

food for thought

Kips Bay Showhouse

[Quiche Lorraine Recipe](#)

[Philip Mitchell Design](#)

[Mark Sikes](#)

[Alexa Hampton](#)

[Barbara Ostrom](#)

[Bunny Williams](#)



For a while I've been off showhouses not being a huge fan of modern, slick interiors in garish colors, or the reverse, all grey minimalism. But this year's [Kips Bay Showhouse](#) had three of my favorite interior designers: [Mark Sikes](#), [Alexa Hampton](#) and [Bunny Williams](#) on deck...so Keith and I motored into the city on a particularly bleak Sunday in late May.

Located on East 76th street between Park and Lex in a 51 million dollar townhouse that is the largest on the NYC market today (read all about it here: ([Upper Eastside Mansion for Sale](#)), this showhouse had seven floors and countless rooms featuring the talents of the creme de la creme in home decor today. So for your forty dollars you basically got a master's class in design—not bad.

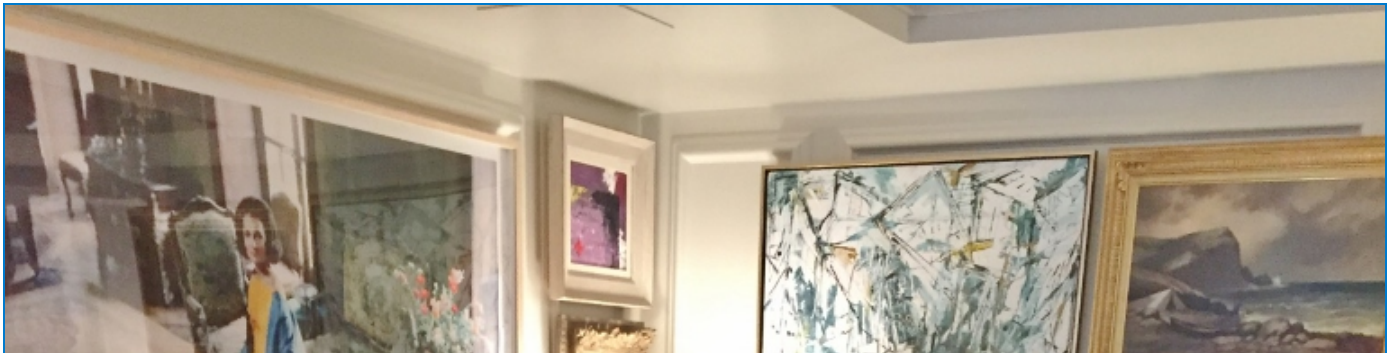
We started in the foyer—you could have sworn you were in Paris—then stepped into a spacious elevator that zipped us to the top floor which was entirely dedicated to an in-home spa space. Crazy.



On the floor below that was our highlight of the day: the Drawing Room by [Philip Mitchell Design](#). OMG



Just when I had practically convinced myself that my days as a retailer were numbered because the upcoming generations don't collect things, don't want things, don't need stuff—Philip Mitchell's Drawing Room was the bomb. Anchored by a massive navy blue sectional festooned with a plethora of toss pillows bordered by a seemingly random selection of art, it was love at first sight.





And it kept getting better. Everywhere you looked there was more, and, impossibly better, accoutrement. I've always loved the Bunny Williams bar set up in her Connecticut house and this was to rival that. Then there were the overstuffed chairs, flanked by baskets filled with books and magazines, flanked by

ottomans, flanked by tables, flanked by—you get the picture. I could just see myself sitting in this chair, feet elevated, sipping a Gin Fizz, devouring a juicy novel.

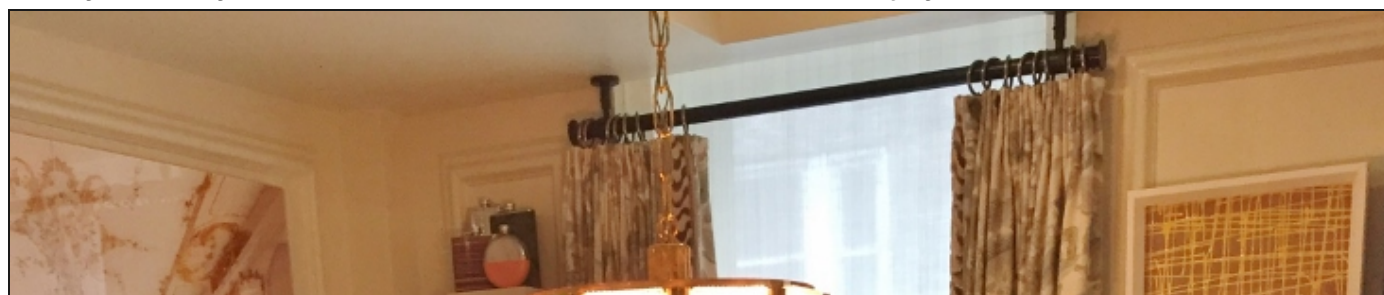


Coffee tables were all piled high with collections (note to self– take all unpolished antique brass candlesticks out of purgatory stat), more books, even plants. Who said orchids were so over? Note too all the stools and benches encircling the coffee table practically begging you to put your feet up and enjoy the flow.





Everywhere you looked there was more to see and enjoy. Game table. Check.

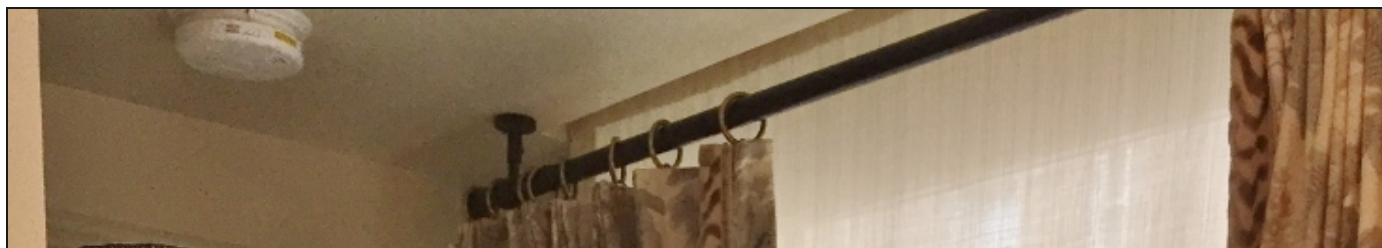




Cozy corner with wicker chairs. Check.



Tall shelf nestled in alcove filled with blue and white porcelain. Check.





Vintage dog bed. Check.

