

The City's Brightest Stars in Interior Design, Architecture,
Culinary Arts, Real Estate, Fine Art, Organic Farming & More


ATLANTA HOMESTM & LIFESTYLES



20 Under 40
The New Talents

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20 UNDER THE NEW 40 TALENTS

THEY'RE ATLANTA'S NEXT GENERATION OF TALENT. And they're changing the face of our city—one room, one garden, one office, one meal at a time.

They meld creativity with craftsmanship, brilliance with business sense. Some are laid back; others, perfectionists. Some will drive you crazy; others will steal your heart. But whatever they do and however they do it, they can't be ignored. Here, we recognize 20 Atlantans under 40 who are writing and playing by their own set of rules.

Wendy Blount

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN DIVA

Our own purveyor of true international style, Wendy Blount, 34, is a Mississippi gal whose military father led her on a study of the world's most important design. Living in Moscow, she developed her own line of Russian giftware, which, despite its humble origins in some of Russia's smallest villages, was sold in America's most luxurious specialty stores. Blount, an international business major from Germany's prestigious Schiller University, turned to renovating Russian apartments for the high-rollers of Fortune 500 companies, who were taking advantage of the opportunities in the newly liberated Soviet states. Like Napoleon some 200 years earlier, though, Blount was undone by those bitter Russian winters.

Blount claims "good design is liking many genres—from contemporary to traditional—but it must be intelligent, thoughtful design that is both sexy and functional." She finds pure design a careful byproduct of editing, taking away anything that's extraneous or merely decorative; she loathes unnecessary stuff. From her years of renovating ancient buildings into contemporary spaces, Blount loves to be involved in the smallest architectural details. From moldings and built-in surfaces to windows and floors, right down to the very way that light enters the room, Blount aims for thoughtful authenticity. She is considering adding event planning to her already full plate, partly because she thinks parties need an eye that can serve up design on an intimate scale. The entire world is a design challenge for this international diva!



Pebbles
Glenn

DESIGNER BY BIRTHRIGHT

Pebbles Glenn, 36, took something refined and elegant away from her early years at Avery Fine Art. But it was her even earlier years that formed her way of thinking about design. Born in Charlotte, North Carolina, Pebbles is somewhat unique in the design world; she grew up with a family that actually employed designers. Her early years were spent being towed along to antiques shops in Charlotte and roosting at auctions, rifling with her mother and designer Ed Springs through trunkloads of swatches and bullion trim. She loved it—and a designer was born!

Her maxim, she says, is to always remember: "It's not my dream house; it is my client's dream house. I make the dream come true." She doesn't look down on small projects but embraces the opportunity and with customary modesty claims, "I want to remain approachable and work within their parameters; I want to grow up with my clients."

Pebbles' own home may boast a forest of Colefax and Fowler prints and echo the quiet stateliness of an English manor, but she is really all Elsie de Wolfe, the redoubtable madcap of early 20th-century design. She keeps the clean lines, going for simple elegance with minimum fuss. Plus, she's busy with duties at the Junior League, the Decorators' Show House and her many responsibilities at The Corps de Ballet Women's Group, the Atlanta History Fundraising Group and The Wellington Society of Arts. She's living up to another century's idea of the designer—part style arbiter and part upholder of society itself.

