

# 2005

*In celebration of ELLE DECOR's 35th anniversary, throughout the year we'll be highlighting some of our favorite images from our archives. Each photograph proves the lasting power of great design.*

Sheila Bridges's dining room, as seen in a cover story on her Harlem apartment in the May 2005 issue of ELLE DECOR.



In May 2005, a Sheila Bridges project graced the cover of this magazine for the first time. The story featured her own Harlem apartment. "It came out during a time of deep introspection," recalls the designer, now an ELLE DECOR A-List Titan. "I've learned that for artists, moments of self-reflection can be highly creative." Sure enough, the following year she debuted Harlem Toile, her now iconic pattern that has appeared on everything from wallpaper to Converse sneakers. In the 2005 story, the apple-green dining room, pictured above, revealed both her trademark calm classicism and a bold new direction. "Here I was trying to convince clients to use color, and I wasn't putting my money where my mouth was," she said. Embracing color was a game changer. "Twenty years later, my apartment is still basically the same." —Camille Okhio

WILLIAM WALDRON