

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF CLASSIC TASTE, MODERN LIFE

# TRADITIONAL HOME

April 2009

35 Simply beautiful spaces where family comes first

modern cottage style in the CHICAGO area

20+ young designers  
Decorating should be fun!

\$4.95 U.S.

Display until April 21

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**WHAT'S HOT: DECORATING FOR THE BIRDS**  
Delightful motifs on wallpaper, fabrics & accessories

**INSIDER GUIDE TO BUYING ART**  
How to find it, frame it, hang it & afford it

**GREEN IDEAS FOR HOME FROM A CALIFORNIA SPA**

flights of fancy

Birds fly among the trees on a hand-painted Chinese scenic wall covering from Gracie Inc. (graciestudio.com) trade only. Sleek, black furnishings pop against the bright background.



Left: "Magic Forest" porcelain and wire necklaca, \$770; Lladro (lladro.com). Right: "Dosesuk" oval porcelain platter, \$825; Bernardaud (800/864-7775). "Chinoiserie" placemat, \$78 for set of four; DwellStudio (dwellstudio.com) trade only.

Bird decoration is traditional  
and goes back *for centuries.*

Take Los Angeles-based Kevin Corn and his traditional painted furniture in plaids and stripes, for instance. He took his cue from the casual apparel indigenous to the California fashion scene.

"Printed T-shirts are trendy and make a cultural statement here," he explains. "I've developed printed furniture with the same idea in mind. I'm not a modernist, and prefer the lines of traditional furniture, but there needs to be some element that makes classic pieces pop so they are relevant to now."

Each of his pieces features a hand-screened surprise, as in the bird silhouette on a tray table (shown on page 30).

Textile designer and photographer Bonnie Sharp used the birds she frequently photographs on Dallas telephone wires to direct the pattern of her hand-screened cotton canvas fabric titled "Wired." "Bird decoration is very >

Below: "Faux Bois" two-tiered silverplate cake stand with bird, \$225; Lunt (luntsilver.com), and "Wire Birds," bottom, \$245 for set of four; City Studio (citystudio.com). Both trade only. "Sweet Sounds of the Morning" porcelain bird, \$325; Lladro (lladro.com).



Left: "Blackbirds" wood-panel wall art, \$319 for set of three; Palecek (800/274-7730) trade only.

Left: "Axiay," chair, \$1,290 in "Axiay" fabric in "trein"; Duralee (800/275-3872). "Blackbird" wallpaper in metallic gold and brown, \$155 a roll; CoverItHome (coverithome.com). "Wired" background fabric in "Ming," \$90 a yard; Studio Bon (studiobon.net). Above: Resin "Bird Chandelier," \$1,580; Oty Studio (otystudio.com). All trade only.

## THE EARLY BIRD

Just shy of its 150th birthday, Herend's "Rothschild Bird" pattern was first created in 1860 for the Baron de Rothschild family of Europe. The 12 different dinner plate motifs depict birds in varying positions but always playing with a strand of pearls. (Hungarian legend has it that the Baroness Rothschild lost her necklace, and it was found the next day by the gardener, who saw birds playing with it in the trees.) The Rothschild Bird pieces were originally designed without a border, but Herend eventually added its trademark fish-scale pattern in green, blue, or brown around the edge of each piece. Covered sugar bowl with green border, \$390; Herend USA (800/643-7363; herendusa.com).

"Little Sparrow" plaid tray table, \$950; Kevin Com Design (kevincomdesigns.com).

traditional and goes back for centuries," says Sharp. "But the intricate details of realist patterns can be distracting. My textiles are more about color, putting happy, unexpected colors on fun shapes."

Artist and environmentalist Tim Hunter addressed the plight of Georgia's declining bird population by creating "Birds in Peril," a series of wall art using the building materials—cement board and liquid asphalt—that have contributed to the loss of natural habitat.

"The man-made construction and roads have destroyed the environments of many creatures," says Hunter.

Whether it's a whimsical lamp with an avian theme, a notecard serving as an airborne messenger, or porcelain decorated with fine feathered friends, bird-adorned pieces are sure to fly in high style.

Above: "Rockin Robin" thank-you cards and "Tweetts" correspondence cards, \$12-\$17 per set; Snow & Graham through Broadway Paper (broadwaypaper.com). Left: "Birds in Peril" wall panels, \$360 each; PierceMartin (800/334-8701) trade only.