



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE...

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## SPARK YOUR LOVE FOR DESIGN AT DISCOVER ADAC SEPT. 23-25, 2025

*ADAC Unveils 2025 Keynote Presentation Lineup*

*Featuring Andrew Howard, Stan Dixon, Vern Yip, Tara Shaw, Sasha Bikoff + More*

**ATLANTA:** The Atlanta Decorative Arts Center (ADAC) is thrilled to welcome design enthusiasts, tastemakers, and top industry professionals to its annual fall market, DISCOVER ADAC, taking place Sept. 23–25. Over three days, attendees will immerse themselves in the Southeast’s thriving design scene through inspiring keynote and panel conversations, showroom events, exclusive book signings, product launches, parties, and more.

DISCOVER ADAC offers a dynamic platform for discovering fresh perspectives, exploring evolving trends, and connecting with leading voices in the design industry. Highlights include a lively keynote with interior designer **Andrew Howard** and architect **Tim Adams**, moderated by Southern Home editor **Lynn Terry**; an experiential panel on the transformative power of lighting with GEORGIA DESIGN; and a forward-looking discussion on creativity and relevance in today’s design world featuring VERANDA’s **Ellen McGauley**, Romo’s **Emily Mould**, celebrated interior designer **Brian J. McCarthy**, and architect **Paul Bates**. Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles Editor-in-Chief **Lauren Iverson** will lead a conversation on how local design can drive sustainable change, featuring Serenbe Founder **Steve Nygren**, **Rodolfo Castro**, and **Buffy Ferguson**. **Jill Cohen** – moderating a LUXE Interiors + Design panel for the first time at ADAC since becoming publisher – will join **Marshall Watson**, **Susan Ferrier**, and **Marcus Mohon** for a discussion on reinvention. Business of Home’s **Dennis Scully** returns to moderate a keynote for the first time at ADAC since 2020, exploring soulful, personalized design with **Tara Shaw** and **Bobby McAlpine**. Other standouts include a Garden & Gun-led panel on outdoor living, an Architectural Digest-sponsored textile history journey with **Scott Kravet**, a grand showroom opening with McKinnon and Harris, a behind-the-scenes look at FLOWER Magazine’s Nashville Showhouse, a Modern Luxury-sponsored bold conversation with **Vern Yip** – celebrating his new book – alongside **Sasha Bikoff**, plus a Milieu-sponsored candid discussion on personal and professional design partnerships with **Shannon** and **Stan Dixon**, **Holly Payne**, and **David Frazier**.

“This year’s DISCOVER ADAC is a true reflection of how the ADAC campus continues to evolve – not only through the expansion of our showrooms and Design Studios, but also in the way we foster connection and creativity across the design community,” said ADAC General Manager Katie Miner. “As the Southeast’s premier design destination, ADAC remains a dynamic resource for discovery, education, and inspiration. Events like DISCOVER ADAC are essential for building meaningful relationships, exploring new ideas, and experiencing firsthand the innovation that’s shaping the future of design.”

Here are a few of the not-to-be-missed Keynote Presentations at this year’s DISCOVER ADAC:

### **Tuesday, Sept. 23**

- **10:00 a.m. EDT – LIFE LESSONS ON DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**  
*Sponsored by Southern Home and STARK*

Discover how to craft a home that truly reflects your personal style with insights from some of the South’s top design talents. Join Southern Home editor Lynn Terry as she hosts a lively and insightful conversation with acclaimed interior designer Andrew Howard and renowned architect Tim Adams. With wit and wisdom, they’ll share design triumphs, candid missteps, and invaluable lessons learned through years of experience – offering inspiration and practical takeaways for creating spaces that work beautifully for you and your clients.

Following the presentation, please join Howard, Adams, and Terry in the beautiful STARK showroom for a reception and book signing celebrating Howard’s latest book, “Comforts of Home,” as well as the debut books “Tradition Made New” by Adams and “The Inviting Southern Home: Welcoming Interiors Beautiful Design” by Terry. (STARK, Suite 135)

- **12:00 p.m. EDT – THE IMPORTANCE OF LIGHTING IN DESIGN | BlueVision, Suite 406**  
*Sponsored by GEORGIA DESIGN and BlueVision*

Enjoy a dynamic panel discussion and experiential showroom event about how to use lighting to transform a room's appearance, atmosphere, and functionality. Moderated by GEORGIA DESIGN Editor-in-Chief Fran Worrall, the panel includes interior designer Michael Habachy, architect Joel Kelly, and lighting designer Jennette Kollmann. Discover how they create spaces that are both visually appealing and comfortable to inhabit through innovative illumination. The half-hour presentation will be followed by 10 minutes of Q&A, allowing time for light bites and networking. (BlueVision, Suite 406)

- **1:00 p.m. EDT – CREATIVITY AND RELEVANCE IN DESIGN TODAY | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**  
*Sponsored by VERANDA and Romo*

VERANDA's Executive Editor Ellen McGauley will be joined by Romo's Director of Design and Excellence, Emily Mould, New York-based interior designer Brian McCarthy, and Birmingham-based architect Paul Bates to discuss the challenge of balancing creative design with both tradition and innovation. The panel will explore how true originality can thrive in an era of rapid replication and evolving consumer values; how to balance the demands of performance with the expectations of luxury; and how creativity can be protected, nurtured, and translated into meaningful, impactful design today.

