

Atlanta
MAGAZINE'S

HOME

STYLE
&
SUBSTANCE

Kitchen makeovers

SECRETS TO
CREATING STYLE
THAT LASTS

PLUS
A DRAMATIC
BATHROOM
UPDATE

Q&A

**MATTHEW QUINN,
KITCHEN KING**

TINY HOUSE
LIVING IN ELLIJAY

ENTERTAINING

Celebrating the BeltLine
Lantern Parade



THE KING OF KITCHENS

Getting to know Atlanta's rock star kitchen and bath designer Matthew Quinn

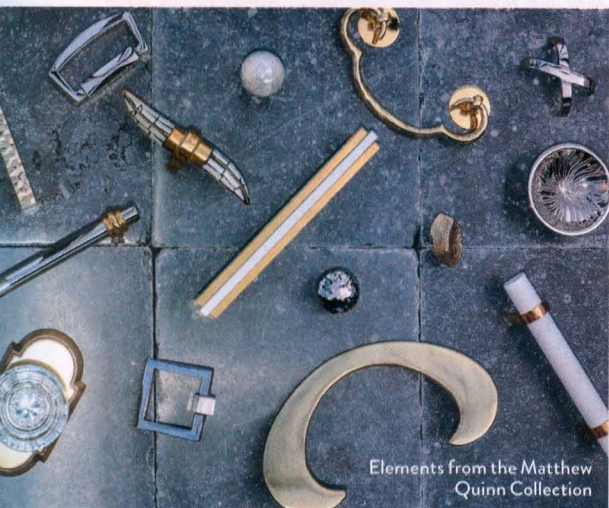
BY LISA MOWRY



Matthew Quinn, co-owner and principal/designer of ADAC's Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio, has built an international reputation—winning virtually every industry award; creating the Kips Bay Decorator Show House kitchen in 2014; working with top business, sports, and entertainment celebrities such as Madonna; directing multiple product lines, including signature hardware collections; and, most recently, designing *House Beautiful's* Kitchen of the Year.

Despite all of the accolades for his elegant, sophisticated spaces, Quinn is most proud of how his projects work. As he wrote in his recently released book, *Quintessential Kitchens* (quintessentialkitchens.com). "If I can create a safe, functional, and ergonomic space that gives a family more time together, healthier eating habits—and a return on their investment—that's good enough for me."

We wanted to find out more about this hometown superstar, so we tracked him down for some serious and not-so-serious questions.



Elements from the Matthew Quinn Collection



Quinn's work has appeared in many major magazines, and he serves as a judge for Sub-Zero and Wolf's national contest. He lives in Midtown with his partner in business and life, Ric Parrish.

AMH Tell us about growing up in south Florida.

MQ My dad was an educator, so during his summers off we would finish building or renovating a new home each year. We were basically "flipping" houses before that term was even conceived. We lived in each one for a year before my dad sold it, typically with all of its contents, which is why I have very little attachment to objects.

AMH You're known for exquisite attention to detail. Have you always been a perfectionist?

MQ My ex-military father trained me and my sisters to be obsessively organized. Literally every single item had a specific place. Our shoes had to be side by side

facing forward, towels folded on their bars, beds always made, and perfect vacuum lines in the carpet.

AMH When did you figure out you wanted to get into this line of work, and what would you be doing if not kitchen and bath design?

MQ I was groomed to become a doctor—I earned a chemistry degree from the University of Florida and moved to Atlanta with plans to attend grad school at Emory—but medical school was not in my cards. After a month in Paris, I switched gears and started design school at American InterContinental University. Just one week into my first quarter, Cliff Wang, the original owner of Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio, called the school looking

DESPITE ALL OF THE ACCOLADES, QUINN IS MOST PROUD OF HOW HIS PROJECTS WORK.



Today's kitchens have multiple workstations to accommodate several cooks.

one of the reasons I like to panel everything. Homeowners can insert their personality or update a kitchen through decorative hardware, light fixtures, art, and the colors of paint and fabrics.

“THE ART FOLLOWS THE SCIENCE. START WITH THE PLAN.”

AMH How has the way people use kitchens and baths changed over the years?

MQ In a way, the roles of kitchens and baths have switched positions. The kitchen used to be one person's domain, sometimes in a separate room, or with others kept at bay on the other side of a pass-through

or knee wall. The bath was more communal, a place where the family got ready in the morning and at night. Now the kitchen is the hub of the home. It's very typical for couples to cook together and for children to participate as well. Kitchen aisles require more width, and appliances must accommodate multiple people using them simultaneously. Baths are now sanctuaries—the only truly personal space in a home.

AMH How do you start a kitchen design?

