

# DESIGNERS

CREATIVE MINDS IN INTERIORS, LANDSCAPES, AND FURNISHINGS

## THE FAMILY ROOM "NEST"

This traditional New York home's family-room design was inspired by the "Nest" pillow at the center of this image. The pillow is available from Restoration Hardware ([restorationhardware.com](http://restorationhardware.com)).



## Marie Burgos Design

NEW YORK-BASED DESIGNER INSPIRED BY THE IDEALS OF FENG SHUI

by Tricia Despres

Owner of New York-based Marie Burgos Design, Marie Burgos believes she was born to create. Her mom is a painter, one of her brothers is a musician, and the other is an award-winning chef. Yet, for Marie, she says it took many years before she found her true creative calling.

"I was working 60 hours a week in the corporate world," says Burgos, who spent sixteen years working internationally in the restaurant-launching and management industry. "I remember waking up one day and realizing that I just wasn't learning anything anymore, and I certainly wasn't tapping into my creativity."

After completing her degree in interior design, Burgos' quest for balancing elegance and harmony with tasteful luxury led to further studies and certification in Feng Shui through Master James Jay, an accomplished disciple of Grand Master Lin Yu of Berkeley, California. Burgos then earned "Red Ribbon" status membership to the International Feng Shui Guild and Interior Design Society.

"It was one of those times in my life where I found myself needing to make so many decisions at one time," says Burgos, who founded her interior-design group in 2007. "In those sorts of situations



it's easy to start feeling cornered. But when things come back to back to back like that, you know that there is a big change coming into your life. When the universe sends you messages through various people and projects, you just know what to do."

*"It's about creating harmony and balance, which then creates energy."* MARIE BURGOS, OWNER



### *Top Design Elements of the Zen Living Room*

Marie Burgos' unique approach to interiors is a result of her interior design and feng shui expertise. Her main focus is to invite success and well being into her clients' lives through the power of placement and the inclusion of natural elements in their homes.

"It's all about feeling beautiful," says Burgos, also a master of business management graduate of the University of Paris. "My design approach is based on Feng Shui that supports Chinese astrology. It's about creating harmony and balance, which then creates energy. I also follow a design that supports the Chinese astrology that envelops wood, fire, earth, metal, and water within every space."

One of the acclaimed designer's recent projects was a Zen space created in the heart of New York City, where Burgos transformed a traditional home into a beautiful architectural open area and created a tropical urban oasis desired by the client to enhance the auspicious flow of energy and to calm and comfort the senses.

"When I meet a new client, I focus on what some may call out-of-the-box questions," Burgos says. "I want to know their habits and where they like to go and what they like to do. I find that most people know what they want, but they just don't know how to put it together. I focus on helping people express their vision of ideal life, and I create their ideal life through their space." ■

1. Momo Low Table from Vastu. "It's a beautiful wenge-wood finish, which really makes a very chic, exotic statement in the room." [vastudc.com](http://vastudc.com)

2. Grace Sofa by Roche Bobois. "This piece reflects the eco-friendly minimalist look—I wanted to create a sense of calm and well-being in the space." [roche-bobois.com](http://roche-bobois.com)

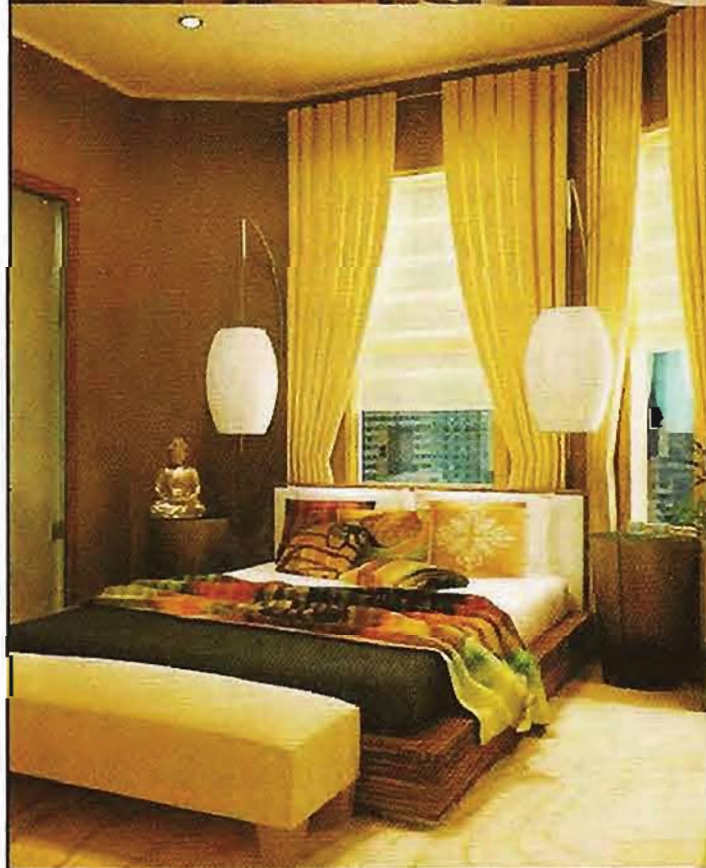
3. Metro Drum Table from Maria Yee. "This round drum table brings warmth and comfort to the reading space." [mariayee.com](http://mariayee.com)

4. Verona Rug by Mat The Basics. "The rug provides comforting texture underfoot in a design that captures and softens dynamic, contemporary lines." [mat-thebasics.com](http://mat-thebasics.com)

5. Handcast Concrete Fireplace Surround from Solus Decor. "This piece is the ideal finishing touch for an emphatically modern environment." [solusdecor.com](http://solusdecor.com)

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