brad Ford ID, Inc.
315 Seventh Ave. No. 16B
New York, NY 10001
Office: 212-352-9616
Fax: 212-352-9615
Email: brad@bradfordid.com
Assistant Sara: sara@bradfordid.com
Designed: Mudroom



PEGGY FRUIN (SHOWN) & SUSANNE KELLEY

Hampton Design Kitchens Baths
26 Montauk Hwy.
East Hampton, NY 11937
Store: 631-329-8644 x203
Mobile: 631-235-8753
E-mail: Margaret@hamptondesign.com
Assistant Susanne: Susanne@hamptondesign.com
Designed: First Floor/Lower Level Bathrooms



PHILIP GORRIVAN

Philip Gorrivan Design
410 E. 59th St., #1A
New York, NY 10022
Office: 212-339-7696
E-mail: philip@philipgorrivan.com
Assistant Anne: anne_bickerstaff@yahoo.com
Designed: Dining Room



KIMBERLY HALL

KimberlyhallCREATIVE...
Kimberly Hall Kids
44 E. 21st St.
New York, NY 10010
Office: 212-254-4006
E-mail: Khall@kimberlyhallkids.com
Assistant Erin: erinleigh@kimberlyhallkids.com
Designed: Pool House



EUGENIA AU KIM, I.I.D.A.

The Design Studio
2393 Main St.
P.O. Box 3033
Bridgehampton, NY 11932
Store: 631-537-1999
E-mail: dstudio@hamptons.com
www.designstudio-ny.com
Assistant: Stacey
Designed: Veranda



JEFFERY MCCULLOUGH

Jeffery McCullough Interior Design
220 E. 87th St., 3E
New York, NY 10128
Mobile: 917-282-1880
E-mail: jefferymccullough@hotmail.com
Designed: Gentleman's Study



ROBERT STILIN

Robert Stilin, LLC
Red Horse Plaza #11
74 Montauk Hwy.
East Hampton, NY 11937
Office: 631-329-7141
Mobile: 631-988-6662
E-mail: robert@robertstilin.com
Designed: Library



JOHN VANCHERI

John Vancheri Interior Design
12 54th St.
West New York, NJ 07093
Office: 201-863-2079
Fax: 201-863-2976
E-mail: jvancheri@jvid.net
Assistant Giordina: gnamna@jvid.net
Designed: Master Bedroom



GHISLAINE VIÑAS

Ghislaine Viñas Interior Design, L.L.C.
67 Vestry St. #8B
New York, NY 10013
Office: 212-219-7678
E-mail: gvinas@gvinteriors.com
Assistant Vanc: vanc@gvinteriors.com
Designed: Young Adult Bedroom



TOM VECCHIO

Blotta Kitchens
Architects & Designers Building
150 E. 58th St.
New York, NY 10155
Office: 212-486-6338
Website: www.blotta.com
Designed: Kitchen & Laundry Room



STEVEN WALSH

Steve Walsh Design, Inc.
200 W. 16th St., Ste. 2D
New York, NY 10011
Office: 212-414-1600
E-mail: steven@stevenwalsh.com
Designed: Guest Room