Four eminent designers review a curated collection of dining room chairs for ASPIRE DESIGN AND HOME, each using their artistic eye to pinpoint the specific elements that embody a truly classic design.

The following insightful observations identify the chairs' best attributes, honing in on features that offer equal measures of style, refinement and supreme comfort. Which one is your favorite? GWEN DONOVAN

ARCHETYPES

AMIR KHAMNEIPUR

As the founder and principal of Amir Khamneipur Design, Amir specializes in architectural, residential and commercial spaces. The firm's finely-tailored look enhances residential projects from New York City apartments to estates in the Hamptons. Amir has been the Design Director for several of America's top Furniture and Accessories showrooms. His work has been featured in major publications and his current furniture collection is available exclusively through Amir Khamneipur Design. Amir studied design in Paris, Barcelona, and the prestigious Rhode Island School of Design.





WILLIAM MCINTOSH

Tailored, modern and elegant... rough, sleek and bold... Interiors by William McIntosh are individually conceived and meticulously crafted. Born in upstate New York, McIntosh studied interior design at Pratt Institute. After graduating in 1980, he worked for the noted interior design firms of Timothy MacDonald Incorporated and Bray-Schaible Design, establishing his namesake firm in 1990. With a dedicated creative and artistic team, McIntosh continues to produce the thoughtful, intelligent and personal interiors that have established him among a loyal and growing clientele. williammcintoshdesign.com

GIDEON MENDELSON

The Mendelson Group was incorporated in 2003 by its principal, Gideon Mendelson. A graduate of Columbia University with a degree in architecture and the New York School of Interior Design, Mendelson brings a classically based, yet fresh and modern aesthetic to his projects. Mendelson Group's goal is to create functional, comfortable spaces that are not only aesthetically pleasing, but are also timeless, youthful and energetic in design. A single principle guides this firm: From the initial consultation, through architectural and decorative planning, to construction and installation, the client's satisfaction is first priority. *mendelsongroupinc.com*





RAJI RADHAKRISHNAN

Founded by principal interior designer Raji Radhakrishnan, Raji RM & Associates is an interior design firm working on city and country homes in the Washington, D.C. and New York areas. Radhakrishnan's design approach is unique and creative, but it is the way she balances all the elements that has industry insiders describing her work as "Pitch Perfect." Architectural details, exceptional craftsmanship, carefully selected pieces and comfortable perches are brought together to create rooms that make you want to stay, live in and enjoy. *rajirm.com*

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AMIR KHAMNEIPUR



Barnett Arm Dining Chair by Studio Van den Akker

Simply Structured: The Barnett Arm Dining Chair reads very architectural to me. Whether it's for a modern and linear space or for a more masculine and refined space, this chair works well. The size and shape cradle a person's form perfectly to achieve the ideal comfort. The double spine in the back gives not only an opportunity to create a continuous vertical pattern around the table, but also a chance to bring in another finish. The combination of fabric upholstery and vertical lacquer, wood or metallic lead finishes allows the designer to truly elevate the dining area to another level.

Price available upon request



Brampton Dining Chair by Dmitriy & Co.

Enduring Style: The Brampton Dining Chair is completely unique in my opinion. The mattress stitch detail is very chic and brings this chair to an elevated, yet semi-traditional level not seen before. The clean lines allow this chair to be used in practically any interior; however, for me, it belongs in a traditional setting. I would upholster the back in leather and the seat in a textured solid fabric to match in color, yet in a darker shade. The legs and frame would be stunningly lacquered to match the same color as the seat. Dmitriy & Co. have made a great contribution with this elegant chair. Available through Dmitriy & Co. List Price \$3,650



Agnes Chair by Jean de Merry

Platinum Polish: The Agnes Chair embodies finesse and elegance. Sleek and almost skeletal in its appearance, it blends perfectly with cool tones and structured, slender surroundings. The polished platinum finish makes it easy to blend in any color palette or wood tonality. The seat is extremely comfortable, and I have found the pitch to be ideal for both dining and working at a desk. Jean de Merry's collection of furniture is very sexy and refined. This chair lives up to their quality and aesthetic.

Price available upon request



Hahn Arm Chair by Bright Chair

Bold Interpretation: The Hahn Arm Chair is a fabulous and very new interpretation of some vintage frames I have seen. It's completely new in its spirit, sensual lines and wood profiles. I fell in love with it the first time I saw it. The armrests make it perfect for a client in search of comfort and utility. It allows getting in and out of a seat effortless. I love the way Bright Chair upholsters and displays their furniture; they really know how to make elegant and tailored designs!

Price available upon request

GIDEON MENDELSON



Dover Chair by Roman Thomas

Daring Details: The Dover Chair by Roman Thomas epitomizes quality and sophistication. I love the architectural lines and how the wood seems to penetrate through the upholstery. Depending on the finish, it can be successful in both a town and country setting. The attention to detail is clear – conical legs, brass sabots and nail head trim. It's a classic!

Price available upon request



Promenade Caned Armchair by Lorin Marsh

Cool Factor: The Promenade Caned Armchair by Lorin Marsh is both sexy and cool. Everything they do is! The combination of upholstery, wood, caning and brass is effortless. It's clearly a nod to midcentury design, but it's forever modern. No wonder it sits around my breakfast table!

Available through Lorin Marsh
List Price \$8,695



Iris Chair by Mattia Bonetti

Playful Vibe: The Iris Chair by
Mattia Bonetti is a piece of art. It's
"Alice in Wonderland" meets Gio
Ponti – classic and whimsical. The
asymmetry and curvaceous lines
showcase craftsmanship and creativity.
I can't stop looking at it; it's simply
addicting. Bring me a client who has the
personality and guts for this!
Available through PK Shop
(Paul Kasmin Gallery) Price \$9,500



Auster Chair by Dmitriy & Co.

Deceptively Simple: The Auster Chair by Dmitriy & Co. is beautifully detailed, but its simplicity is what steals the show. The slight curvature to the seat and the stretchers are quiet and elegant. It's a contemporary take on a classic chair. It can live effortlessly in both a modern and traditional interior. I'll take a set of 10, thank you very much! Available through Dmitriy & Co. Price \$2,250