

DESIGN BUREAU



SPECIAL EDITION

# ARCHITECTURE

*THE PEOPLE, PLACES,  
AND IDEAS DRIVING  
CONTEMPORARY DESIGN*

*Inspiring Dialogue on Design 2012*

GW: Part of the fun of walking through the doors of a concert hall is that you hear strings, and it is a joyous experience. At Pickman Hall, one block from the Rey-Waldstein Building, we took out the back wall of the concert hall completely and made it more open with glass. So you can peek into the concert hall for an immediate experience.—MEG MATHIS

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## COFFEE ON CAMPUS

Yale University's KBT Café promotes the exchange of ideas within its clever design



**Y**ale's Kline Biology Tower is no stranger to experimental, fresh thinking. The university's best scientific minds spend the majority of their time in its laboratories, but its Science Hill location is a far hike from the campus' cafeterias. So, Yale commissioned the Lepore brothers to design the building's KBT Café. "We knew the design had to be thought provoking, yet timeless," say the twins. But most of all, the project had to attract and serve the young student population. "Gone is the cheerless cafeteria in *Animal House*," Glenn says.

Increasingly, universities have commissioned hospitality designers in order to achieve that same design rigor in their dining depots. They want to give students inviting places where they can eat, socialize, and collaborate with others. And due to their extensive experience in hospitality design, the Lepores were a perfect

KBT Café supplies Yale students and faculty with their daily caffeine fix. According to Standard Builders, the general contractors on the coffeehouse project, it's KBT's custom coffee machines and daily special brews that make the café a special brew. Delectable coffee combined with a serene study space? What more could any college kid want?

fit for Yale's KBT Café's overall objectives. "When developing a brand, you have to think about the role of social hubs," Glenn says. "There needs to be a natural flow that reinforces, not forces, social interaction." KBT Café's flow comes from its curved counter with rich wood paneling that directs students down the café's line and into the main dining space, a room with fifteen-foot glass windows. The windows open up the space to all passers-by and eliminate those nooks and crannies that isolate.

So far, the KBT Café has had great success. "The students are taking ownership of KBT Café," says Gary. "Faculty are having meetings there, groups collaborate on class projects, and students use it as a rendezvous point." Before, these kinds of meet-ups happened behind closed lab doors, but now they're happening right in Kline's open ground floor. The café has made the entire building more sociable, and has encouraged new kinds of group interaction that didn't before take place. And on a recent trip to KBT, Gary and Glenn found it rather difficult to find an open seat.

—LAUREN CARROLL

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## TULSA'S TAKE ON TUSCAN ARCHITECTURE

European style inspires architect Jack Arnold, as evidenced in his design for the Tuscan Dream Home, a house that's Italian down to its structural bones

**D**rive past any of Jack Arnold's custom homes, and the architect's honed understanding of European architecture becomes immediately apparent. He works across many distinct styles, from French Chateau to Swiss Chalet, but at Tuscan Dream Home, the vibe is unmistakably Italian.

Drawing upon the homeowners' specific travel memories, Arnold designed the home to reflect the couple's Italian adventures and serve as a gathering point for their large extended family. The theme begins before even setting a foot inside the front door. "I like to develop a pre-entry to homes before you actually enter the house," Arnold says, adding that



he typically sets the style by building dramatic gateways, courtyards, and fountains. At the Tuscan home, an entry tower anchored by a three-ton stone slab serves as an the impressive focal point, setting the tone for the rest of the home’s architecture. The roof consists of red, two-piece barrel tiles like those found throughout real Tuscan towns. Stone, stucco, wood cladding, and deep window setbacks replicate rustic stone European villas.

Inside, the home’s many rooms open onto an ample courtyard that’s perfect for relaxing outside with friends and family. Arnold found many similar home layouts while researching on his own travels. “The interior layout was designed to maximize each room’s relationship to the other while allowing great natural light to come through,” he says. And in order to infuse the house’s interior with Tuscany’s happy spirit, Arnold headed back to Europe. There, he hand-picked antique doors, firebacks, iron grilles, and furniture specifically for the home.

Together, the house’s bold exterior and refined interior make give the home a true Tuscan personality. And that’s exactly what the homeowners desired. “They wanted a house that was relaxing, fun, and exciting,

The relaxed yet opulent style of Tuscan architecture informs the design of Jack Arnold’s Oklahoma abodes

where their family could sprawl out and spend time together,” Arnold says. When the house is full with happy relatives, it’s easy to forget that it’s not located up in the ancient hills of Italy.—HEIDI KULICKE

## ARCHITECTURE’S STYLE CHAMELEON

When it comes down to aesthetics, anything goes in Stephen Goldberg’s book

Stephen Goldberg isn’t a slave to one particular architecture style. As the owner and principal of SBG Design, he has practiced architecture for nearly 25 years, but he has yet to specialize in one specific aesthetic. “Unlike some architects who force their clients down one path, we think the client should drive what the house looks like,” Goldberg says of his broad approach. “We focus on their style to design a home suited to their specific needs.”

Goldberg, who works out of Indianapolis, loosely works across themed vernacular styles, as his clients tend to be more comfortable with traditional, European-inspired homes. They especially enjoy the casual French countryside aesthetic. “People in the Indianapolis area are much more comfortable with homes that are relaxed, because contemporary homes can feel cold and unwelcoming, resembling a stark white box,” he says.

Goldberg’s approach may seem unorthodox to many, but his designs certainly resonate with the local citizens, as *Indianapolis Monthly* has awarded the architect their coveted Dream Home prize three times over the past seven years. SBG homes won in 2005, 2008 and 2010, the most recent house standing out in Goldberg’s mind as atypical in the best of ways. “The 2010 home was Tuscan-themed, which is not a prevalent style in Indianapolis,” Goldberg says. A few of the home’s unique features: split garages, a front courtyard entered through the dining room, and two outdoor fireplaces. But of all the different styles of homes Goldberg has produced, Mediterranean and Tuscan-styled homes are always his favorites. “They make you feel like you’re on vacation,” he says. That’s a perfect way to feel at the end of every day.—HEIDI KULICKE

PROJECT CREDITS: Weber Concrete Construction

*“Architecture  
is just a  
crystallized  
moment in time  
that people  
occupy in  
different ways.”*

—ARCHITECT JOE MEPPELINK, PAGE 70

Over the past year, *Design Bureau* has reviewed thousands of innovative architecture projects. They have run the gamut in terms of shape, size, and scope, but they all share one common principle: smart design underpins their overall intent. These 100 represent the best of the best.

FEATURING:  
SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT HOMES  
THE NATIONAL MALL REDESIGN  
NEW TAKES ON SUBURBAN DESIGN  
HOSPITALITY HOTSPOTS  
SMALL OBJECTS WITH BIG IMPACT  
MODERNIZED MINIMALIST HOUSES  
LUXURY PROJECTS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE  
...AND MUCH, MUCH MORE

