

# THE EXPERTS

Decorating Wisdom Straight From the Pros

NEXT WAVE

## The Finer Things

Inspired by a worldly childhood divided between Turkey and Virginia, Richmond designer Ryland Witt fuses East and West to create feminine rooms with global appeal.

Witt relaxes inside an Airstream trailer she decorated. Hampstead table by Belle&Burl, her new furniture line.

PRODUCER HILLARY BROWN PHOTOGRAPHER TODD WRIGHT, FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE RESOURCES



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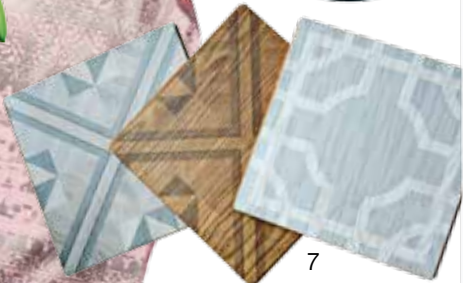
A cozy workspace awash in layers of cream and ivory. Barbara Barry for Henredon desk. Rattan mirror by Serena & Lily. Sasa wallpaper by Meg Braff Designs.

## NEXT WAVE

“WHEN I UPHOLSTER A CHAIR in a \$300-per-yard fabric, I want *everyone* to sit on it,” says Ryland Witt, a protégé of Richmond decorator Suellen Gregory. “Everything looks better with a little love and age!” To that end, the 41-year-old Virginian isn’t afraid to use the best of her belongings in her daily life, be it a roll of sumptuous silk or the family silver. The equestrian even zips up her glossiest pair of leather show boots for her weekly riding lessons, proving that a little dirt truly doesn’t hurt. “If you don’t use something, you’re not enjoying it,” she says. “I feel the same about interiors: They look better if they’re lived in.”

## HER FAVORITE THINGS

1. **ANTIQUE OUSHAK**  
“Like leather, these rugs are more beautiful when they’re a little bit worn.” 1stdibs.com
2. **BRUSH STROKE LAMP**  
“A modern touch in a traditional blue-and-white palette.” bunnywilliamshome.com
3. **RIDING BOOTS**  
“Look good, feel good! These make me ride better.” ariat.com
4. **WHITE ORCHIDS**  
“Soft yet architectural, orchids bring the outside in.”
5. **DARK HARBOUR**  
“A deep, rich color that creates instant mood.” benjaminmoore.com
6. **ISTANBUL FABRIC**  
“You see similar patterns in Turkish markets, but this blush-pink silk blend is so luxe.” donghia.com
7. **PAINTED WOOD TILES**  
“I’ve used these Charleston, South Carolina-made tiles on floors, walls, and ceilings! They’re engineered not to get scuffed.” mirthstudio.com
8. **BG RESTAURANT AT BERGDORF GOODMAN**  
“A ladies-who-lunch place that’s both pretty and edgy.” bg.com
9. **LOW-BACK SOFA**  
“The clean lines mean it will never go out of style.” 1stdibs.com
10. **FABERGÉ**  
“As a girl, I read 600-page books about the Romanovs—I was obsessed with their beautiful objects.”



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