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10TH ANNIVERSARY

JOHN RUSSELL
PHOTOGRAPHER

50 Years Captured in Time

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TIME *for a change*

A NEW YEAR opens up limitless possibilities. A time for fresh changes and reimagining. But, where to begin with this daunting task?

Here are six tips to achieve an interior design look that's up-to-the-minute, yet sustainable over the long-term. These time-tested tenets will serve you well, whether you're envisioning a contemporary or more traditional treatment:

1. USE EARTHY SHADES for walls, textiles, and flooring to create the feeling of warmth and coziness. Natural materials such as velvets, wool, Sherpa and look-a-likes that imitate, add to the appeal of nature.

2. VINTAGE FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES can be repurposed and show off their unique patinas, found only in decades-old pieces. They have personality, and these found items defy today's shortages and long lead times.

3. ARTWORK. Large, very large (48"x60") pieces will draw you in and take you to another place. They can be framed or unframed, original or photo art... They will reflect your taste and make an impact on your home.

4. LIGHTING. If natural light is a challenge, then use a well-planned lighting system with recessed LED fixtures, and mix with floor lamps and pendant fixtures (no dark places please).

5. LIVING ROOM BARS. Create an adults-only room for a specialty cocktail cabinet or drinks bar. Now here's a use for that armoire you can't sell or give away.

6. QUALITY EVERYTHING. Buy local, domestically made, quality furniture and accessories. This trending practice should be part of one's plan for 2022. There's great satisfaction in that.

Shirley J. Maddalena is President of Maddalena Design. An award winning full-service interior design and space-planning firm for commercial and residential properties. She has a portfolio that stretches over 40 + years. Now based in Traverse City with offices in Detroit and Naples.
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