

Connecticut COTTAGES & GARDENS

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GREAT ESCAPES

SECOND HOMES IN CAPE COD, VERMONT AND FLORIDA

BONUS: RUG RESOURCES YOU NEED TO KNOW



MEET THE ARCHITECT

Rich Granoff *by Alexa Stevenson*

A RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ARCHITECT PUTS AN ECO-FRIENDLY STAMP ON ALL OF HIS PROJECTS

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The Designer | Rich Granoff (ABOVE) established R.S. Granoff Architects in 1989.
Funky Farmhouse | Granoff designed this farmhouse (TOP RIGHT), on a spectacular hilltop site in North Salem, for a dynamic young couple. Reclaimed barn-board and steel detailing create an "eclectic" feel. **Tower Over** | This 30,000-square-foot classic shingle-style estate (BELOW) on Long Island Sound features mahogany windows, doors and detailing. See Resources.



What's your design philosophy? I consider myself a "pluralist." Every project is unique; I am influenced by the site, program, client and budget. After a thorough analysis of the information at hand, I design something that is wonderful and appropriate. **You're a proponent of "green" design. How do you get those who inevitably want a big house in Connecticut to go green?** Although large, a project can consume less fossil fuels than a much smaller home that is not green. Most of my clients are open-minded about green design, but need my expertise to understand exactly what the options are and how it effects their project. **What's exciting to you in the world of design right now?** I see more of an acceptance of modern architectural concepts. I love to inject modern ideas in materials, form and space into my work, so that the projects have a cleaner look. **What do you think should go away?** Complacency in home design. Even in our very expensive part of the world, most new homes are still "builder's Colonials" that all look the same. **Name a source of inspiration:** I studied architecture in Florence, and am completely inspired by all things Italian (including architecture, cars, clothing, food and wine). **What period of history are you drawn to?** I am drawn to many different periods of architecture. The Renaissance is a constant inspiration, as are the shingle-style homes and modernism. Most of my work is not "pure," but references a variety of different periods. I always try to inject a modern twist into a design. **Who has had a profound impact on your work?** The work of Frank Lloyd Wright really inspired me while I was a student at Syracuse. Visiting Fallingwater was like a religious experience for me. **Is there anything that people would be surprised to know about you?** I married my high school sweetheart and played drums semi-professionally through college. **What are your secret obsessions or guilty pleasures?** My guiltiest pleasure is my Porsche 911 Turbo Cabriolet. The design is beautiful and it is engineered to perfection. **What would you do for work if you weren't an architect?** I'd be a graphic designer, sommelier or race car driver. ●



FARMHOUSE PHOTOGRAPH BY ELLIOTT KAUFMAN; OTHERS COURTESY R.S. GRANOFF ARCHITECTS