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HOME+DESIGN

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The 2017 Designers Issue
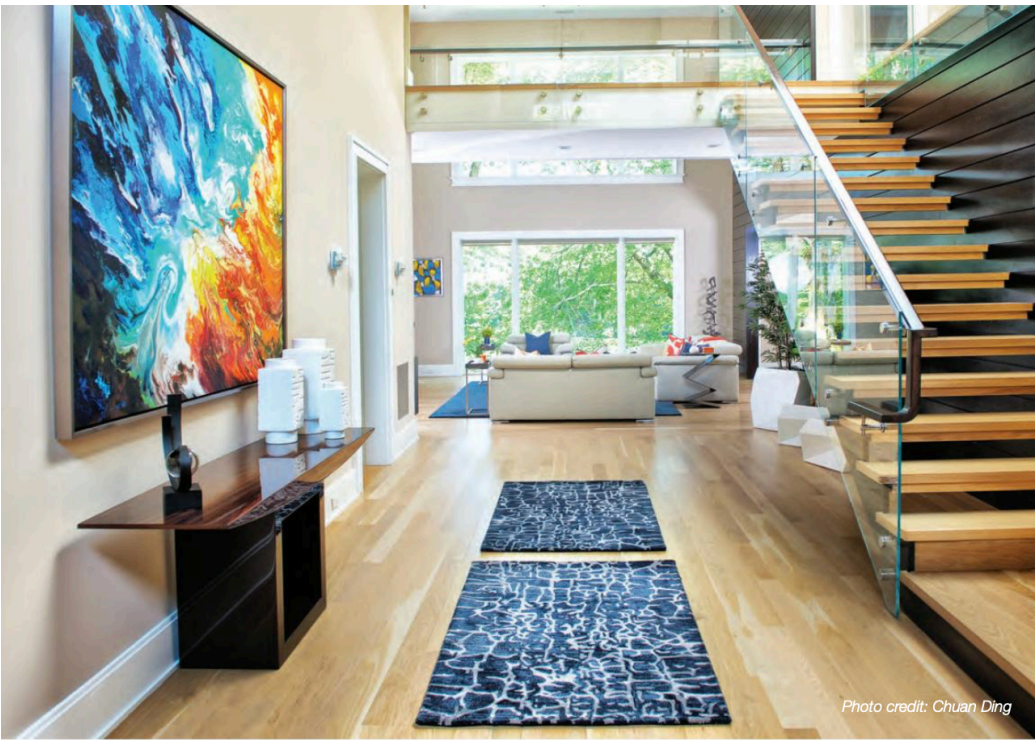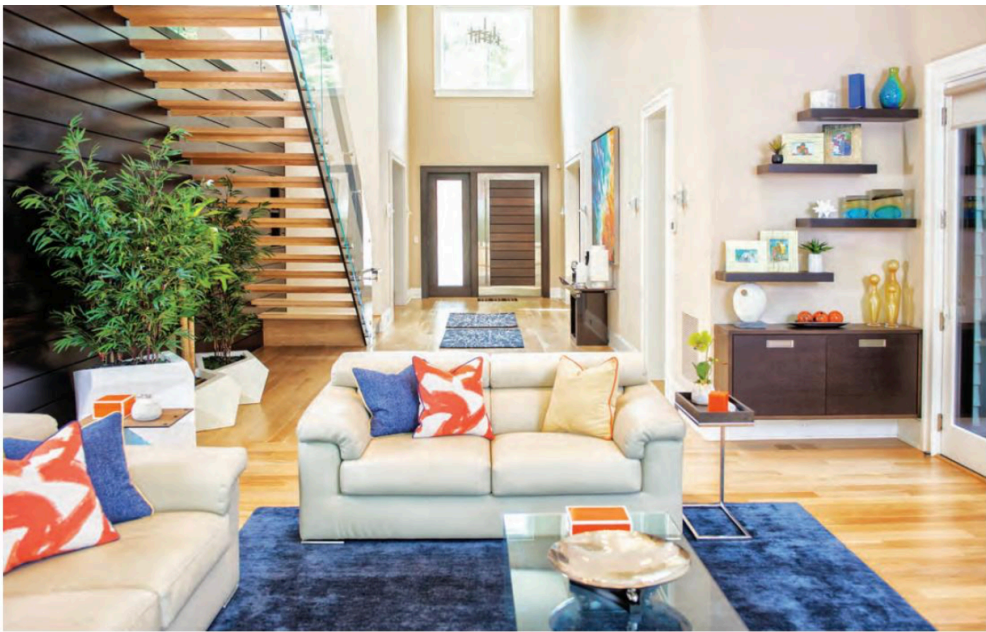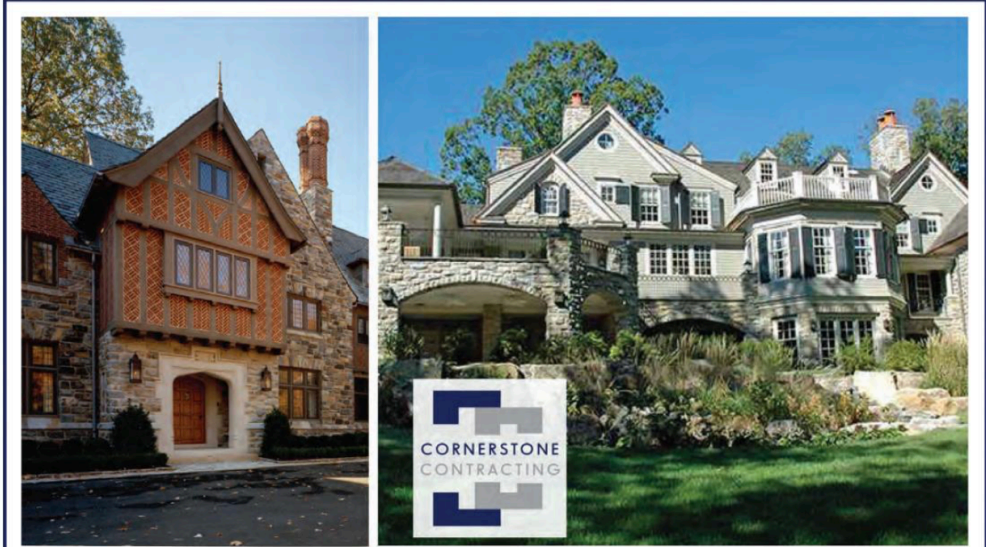
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Colorful

Photo credit: Chuan Ding

Color is one of the most important aspects of a room's design. When color is properly coordinated in a room, it creates a sense of cohesion and eye-pleasing beauty. Color coordination and selection, an expertise of mine, is not something that can be taught, but is an innate talent. I love mixing new, interesting color combinations and palettes in my room designs. I use soft tones for more calming areas, and brighter tones for an upbeat, fun vibe.

Typically, I do the large surfaces in the room in more neutral tones, and use bright pops of color in the artwork and accessories. At this home in Greenwich, CT, I chose bright pops of yellow, orange and blue in the throw pillows, art, accessories and area rugs. I utilized these wonderful, happy colors to complement and coordinate with the client's large artwork in the foyer. This visually ties together the two open spaces, adds interest and finishes the room off beautifully.

In a well-designed room, colorful items are not overused. The thoughtful room design incorporates colorful pieces in a carefully coordinated way. Too much color will result in a cluttered and confusing look. You also want to avoid the overly matching room, which ends up looking too cutesy and forced. Less is usually more when it comes to designing colorful rooms.