MQ The art follows the science. I always start with the plan, the function, and the layout. I take a very holistic approach to the space, first making sure it has great architecture as its foundation. Lighting and ceilings are incredibly important.

AMH What kitchen and bath

trends are you over?

MQ I am over multicolored glass tile backsplashes, faux-distressed cabinet finishes, and maybe some other things I can't mention that would get me in trouble with current clients.

AMH Any new product lines you're working on? What are some of your favorite products from your collections?

MQ I am currently in the design phase of a ceiling fan collection and a decorative tile collection, as well as a continuation of new products for my sink and tub collection for MTI Baths, my stainless sink collection for Home Refinements by Julien, my modern hood collection with François & Co., and hardware for the Matthew Quinn Collection. I do all of my product design on airplanes. Since I travel weekly, I am constantly filling sketch books with ideas. My favorite

products are probably my first loves—the Intarcia tub for MTI Baths and the SocialCorner sink, because I have literally seen how easily and elegantly it brings people together.

AMH What's the most over-the-top thing you've ever installed?

MQ I've designed a room just for a Barbie collection, an escape hatch with a fire pole in a gentleman's closet, and I re-created the original Chanel store in Paris as a three-story closet in Texas.

AMH If you could design a kitchen or bath for anyone, who would it be?

MQ Anderson Cooper, Matt Lauer, or Oprah. I would be fascinated to know, with all of their travel and experiences, what they think would be a perfect kitchen or bath. ●



◆
Jennifer Kjellgren, husband Jonathan Freeman, and daughter Addison

◆
“My favorite thing about the master bedroom is the wall-to-wall linen drapery,” says designer Scott Laslie. “I also love the starburst pillow shams from Lee Jofa/Groundworks.”



◆
The master bathroom is a calming sanctuary of light turquoise and Carrara marble.

RESOURCES

WHAT GUYS WANT

Continued from page 66

be cooking, we generally try to allow a little more circulation space. We also try to provide two prep areas instead of just one, with a little elbow room between them. Men tend to cook with their partner or spouse, or at least with family and friends. This usually creates more traffic.

Do you find men prefer a more streamlined look?

Yes. Men seem to be a lot less interested in decorative flourishes and more interested in raw function. We have such a wide variety of integrated appliance options now that it's becoming easier to create that streamlined look. The design challenge is taking a collection of very simple gestures and assembling them into a beautifully composed whole. Sometimes "simple" just looks *simple*. Our goal is to elevate simplicity to the level of beauty without becoming too decorative.

How did you incorporate more "manly" features in your concept kitchen?

There are a lot of elements in this kitchen that I think are decidedly masculine, beginning with the massive AGA range. The dark pewter color and the range hood, along with the lighting selections, are heavier than I might normally choose, but my imaginary client was a successful guy in his 30s living in a very upscale loft in a downtown area. I wanted to warm up the room with lots of wood grain, which is complemented by the texture of the hand-cut, glazed-brick backsplash. Probably the most masculine element is scale. An oversized, integrated refrigerator and freezer in a wood-clad pantry wall to the right, the large range and hood, the dramatic Silestone backsplash—all of these elements come together to create a smoky, sexy, masculine space.

Did this come into play when you designed Nymbus for Silestone?

I don't feel that Nymbus is specifically masculine or feminine. This quartz is a kind of chameleon that takes on the character of its environment and adjacent compositional elements. We work with so many different clients, each with a different sense of personal style, so I wanted to create something that was ultimately very versatile. —B.R.

See next column for resources.

MOOD BOARD, PAGE 37

"Aurora" in aqua, Clarke & Clarke, Duralee, duralee.com. "Baycrest Velvet" in fuchsia, Duralee. "Velvet Bliss" in coral reef, Robert Allen, robertallendesign.com. "Portoro Extra," Marmi Natural Stone, marmistone.com.

WHAT GUYS WANT, PAGE 66

Nymbus quartz: Silestone, silestone.com. HiRise wall-mount faucet and Stages sink: Kohler, kohler.com. *Benjamin Moore paints* Beams: "Simply White OC-117," Advance, satin. Accent wall: "Luxe AF-580," Aura, matte. Walls: "Weimaraner AF-155," Aura, matte. benjaminmoore.com.

