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The Boston Globe

25 Most Stylish Bostonians of 2010 -- David Hacin



(Esdras M. Suarez / Globe staff)

By Taylor Adams
Globe Staff / November 18, 2010

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David Hacin

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Age: 49

Occupation: President, Hacin + Associates, Architecture and Design; member of the Boston Civic Design Commission

Residence: South End

How does your sense of style influence your approach to architecture and design?

My approach to personal style and to architectural style are not that different from one another. I aspire to reasonably simple and elegant solutions to any design problem. My approach to architecture is really to try and capture the spirit of the age, and the spirit of the context, in a simple and classic way, and I feel that hopefully my personal style captures the same spirit.

A city brings a lot of its own style and character to any design situation. What is Boston's style?

I think the wonderful thing about Boston is that it is a city of layers. Each generation of architects and designers sort of add their own sensibility to it. It's not an old city or a new city. It's a city that is constantly changing and constantly adding to itself, but is always aware of its history. A lot of other cities have been built all at one time, or there's very little of their history left, and what I think is wonderful about Boston is that it strikes a balance between its history and what's added to it.

Do you find yourself influenced mostly by other architecture, or through other things as well?

I'm really interested in all aspects of design. That includes architecture, interior design, urban design, and fashion design. I think that more and more, all of the design industries are overlapping in ways that they never have before. It's the cross-pollination of all of the design disciplines that is the most exciting thing to me. Here in the office I'm looking at architecture magazines and interior-design magazines and travel magazines and lifestyle magazines, and being influenced by all of them. Our work is commercial and residential, but it's also retail, so it's really important to understand trends in the marketplace and global trends, and trying to figure out how they can best be adapted

to the particular context of Boston or wherever we're working. ■

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