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ONE SOLID PREMISE OF HOME BUILDING AND RENOVATION was confirmed for me at this year's Residential Design and Construction Show: The more thoroughly homeowners, design professionals, and contractors communicate their vision, expectations, and budget to one another, the better the results. Several of the seminars at the show, sponsored by the Boston Society of Architects on April 1 and 2, touched on the challenges inherent in any home project and offered strategies to anticipate and manage them. In the exhibit hall, there was an upbeat mood as participants milled about booths touting the latest in products and services. Equally energetic were demonstrations on everything from decorative painting to dustless floor sanding. It was a reminder of how vibrant our community is — and that, wow, do we know how to put on an event.



A wealth of talent also was evident as four well-known interior designers created beautiful table settings that harmonized with the elegant contemporary German furniture at the Rol Benz/Hulsta Studio at 8 Park Plaza, Boston. The displays by Susan Dearborn Interiors, Mally Skok Design, Chrisicos Interiors, and New England Silks & Accessories were on display through March for showroom visitors to enjoy.

Art and design, past and present converged at the AD 20/21 Show at the Cyclorama in Boston's South End. The March event marked the second year for this unique exhibit, which is the only show in New England dedicated to contemporary art and modern design.

All in all, these were terrific events to welcome spring, a time of year when we should make the most of nature's inspiration and express our own creativity in our homes and gardens and in the world around us.

Then we can kick back and enjoy the lazy days of summer.

*Steve*

STEPHEN TWOMBLY, PUBLISHER



(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP) AD 20/21 SHOW: Restaurateur Lydia Shire and AD 20/21 co-producer Tony Fusco; Susanna Fichera and Michael W. Mahan, Susanna Fichera Fine Art; Jon Hattaway, MJ Berries Design, Design New England editor Gail Ravgiala, gallery owner Martha Richardson, and Elizabeth Wylie, Finegold Alexander + Associates. ROLF BENZ/HULSTA: Showroom owner Desa Facey with designers Susan Dearborn and Kathie Chrisicos, and Lee McCloskey, New England Silks & Accessories.