HEART OF THE HOME, PAGE 72

Contractor: Moore Development, 706-347-0161. Custom cabinetry: Design Woodwork & Lamination Ltd., designwoodwork.net. Hardware: Rejuvenation, rejuvenation.com. Pendant lights: Visual Comfort via Hawthorne House, hawthornehouseinc.com. Backsplash: The Builder Depot, thebuilderdepot.com. Sconces: House of Troy, houseoftroy.com. Floating shelves: East County Oak, eastcountyoak.com. Counters: Bianco marble from Bottega Stone, bottegestone.com. Barstools: Target, target.com. Drapery: Gray Line Linen, graylinelinen.com; Block and Brayer, blockandbrayer.com. Sofa fabric: Fabricut, fabricut.com. Pillow fabrics: Block and Brayer; Sister Golden, sistergolden.com. Fabric for rattan chair and swivel chair cushions: Block and Brayer. Flooring installation: Floor It, 706-248-2473. Laundry sink: Signature Hardware, signaturehardware.com. Laundry lighting: One Kings Lane, onekingslane.com; The Home Depot, homedepot.com. French doors: Lowe's, lowes.com. Drying rack: Ballard Designs, ballarddesigns.com.

EUROPEAN ÉLAN, PAGE 74

Backsplash: Walker Zanger, walkerzanger.com. Pendant lights above island: Shades of Light, shadesoflight.com. Chandelier: Overstock.com. Counters: Fumaca and Perla Vinato by Bottega Stone, bottegestone.com. Cabinetry: Liz Yingling, Design Resources, designresourcesga.com. Hood, floating shelves, mantel, barn door: Taylor's Wood Design, facebook.com/taylorswooddesigns.

MIDCENTURY MIX, PAGE 76

General contractor: Rod Price, Price Building Group, pricebuildinggroup.com. Custom cabinetry: Cameron Thurman, Phoenix Millworks, phoenixmillworks.org. Hardware: Rejuvenation, rejuvenation.com. Counters: StoneCrafters, stonecraftersusa.com. Light switches and outlets: Forbes & Lomax, forbesandlomax.com.

SERENE SANCTUARY, PAGE 78

Vanity: Home Decorators Collection, homedecorators.com. Hardware: Restoration Hardware, rh.com. Mirrors: Ballard Designs, ballarddesigns.com. Plumbing fixtures: Delta, deltafaucet.com. Sconces: Restoration Hardware. Shower stool: Wayfair, wayfair.com. Ottoman: HomeGoods, homegoods.com. Roman shade fabric: Boca Bargoons, bocabargoons.com. Tile: Floor & Decor, flooranddecor.com.

SAVOIR FAIRE, PAGE 80

Dining table: Kartell, kartell.com. Dining room paint: "Bunny Gray," Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com. Living room sofa: Lee Industries, leeindustries.com. Orange chair/ottoman: Ligne Roset, ligne-roset.com. Laundry room wallpaper: "Brazilliance," Dorothy Draper, dorothydraperfw.com. Guest room wallpaper: "C'est Magnifique," Anthropologie, anthropologie.com. Hall wallpaper: "Zebras," Scalamandre, scalamandre.com.

BUCKHEAD REVISITED, PAGE 90

Living room Wall paint: "White Dove," Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com. Hanging light fixtures: Circa Lighting, circalighting.com. Ottoman fabric: Lee Jofa, leejofa.com. Wicker chairs: Williams-Sonoma Home, williams-sonoma.com. Floor lamp: Arteriors, arteriorshome.com. *Dining room* Chandelier: Ro Sham Beaux, ro-sham-beaux.com. Chairs: Phillips Scott, phillipsscott.com. *Mudroom* Bird wallpaper: Schumacher, fschumacher.com. *Family room* Sofas and ottoman: Lee Industries, leeindustries.com. Custom side tables: Love Beau Studio, lovebeaustudio.com. *Master bedroom* Custom side tables: Fabulous Things, fabulousthingsatlanta.com. Bed linen fabrics: Donghia, donghia.com.

FOUR SQUARE, PAGE 100

Living room Drapery fabric: Yoma Textiles, yoma.com. Coffee table: Grey, greymfurniture.com. Sofa: Bjork Studio, bjorkstudio.com. *Dining room* Table: Rustic Trades, rustictradesfurniture.com. Art: Jenny Andrews Anderson, jennyandrewsanderson.bigcartel.com. *Kitchen* Range: Lacanche, frenchranges.com/lacanche-ranges. Pendant lights: Cisco Brothers, ciscobrothers.com. Barn door: Mi-Kin Creations, mi-kincreations.com. *Family room* Poufs: Cisco Brothers. Sofa: Bjork Studio. *Porch* Swing bed from vintage wood: Mi-Kin Creations. Table: Rustic Trades. Pillow: Kolo Collection, kolocollection.com. *Master bedroom* Pillow sham fabric: Lee Jofa (ADAC), leejofa.com. Artwork: Sandler Hudson Gallery, sandlerhudson.com. *Master bath* Tub: **Victoria + Albert, vandabaths.com**. Sconces: Circa Lighting, circalighting.com. *Wine room* Riddling racks: Mi-Kin Creations. *Guest bath* Tub refinishing: Appalachian Tubs, 770-324-8701.