

NOVEMBER 2012

House Beautiful

DECORATING IS FUN!

Entertaining is Easy

KNOCKOUT
DINING
ROOMS

THE MOST
ORIGINAL BAR
EVER

STELLAR
LIVING
ROOMS



The
PERFECT
HOLIDAY
table.

\$4.99

1 1 >



73361 08458 3

SEND US A PICTURE

Your Favorite Chair

Interviews by
JULIA LEWIS

Remember the beat-up recliner Frasier's dad wouldn't part with? It was like being with an old friend. Who doesn't have some version of that chair?



"This Kaare Klint chair is as much a joy to sit in as it is to look at. It's actually a prototype that Klint made in 1914 for his iconic Faaborg chair. It was the first piece of furniture he designed, and he did several versions before he got it right. Mine has a Cuban mahogany back rather than the caning he ultimately used."

GIL SCHAFER, ARCHITECT



"My dog has claimed my favorite—an original Verner Panton wire chair—so I don't get to sit in it anymore. But I still get to look at it."

JOHN OETGEN
INTERIOR DESIGNER

"My ex-husband and I were in Paris and went to the Clignancourt flea market to look for dining chairs. It was a holiday and the *marché* was deserted, but one vendor had a stall full of these Louis XV chairs—all with their original *velours de soie* intact. We shipped 10 home, but honey, every day I wish I'd bought them all!"

ELAINE GRIFFIN
INTERIOR DESIGNER



"I feel very sentimental about this chair because I knew its previous owner, a woman who also used it when she painted. It's pretty and truly comfortable. I keep it with my easel, and it beckons me to forget e-mail and come spend a few hours painting." RUTHIE SOMMERS, INTERIOR DESIGNER >>



"It's a vaguely Louis XVI-style *voyeuse*—probably made in the 1920s or '30s—one of a pair I bought at auction. They were designed to be straddled, so the sitter could rest his arms on the upholstered back rail, but I sit on mine the conventional way to put my shoes on in the morning. The other one lives in my living room for extra guest seating."

NICK OLSEN, INTERIOR DESIGNER



"I have two of these 1970s Saporiti chairs. The simple, modern form and macramé texture is a really chic combination. I do sit in them—they're comfortable enough—but I admit that it's more a visual love affair."

KARA MANN
INTERIOR DESIGNER



"One day, back when my husband and I were still dating, we were browsing the Chelsea flea market before heading out of town. We fell in love with this midcentury bentwood chair, painted all yellow, including the caned seat. We didn't have time to take it home, so we carried it onto the train! Today, it's the cheerful catchall in our entry, but it's a favorite because of the memory."

MARA MILLER, INTERIOR DESIGNER

"This is my own take on the classic library chair, most of which I find too traditional and overscaled. I simplified the lines and gave it more modern proportions. It's my place to read on weekends."

S. RUSSELL GROVES, ARCHITECT



"I have an affinity for furniture with moving parts, so I immediately fell for the way the hinged top on this porter's chair opens up. It really is a sculptural presence in the room."

DARRYL CARTER
INTERIOR DESIGNER