

# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AUTHORITY

SEPTEMBER 2014

## Always in Style

FASHION INSIDERS OPEN THEIR DOORS

**AD VISITS**

**DEE + TOMMY HILFIGER**

NATALIE MASSENET

FRANCISCO COSTA

TORY BURCH

ISAAC MIZRAHI

CARLOS SOUZA

ADAM LIPPES

STEVEN KLEIN



**PLUS**

**MARELLA AGNELLI'S  
ROMANTIC  
ITALIAN VILLA**



# Calming Influence

Evoking the purity of form that defines his fashions for Calvin Klein, Francisco Costa worked with decorator Mark Cunningham to create serene, sophisticated interiors for his 1930s Georgian mansion on Long Island

TEXT BY WILLIAM NORWICH PHOTOGRAPHY BY WILLIAM WALDRON  
PRODUCED BY ANITA SANSIDI





nce upon a time—the summer of 1960 to be exact—director Elia Kazan needed an East Coast location that could represent Kansas in *Splendor in the Grass*, his Warren Beatty-Natalie Wood drama. He found a surprisingly suitable spot in the Long Island hamlet of Brookhaven, on a farm complete with a Georgian Colonial-style house.

“Personally, I don’t see Kansas,” says Francisco Costa, the Brazilian-born creative director of women’s wear for the Calvin Klein Collection; Costa owns the cinematic acreage today with his partner, John DeStefano, a horse trainer. “I associate the red bricks of this house with Virginia in the 18th century.” The bricks actually date from 1836, when they were used for a dwelling that was constructed on the site for a president of the Long Island Railroad. A century later, another owner tore that home down and repurposed the building material into a two-story, six-bedroom residence embellished with a Doric-columned portico and fanlighted doors.

Shortly before the New York City-based couple acquired the property four years ago, they had been planning a major remodel of their previous weekend place, a Dutch Colonial in the neighboring village of Bellport, just south of Brookhaven. “Instead of going crazy rebuilding, why don’t we just look for something else?” DeStefano recalls asking, adding that there was never any doubt they would stay in the area. “Although Manhattan is where we live during the week, Bellport is our heart.”

For those in the know, Bellport is the unHampton, so much so that *Women’s Wear Daily* once compared it to Mayberry. It’s a resolutely low-key community, albeit one with high-profile



**From top:** The house was built in the 1930s, using brick from a 19th-century residence that previously occupied the site. A chandelier from Christie’s 2013 Colefax and Fowler sale serves as the conservatory’s centerpiece; a Palecek club chair joins an R. E. Steele Antiques cocktail table, and an Hermès blanket accents the sofa. **Opposite, clockwise from top:** Anthony Miller mixed-media works fill a living room wall. A circa-1870 cabinet from Ann-Morris stands in the dining room; the 1920s chandelier is from Thomas Jolly Antiques, the table is by Jed Johnson Home, the George III chairs were found at Stair Galleries, and the bowls are by Calvin Klein Home. In the main hall, an Elliott Puckette painting hangs above an antique Swedish bench from Dienst + Dotter Antikviteter.

