

BOSTON COMMON



EXCLUSIVE

Rashida Jones

THE PARKS AND RECREATION FOX
ON STYLE, HER RAVE DAYS AT HARVARD
AND HOW SHE REMAINS SO REAL

FALL
FASHION
PREVIEW

KILLER COLOR AMPS
UP THE RUNWAY

BRAVE **NEW LOOKS** FOR MEN
CUTTING-EDGE HUB **DESIGNERS**



INTERIOR DESIGNER
MOLLIE JOHNSON'S TIMELESS DECOR

OVERHEARD AT SOCIETY SHINDIGS



Guilty Pleasures

Mollie Johnson's top décor choices lend a classic yet modern ambience to any space.

By Janice O'Leary

THE DAUGHTER OF an Army lieutenant general, Wellesley interior designer Mollie Johnson lived a peripatetic childhood during which she and her family were stationed in some of Europe's grandest homes. "The exposure I had to incredible antiques and architecture in Berlin and Paris was a major influence on my career and aesthetic," Johnson says. She later studied in France and still returns when she can. "I get very inspired in Europe," she says. "I'm a total Francophile, totally obsessed with it—to the point where I won't even drink California wines."

With the family's living circumstances changing so frequently, Johnson became adept early on at quickly assessing new situations and people. That same ability serves her when gleaning clients' tastes from such things as their clothing and the magazines they admire, information she uses when designing spaces for them. Her signature style is marked by a quiet elegance and grace with a soothing, uncluttered core. "Simplicity with sophistication," she says. And she never forgets a dash of glamour, such as a touch of gilt or leopard print. *Mollie Johnson Interiors, Inc., 1 Hollis St., Suite 102, Wellesley, 781-431-2289; molliejohnsoninteriors.com*

2 Whittington lamp from **Dessin Fournir**. "There's a touch of gilding here that I love. It's an important classical detail." *The Martin Group, Boston Design Center, Suite 515, 617-951-2526; dessinfournir.com*

1 **Janus et Cie** outdoor furniture. "You see this contemporary line all over Europe in the cafés." *Boston Design Center, Suite 114, 617-737-5001; janusetcie.com*



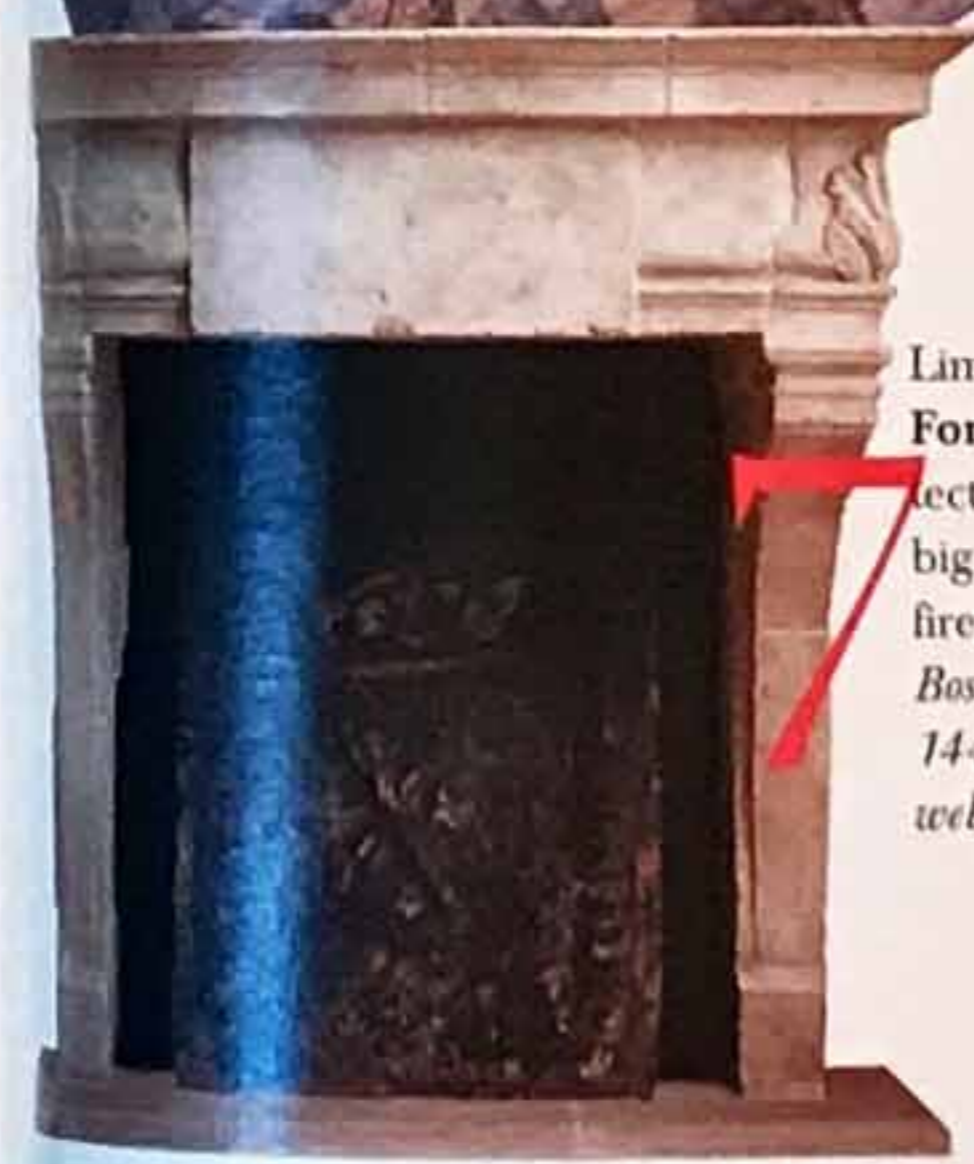
PHOTOGRAPH BY ERIC LEVIN



3 Kitchens by **Christopher Peacock Cabinetry**. "Kitchens were getting too white. There's a new effort now to marry in a warm wood—I love contrasting an old-fashioned-looking fridge made of oak with the industrial look of steel strips on the hood over the stove." *Dalia Kitchen Design, Boston Design Center, Suite 633, 617-482-2566; peacockcabinetry.com*



8 Tibetan rugs from **Stark**. *Boston Design Center, Suite 101, 617-357-5525; starkcarpet.com*



7 Limestone fireplace by **Formations**. "I love strong architectural detail—coffered ceilings, big moldings and baseboards, huge fireplaces." *Webster & Company, Boston Design Center, Suites 144-242, 617-261-9660; webstercompany.com*



4 **Rose Tarlow** table. "I love this round table with fish on it. I decided I had to have it because I'm a Pisces. I admire the wood tones and the slightly gilded, very subtle school of fish. The round shape for a dining table works best for intimacy." *Webster & Company, Boston Design Center, Suites 144-242, 617-261-9660; webstercompany.com*

5 **Samuel & Sons** passementerie embellishments. "Their trims are so refreshingly different and clever." *The Martin Group, Boston Design Center, Suite 111, 617-951-2526; samuelandsons.com*



MOLLIE'S PICKS

MOLLIE'S HOT/NOT
Hot: Hermès orange
Not: Fussiness



6 **Farrow & Ball** paints (\$34.50-\$125.00 per gallon). "Color is hugely important. It dictates the feeling of the room and is important in the flow of the house. I prefer Farrow & Ball paints, especially Powder Blue No. 23, because they contain more pigment." *Available to the trade at Boston Design Center, Suite 337A, 617-345-5344; farrow-ball.com*