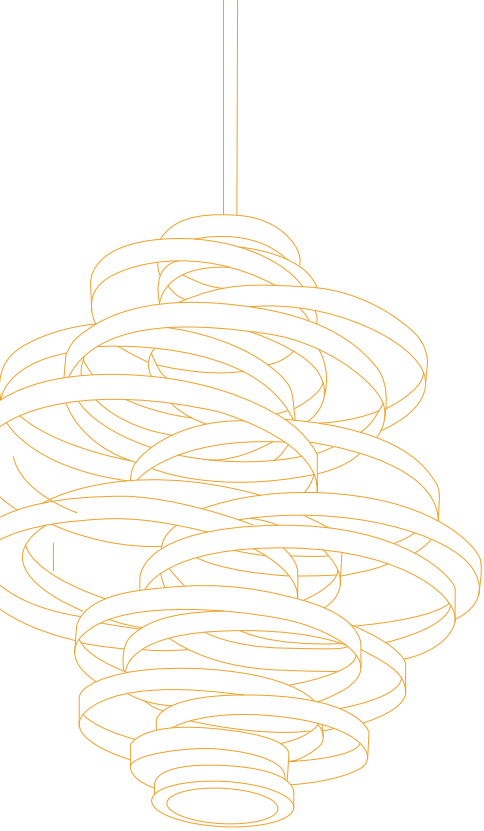


INTERIOR DESIGN®

best of residential

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN





foreword by Cindy Allen

There's no place like home. There *is* no place like home. There's no place...You get the drift.

Never has that wizardly saying rung more true, when you consider the chaos of our hustle-and-bustle, tech-driven lives.

Home has become the ultimate sanctuary. It's our refuge, our getaway to escape the world—or engage in it full-on. And we're definitely not in Kansas anymore. We traveled the world from Minnesota to Monte Carlo, from Hawaii to Kuwait, and back again.

I'm delighted to present *Interior Design Best of Residential*, the newest book in our growing series (*Best of Year*, *Best of Hospitality*, and *Best of Office* preceded). You'll see in the following pages what boundless imagination and enormous commitment can accomplish.

Who stands behind all this vision and talent? According to our 2010 Universe study, there are more than 25,000 design firms in the United States, and 52 percent of them handle residential projects. That translates

to a whopping 26,000 individual designers potentially working on your home! The scale of the firms—from small studios with fewer than five designers to businesses employing 20 or more—may vary, but the results in this book are uniformly s-t-e-l-l-a-r.

The money involved is nothing to sneeze at, either. Consider this: Among residential design firms, the average home is valued at \$2.3 million, and designers specify nearly \$1.8 million in products a year. And we can't talk about the home without celebrating its heart, the kitchen, and everyone's favorite private oasis, the bath. Clients clearly agree, putting their money where their mouth is: The average kitchen renovation costs \$86,000 and a bathroom, \$47,000.

If you're interested in today's trends, we've made it easy for you. The book is divided into eight chapters we think defines them: Inside/Outside, Vintage Modern, City Living, Modern Family, Getaways, Green, New Tradition, and Global Inspiration. Prepare to be dazzled...and inspired. Just tap your heels three times and you'll be there.



Federico Delrosso Architects



PRIVATE RESIDENCE
MONTE CARLO, MONACO



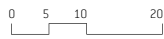
Clockwise from top: The whole family can make—or at least play—beautiful music together in the upper-level living room, overlooked by a mezzanine. Custom zebrano furnishings by Habitat MC and oversized nature photography add an exotic touch to the master bedroom. The eat-in kitchen repeats the zebrano theme. ➔

When Federico Delrosso was approached to design a home in the heart of Monte Carlo, the clients' blended family occasioned a blended residence: three existing apartments—one with a mezzanine—fused into a single 2,282-square-foot space.

The Milanese architect unified the four floors by constructing an internal staircase, separate from the building's stairs. Like branches of a family tree, each level became home to a different generation. The lowest floor is devoted to a trio of sleeping quarters for the older, more independent children; the parents and youngest child occupy the intimate and compact second floor; and the loftlike top space contains a double-height living area and kitchen for entertaining extended family and friends. "The

house is a kind of exoskeleton in which human relations develop and find their balance," notes Delrosso.

To further strengthen the ties between levels, the architect visualized a vertical line running through each floor, manifested in an elegant steel cable that attaches to the skylight's central girder. He also chose a single wood, zebrano, for all the doors, partitions, and custom furniture by Habitat MC. Its natural, almost wild texture lends warmth to the palette of gray-stained oak flooring and white-painted walls. "The zebrano is a neutral element that supports the future evolution of the decor—it's almost a metaphor for family relationships," Delrosso concludes.



- 1 ENTRY
- 2 LIVING AREA
- 3 DINING AREA
- 4 KITCHEN
- 5 STAIRCASE
- 6 POWDER ROOM



Clockwise from opposite: Zebrawood furnishings and partitions perk up the living room; flooring throughout is gray-stained oak. Partially screened by a zebrawood partition, a new staircase connects the four levels. The master bathroom features a glass-wall shower. A skylight illuminates the stairwell. The mezzanine lounge and study; visible to the right is the symbolic cable, Delrosso's metaphor for strength and lightness.



PRINCIPAL FEDERICO DELROSSO
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2,282 sf
 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms



