

THE MAGAZINE OF ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

SPECIAL
PRODUCT ISSUE

METROPOLIS

CELEBRATING **30** YEARS

March 2011
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**INFRASTRUCTURE +
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN**

NEW YORK NY 10001-1158
601 W 26TH ST
RM M272
BRIAN ORTER LIGHTING DESIGN
082540
BRIAN ORTER
P348
0483
#BXNHPNB *****CAR-KT LOT**C-071
#METR 000004631 6#

*Grimshaw Architects design
the 21st-century transit hub
(and virtually everything in it).*

TEXT MESSAGE



 **AMY LAU**

The interior designer talks about trailblazing mentors, Greek cave houses, and the glories of tequila.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Interior designer, product designer, independent adviser to collectors of 20th-century decorative arts

CURRENT PROJECTS

A Fifth Avenue residence, a Soho triplex, a West Village town house, and homes for a family that resides in New Orleans, Brooklyn, and everywhere in between. For our product-development arm, we're designing two furniture collections, a tile-and-bathroom collection, and a rug-and-pillow line.

WHY DO YOU DO WHAT YOU DO?

Everything inside my core being years for and desires it!

"For big thoughts, I need to think outside of the office."

FIRST STEP ON A PROJECT

Methodology, preparation, and united teamwork

LAST STEP ON A PROJECT

Appreciation and documentation

HOW DO YOU BREAK A CREATIVE BLOCK?

Go to the research library at the Cooper-Hewitt, spend a Saturday at a museum or gallery show, do yoga, or surround myself with nature

EDUCATION

B.F.A. in art history and marketing, master's degree in fine and decorative arts from Sotheby's graduate program in New York City

MENTORS

My visionary grandmother; the fearless artists that blazed many trails from North America for womankind: Georgia O'Keefe, Frida Kahlo, and Emily Carr; and the ever-so-multifaceted designers Gio Ponti, Louis Comfort Tiffany, and Mary Colter

DREAM TEAM

My current design team!

OFFICE CHAIR

Hans Wegner's the Chair. A forever classic.

OFFICE SOUND TRACK

The sultry, exotic, and dreamy "Hôtel Costes" and "Buddha Bar" collections

FAVORITE TCHOTCHKE

My small collection of copper chunks from Holbrook, Arizona

MOST USEFUL TOOLS

The iPhone camera. I currently have more than 3,000 photos I am constantly referring to.

BOOKMARKS

www.designaddict.com, www.1stdibs.com, www.designtherapy.com, www.allthebestblog.com, www.editoratlarge.com

BEST PLACE TO THINK

For big thoughts, I need to think outside of the office.

SOMETHING OLD

My father's prehistoric pottery from the Anasazi period

SOMETHING NEW

The Flip camera

FAVORITE SPACE

Cave houses in Oia, Greece

GUILTY PLEASURE

Tequila, dancing, and late nights

UNDERRATED

Milo Baughman and Paul McCobb

OVERRATED

Philippe Starck

LEARNED THE HARD WAY

Construction

COMMAND-Z (UNDO)

There is nothing I would undo because with mistakes comes growth, and I wouldn't be where I am today.

DREAM JOB

Historic hotel 