Following the presentation, please join Mould, McCarthy, Bates, and McGauley at the Romo showroom for a reception. While in the showroom, explore Black Edition's new Istoria collection, a decadently discerning range of fabrics and wallcoverings, alongside the latest launches from Kirkby Design and Mark Alexander. (Romo, Suite 101)

- **3:00 p.m. EDT – DESIGN FOR CHANGE: LOCAL ROOTS, BROAD IMPACT | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**  
*Sponsored by Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles and Innovations*

How can influential voices – designers, developers, and thought leaders – go beyond aesthetics to create truly sustainable communities? In a conversation led by Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles Editor-in-Chief Lauren Iverson, Serenbe Founder Steve Nygren, architectural designer Rodolfo Castro, and interior designer Buffy Ferguson explore how intentional choices in materials, planning, and design can create resilient spaces. Through real-world insights, learn how to leverage your sphere of influence to drive meaningful, lasting change in the way we live and build.

Following the panel, please join Nygren, Castro, Ferguson, and Iverson in the newly redesigned Innovations showroom, where Nygren will be signing advance copies of his new book "Start in Your Own Backyard." Raise a glass in celebration of the grand opening and the brand's 50th anniversary. (Innovations, Suite 313)

### **Wednesday, Sept. 24**

- **10:00 a.m. EDT – EVOLVING THROUGH REINVENTION | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**  
*Sponsored by LUXE Interiors + Design and Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio*

Join LUXE Interiors + Design Editor-in-Chief Jill Cohen for an inspiring conversation on professional evolution and the power of reinvention with renowned design stars Marshall Watson, Susan Ferrier, and Marcus Mohon. From groundbreaking projects and new collection launches to exploring unexpected collaborations and more, these industry powerhouses will share what it takes to stay relevant, inspired, and ahead of the curve, while reflecting on the pivotal moments, risks, and reinventions that have defined their successful journeys.

Join them for a special keynote reception and book signing to immediately follow at Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio. Watson and Mohon will sign copies of their latest books, which will be available for purchase. Enjoy refreshments and lite bites while exploring Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio's exquisite luxury kitchen and bath collections, including a new collaboration with Francois & Co. (Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio, Suite 234)

- **1:00 p.m. EDT – INTERIOR DESIGN: A REFLECTION OF THE SOUL | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**  
*Sponsored by Business of Home and Century Furniture*

When done right, a home not only serves as the backdrop for its inhabitants, but also embodies who they are, how they live, and what they love. Simply put, a home has the potential to be a manifestation of its owners, full of as much character and charm as the people themselves. Join The Business of Home Podcast host Dennis Scully for his chat with designer and antiquarian Tara Shaw and architect Bobby McAlpine about how they create original and deeply personal environments that transcend style and place to capture their clients' true essence.

Following the presentation, all are invited to join Shaw, McAlpine, and Scully at a reception celebrating Shaw's new furniture collection with Century as she signs copies of her bestselling book, "Soul of the Home." (Century Furniture, Suite 212)

- **3:00 p.m. EDT – DESIGNING OUTDOOR SPACES WITH THE COMFORT AND CHARACTER OF INDOORS | Kolo Collection, Suite 323**

*Sponsored by Garden & Gun, Kolo Collection, and Summer Classics*

As outdoor living continues to evolve, so does the art of creating exterior spaces that rival interior rooms in both functionality and aesthetic appeal. From integrated kitchens and high-tech amenities to thoughtfully layered textures, lighting, and furnishings, today's outdoor environments are as inviting and well-appointed as any room inside the home. Join Garden & Gun's Style Director, Haskell Harris, and leading designers Mallory Mathison Glenn and Palmer Weiss as they discuss how to craft outdoor retreats that marry practicality with personality – spaces that truly blur the lines between indoors and out. (Kolo Collection, Suite 323)

- **4:00 p.m. EDT – A JOURNEY THROUGH TEXTILE HISTORY | Kravet, Suite 106**

*Sponsored by Architectural Digest and Kravet*

Hear from Scott Kravet, Chief Creative Officer of Kravet LLC, for a look at the latest releases from the Kravet Family of Brands. Don't miss a captivating presentation that delves into the rich history of the textile industry. Discover how centuries-old archives inspire today's most iconic designs and explore rare, original documents that have shaped the world of interior design, featuring preserved archives from legendary brands – Lee Jofa, Brunswick & Fils, and GP&J Baker. (Kravet, Suite 106)

- **5:00 p.m. EDT – MCKINNON AND HARRIS ATLANTA DEBUT GRAND OPENING PARTY | McKinnon and Harris, ADAC West, Suite B2**

Enjoy an evening of Southern hospitality featuring seasonal fare, craft cocktails, and live music to celebrate McKinnon and Harris's brand-new showroom, sponsored by MILIEU. Explore their handcrafted outdoor collections in a beautifully curated space designed to inspire. It's a night to gather with friends, designers, and partners and toast to a new chapter in Atlanta. (McKinnon and Harris, ADAC West, Suite B2)

