THE A-LIST

A suite in the James hotel in Los Angeles.

BASSAM FELLOWS

Handcrafted, organic, and rooted in nature: Australian architect and designer Craig Bassam and Scott Fellows, a former creative director in fashion, describe their style as "Craftsman modern." A gorgeous wood grain is often all the ornament they need, whether they are designing spare interiors for the James hotel in Los Angeles or renovating their own Philip Johnson house. Their furniture collection includes the Tractor Stool, carved out of a massive block of locally harvested walnut, ash, or teak, and inspired by a tractor seat Bassam found on the side of the road. *bassamfellows.com*

ALESSANDRA BRANCA

Call her a passionate neoclassicist. Born in Italy, Branca developed an aesthetic steeped in antiquity. Nonetheless, she's a woman of our times. She likes comfortable rooms and the color red—also stripes that recall vintage mattress ticking. Expect plush upholstery and fabrics, as well as shapes you'd find in a museum's Greco-Roman hall, accented with anything from Moroccan mirrors to Chinese foo dogs. Add to it all a dash of sprezzatura, which is the ability, the Chicago designer explains in her book *New Classic Interiors* (Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 2009), to make the complex look easy. *branca.com*

Branca's Manhattan bedroom.

A guest room in Bridges's Harlem apartment.

SHEILA BRIDGES

This New York decorator is known for her savvy updates on traditional Americana—from her handsome design for Bill Clinton's Harlem offices to the spirited interiors of her own Colonial weekend home in New York's Hudson Valley. She has a fashionista's sense of pattern and color (yellow is a favorite) and an eye for the standout element—a Fornasetti rug, a Frank Gehry cardboard chair—that makes a room click. And she's got wit: Her Harlem Toile de Jouy features African Americans dressed up as Baroque nobles, while her new dinnerware collection is decorated with pictures of girls skipping rope or playing jacks. *sheilabridges.com*

MARK CUNNINGHAM

As you might expect from a Polo Ralph Lauren alumnus, this New York designer's rooms tend to be masculine, well tailored, and timeless—the interiors equivalent of a camel-hair topcoat gone modern. He likes his palette neutral, but the Florida-born designer isn't afraid of shades like light blue and royal purple either. He mixes crisply upholstered custom-made pieces, American antiques, and accessories ranging from Coromandel screens to rough-hewn doors set into pristine white walls, all resulting in a quietly invigorating look. *markcunninghaminc.com*

Cunningham's living room in upstate New York.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: PAUL WARCHOL; JOSHUA McHUGH; WILLIAM WALDRON (2)

FROM TOP: ERIC PIASECKI; WILLIAM WALDRON

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