

JULY-AUGUST 2016

VERANDA

Summer Style

THE BEST OF THE
SUNSHINE SEASON





TONGUE IN CHIC

John Oetgen draws on history to create happy, fashionable spaces that elicit smiles.

1. **RUBELLI FRIEDY TARTAN** "A tweedy textile that will animate any piece." To the trade, rubelli.com.
2. **NOBILIS CARTHAGE FABRIC** "There's something about a leopard pattern." To the trade, nobilis.fr.
3. **EDWARD FERRELL + LEWIS MITTMAN PARAMOUNT SOFA** "Luscious and modern, with a perfect barrel back." To the trade, ef-lm.com.
4. **COLE & SON QUEENS KEY BORDER** "Gives you architecture where there isn't any." To the trade, leejofa.com.
5. **PORTA ROMANA DUCK FEET LAMP** "A goofy, funny objet d'art." To the trade, portaromana.com.
6. **GÉRARD PORTAGE TABLE** "Adds a cool, sculptural note to a space." To the trade, dessinfournir.com.
7. **STARK FELIS TIGRIS RUG** "A classic motif in a wild shade." To the trade, starkcarpet.com.
8. **PER WEISS STONEWARE** "Big and beautiful works of art." \$24,000, maisongerard.com.
9. **JERRY PAIR BELLA PELLE LEATHER** "Gorgeous finishes in a buffet of colors." To the trade, jerrypairleather.com.



in his former Atlanta home, designer John Oetgen combined soaring 20-foot ceilings with a whimsical bird table by François-Xavier Lalanne; elsewhere, an undulating gilt console by Tony Duquette that seemed sculpted from Play-Doh was sidled beside Verner Panton wire chairs and a 14-foot Louis XVI-style canapé. "I'm a touch quirky, and there's definitely a sense of humor in my work," says Oetgen, who nevertheless manages to pull it all together with enviable and inimitable panache.

His rooms are character driven and conceived to inspire bliss. "I would never make a rule about where to place a sofa," he says. "I might do a floor plan, but invariably it will change five times before installation."

That doesn't mean anything goes, though. Oetgen's job, as he sees it, is to turn a client's fantasy into reality, with taste and a deep knowledge of the decorative arts: "Designers build on history and translate a vision for the client. They'll see a room in Venice, and then we conjure a mountain cabin from it. There's a different recipe for every project."

SECRETS TO TIMELESS STYLE

- "Joy, happiness, fun—a home should have all of those things. I've never been asked to create a space that would make you sad."
- "I don't think absolutely everything has to have integrity. Furniture is like a fun party—there should be a stripper in every crowd. Once in a while, you should throw in something that's not too valuable or precious."
- "Never get set in any one philosophy. I might do a full-on 18th-century room, but then I'd install three Warhols in it, and I think it would be fabulous."

PRODUCED BY DAYLE WOOD
WRITTEN BY MARIO LÓPEZ-CORDERO