



ASPEN VALLEY

Resort

PROPERTIES

SUMMER 2006

**LIVING AT
WATER'S EDGE**
WORTH THE PREMIUM PRICE

www.resortproperties.cc



A Modern Mix

READY TO MOVE PAST ANTLER CHANDELIERS? FIND OUT WHAT'S BEHIND ROBYN SCOTT'S CLEAN, AWARD-WINNING DESIGNS

BY AMIEE WHITE BEAZLEY

When talk turns to buzz-worthy interior designers in the Roaring Fork Valley, one name always rises to the top: Robyn Scott. A leader of the new guard of local designers, Scott's fresh, modern looks regularly garner both client and industry praise.

Scott, who has a degree in interior design from Colorado State University, moved to the valley four years ago and

draws much of her inspiration from the landscape and natural light of the mountain environment. As the principal of her firm, Robyn Scott Interiors, she employs a design philosophy that draws on the minimalist aesthetic endorsed by architects like Mies van der Rohe. "I believe that less is more, and I approach my projects with that in mind," says Scott.



In this powder room, opposite, Robyn Scott used limestone mosaic tile for texture and a sandstone slab under the vessel sink; the arched mirror echoes the windows of the house. To make a former French country-style kitchen, left, seem more open and spacious, Scott (pictured) combined maple cabinetry, light oak flooring, and glass subway tile with architectural elements like the stair railing she designed.

Aspen Architectural Photography





“Lighting is the most important thing you can have.” —Robyn Scott

In 2003 Scott won an unprecedented four awards from the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers for her work on her parents' house in Snowmass Village. “That project really raised my profile,” says Scott, who last fall was also named to *Estates West* magazine’s “The West’s 15 to Watch.” “In the last year, people have started to come to me for ‘my look.’ I am strictly more modern, but it still has a mountain feel. I aim for clean lines, but with comfortable and natural materials.”

One element Scott particularly emphasizes is lighting. “Lighting is the most important thing you can have,” she says. “You can have terrible furniture, but with great lighting it looks good.”

Scott’s “look” is also defined by her ability to use interior design to complement, not overpower, a home’s architecture as well as a homeowner’s art collection. She commonly uses furniture— classic modern pieces by Le Corbusier or Eames, perhaps—as art and incorporates different periods of furniture within an interior, providing character and depth.

This approach was eminent in her second big project in the valley, the redesign of the Sardy House, an Aspen landmark. When the new owners set out to redesign the interior of the historic building, they sought a sleek, elegant look. They also needed a designer innovative enough to pull off a great design for a big house on a tight budget.

“Robyn brought a lighter touch to an old Victorian building,” says one of the Sardy owners, Daniel Delano. “She used some of the antiques we had collected over the years and mixed them with a much more modern touch. We wanted something different, and she definitely gave it a lighter, more comfortable feeling. She had a lot of imagination, a great sense of color, and she brought in local artists—that was something that made the house unique.”

The parlor of the Sardy House represents one of Scott’s signature design traits—mixing traditional pieces like the antique gilded mirror and a candied wall sconce with modern elements like a low profile sofa and pendant lamp.

Scott's love of architecture and the natural environment is apparent in the design of her own house.

Those local artisans include Allison Stuart, Ted Waddell, Jim Baker, Matt Christie, Jody Guralnick, and others whose work Scott uses consistently, including in her own home in Basalt's Willits subdivision, where she lives with husband Craig, a real estate broker, and new son Jackson.

To incorporate elements of the outdoors into her interiors, Scott uses what she calls textures of the outside. "I like stone inside, and I tend to use more rugged stone, even in bathrooms," she says. "I use mirrors to reflect the outdoors and light." Other

materials Scott favors include woven leathers and grass cloth for window coverings—"to me that's very earthy," she says of the latter.

Scott's love of architecture and the natural environment is apparent in the design of her own house, completed with the help of Aspen-based architects John Rowland and Sarah Broughton. Working off a standard Willits house plan, Scott customized her residence with modern elements such as a large, west-facing glass wall that frames views of nearby mountains and highlights the home's relationship with the outside world. Many of her designs often utilize glass, though she draws the limit on a personal basis.

"I would love a glass house," laughs Scott, "but I need walls for art." ■

For more information on Robyn Scott Interiors, 970 927 5354, www.sidesigns.com.



The large windows in Scott's own master bedroom, above, take in the dusky hues of a Colorado sunset. Playful reds and oranges add punch to a neutral color scheme in a child's bedroom, right.