#### **Thursday, Sept. 25**

- **10:00 a.m. EDT – IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**

*Sponsored by FLOWER Magazine and Thibaut*

Go behind the scenes of the making of a FLOWER Magazine Showhouse. Join FLOWER Founder and Editor-in-Chief Margot Shaw and acclaimed designers Arianne Bellizaire, Rebecca Gardner, Mark Kenamer, and Kim Scodro for an inside look at the showhouse process—from sourcing furnishings, fabrics, wallcoverings, lighting, and accessories from leading brands to managing the complexities of installation. The panelists will share the inspiration behind their designs and the creative magic that brings each room to life for these highly anticipated showhouses.

Following the presentation, attendees are invited to join Bellizaire, Gardner, Kenamer, Scodro, and Shaw for a reception hosted by Thibaut. Gardner will also be signing copies of her new book, "A Screaming Blast." (Thibaut, Suite 140)

- **1:00 p.m. EDT – BOLD & UNAPOLOGETIC DESIGN: COLOR. PATTERN. TEXTURE. | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**

*Sponsored by Modern Luxury Interiors Southeast, The Atlantan, and Fabricut*

Modern Luxury invites you to a bold and inspiring keynote presentation exploring the power of unapologetic design. Discover how fearless use of color, pattern, and texture can transform interiors into deeply personal works of art. Featuring visionary talents Vern Yip, the NY Times bestselling author & beloved TV personality, and Sasha Bikoff, known for her exuberant and globally inspired maximalism, this dynamic conversation will celebrate design that dares to stand out. Moderated by Jenna Muller, Publisher of Interiors Southeast, this panel is a must for anyone who values bold and uncompromising interior design.

Join them after the presentation in the Fabricut showroom for an exclusive reception with Yip, Bikoff, and Muller. Celebrate Yip's new book "Color Pattern Texture" with light bites, bold design, and inspiring conversation. (Fabricut, Suite 307)

- **3:00 p.m. EDT – PERFECT CHEMISTRY | ADAC Presentation Room, First Floor Atrium**  
*Sponsored by MILIEU, UpCountry Home, and LEE Industries*

Join MILIEU for an engaging discussion with two dynamic duos – Shannon and Stan Dixon, and Holly Payne and David Frazier – each couple a respected force in the world of design. Based in New York, Payne is Studio Head with McAlpine - NYC, while her husband, Frazier, is principal of his namesake firm, David Frazier. Based in Atlanta, Shannon Dixon is an interior designer with her architect husband, Stan Dixon, founder and principal of D. Stanley Dixon Architecture. Leslie Newsom Rascoe, MILIEU's Design Director, will moderate and explore their work philosophies, and their unique dynamics of designing both professionally and personally at home. Expect insights, inspiration, fresh perspective, and their candid chemistry.

Following the talk, you are invited to a reception hosted by LEE Industries and UpCountry Home, where you can mingle with Rascoe, Shannon Dixon, Stan Dixon, Payne, and Frazier. (UpCountry Home, Suite 401)

The full 2025 schedule with event descriptions is live at [adacatlanta.com/discover-adac](https://adacatlanta.com/discover-adac). Media registration for the 2025 DISCOVER ADAC fall market is now open. General registration is also complimentary for all guests and opens on Aug. 19. Click [here](#) for more information.

DISCOVER ADAC is hosted in partnership with Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles, Business of Home, FLOWER, Garden & Gun, GEORGIA DESIGN, Luxe Interiors + Design, MILIEU, Modern Luxury Interiors Southeast, Southern Home, and VERANDA.

For media interested in interviewing any of the speakers or ADAC General Manager Katie Miner, please contact Tara Murphy at [tara@360media.net](mailto:tara@360media.net). Photography is available upon request. Follow along on social media at @adacatlanta or #DISCOVERADAC.

**ABOUT ADAC:** Built more than 60 years ago by renowned architect and developer John Portman in the prestigious Buckhead community of Atlanta, ADAC (Atlanta Decorative Arts Center) is a community-focused, nationally recognized leader in the world of interior design and home fashion, serving as the essential one-stop shopping resource for interior designers, architects, and builders. In November 2018, ADAC was acquired by ANDMORE<sup>SM</sup> and parent company Blackstone, the world's largest operator of premier showroom space for the furnishings, home décor, and gift industries. The ADAC campus consists of ADAC and ADAC WEST, three restaurants, The Hungry Peach, KR Steakbar, and Krog Bar – Coal Fired Pizza, and more than 550,000 square feet featuring over 40 design studios and more than 65 showrooms offering over 1,500 of the industry's finest product lines, including furniture, fabric, rugs, lighting, accessories, floor and wall coverings, antiques, fine art and framing, kitchens, bath, tile, and stone, and home theater products. Likewise, ADAC's extensive services include custom designs such as framing, electronic systems, and kitchen cabinetry. To learn more about ADAC + ADAC West, visit [adacatlanta.com](https://adacatlanta.com).

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