

LAKE NORMAN

# Woman

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN



**HOT**  
summer fashions

winning by  
**LOSING**

“BIGGEST LOSER”  
CELEBRITY, EMILY JOY

FINDING  
*beauty*  
ANYWHERE,  
EVEN **DIVORCE**

THE  
*beauty*  
ISSUE

**IN FULL bloom:**

MARCYNE TOUCHTON OF DOMAINE STAGING

# a beautiful ROOM

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## THIS ISSUE'S

focus is on beauty. Wow, that's a wide open window! While I was in New York last week I thought about beauty as I visited my favorite museums. Isn't a museum where beauty must reside? But I must admit that everything I saw was not beautiful; thought provoking, yes, but to my eye, not everything was beautiful. But when you focus in on the paintings that endure and are beloved, but not trying to shock, you begin to see similarities.


As I looked at one of the most famous paintings, *The Starry Night* by Vincent van Gogh, I was reminded that the most celebrated beauty in art is due to composition. The artist forces the eye to move around the painting, thereby taking you on a journey.

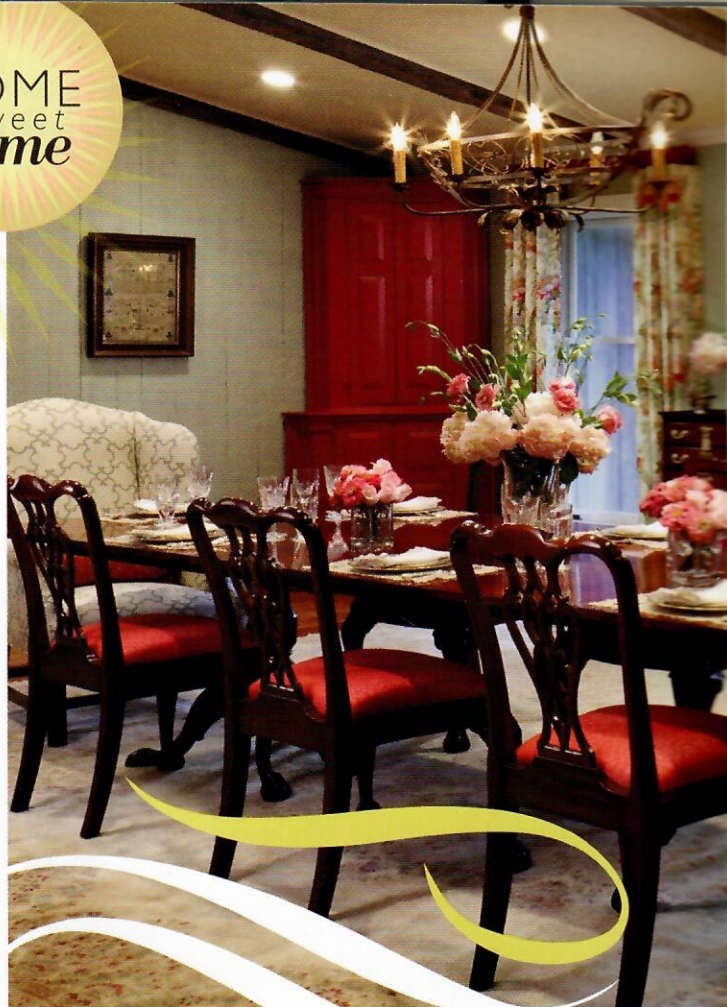
It was a revelation for me in art school to understand that great paintings are meticulously planned and not just a guy standing on a hill looking at a view. The perspective

is mathematical; the composition is carefully chosen and executed. The color sets a mood, or in the case of Degas' dancers, the color red may pop in a dancer's sash or a critic's scarf to help move your eye around the painting.

The dancer's arms may point the way your eye should move around the painting. In *The Starry Night*, the swirling clouds lift you and move you through the experience.

As in great art, fine interior design must be composed. There should be a focal point. Color should set the mood. Strong colors should be used to move your eye around the room. When you look at a painting the artist has layered color and used texture to help tell a story.

Texture in home design helps draw you in, and layering different textures can make one want to look closer, see more. Many folks "have an eye," but without understanding the full composition of a room, the full composition does not come together. 



## A FEW RULES:

- **A WELL-COMPOSED ROOM** does not mean that every pillow must be embellished. Clean and simple can be as dramatic. Thoughtful, strategic embellishments make a stronger look than bedazzling everything in sight.
- **PICK ONE FOCAL POINT** in the room and dance the other pieces around it. If a space has several places of focus, the eye never rests and the room is not welcoming.
- **MONOCHROMATIC COLOR** can be a strong statement, however the room must have contrast to truly make this work. Dark woodwork with like colors works well. Also understand that all beiges do not match. Some have yellow undertones, some have pink undertones, and others have grey-muddy undertones. Put these together and they clash.
- **STRONG COLOR** can also help make a fabulous room. Think about popping the color in the pillows and using it as an embellishment on your drapery. Maybe even lacquer a mid-century modern piece with it.
- **LAYER DIFFERENT TEXTURES.** If everything is silk and shiny, it is off-putting. The same thing goes if everything is flat and matte. Use different textures to layer the space.



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