



AS THE EDITOR OF A MAGAZINE focused on design, I'm asked lots of decorating questions, and often people assume I'm also an interior designer. I'm not. While I'm always willing to offer friendly suggestions, I'm quick to clarify that they're tips I've picked up over the years from interior designers. I'm even pretty good at remembering where a tip or an idea came from, and giving credit. *I have* seen a lot of rooms and houses, and I've had more opportunity than most people to talk with designers about their work. I'm an editor *and* a design junkie. I can stare at and study a beautifully decorated room the way other people might appreciate a work of art. Actually, I would argue that great rooms *are* works of art. While a flailing economy, political turmoil, and natural disasters around the world tend to make decorating seem more of a luxury than a necessity, we should never forget the power in every aspect of good design. The mood of color on a wall. The inviting feel of fabric on a sofa. Or how the perfect pillow yields when you slouch into it. For the past five years, we've made *House Beautiful* a Q&A magazine for a reason: to get right to the topic (decorating) in the words of the artist (the designer). They're the masters, and they're always generous in sharing their visions and ideas with us—even revealing some of their secrets.

Newell

Newell Turner, EDITOR IN CHIEF



TRAVEL BY DESIGN While oil prices may limit your travel plans this summer, there's no reason not to dream—and be inspired. *Summers in France*, by L.A.-based designer Kathryn M. Ireland, is packed with gorgeous photos and decorating ideas (Gibbs Smith; \$35).



THE SOUND OF COLOR I've been noticing bedrooms enveloped in colors that seem to whisper. Suzanne Rheinstein has captured that palette in her new collection of fabrics for Lee Jofa. They're also available through Hollyhock, her lovely shop in L.A.