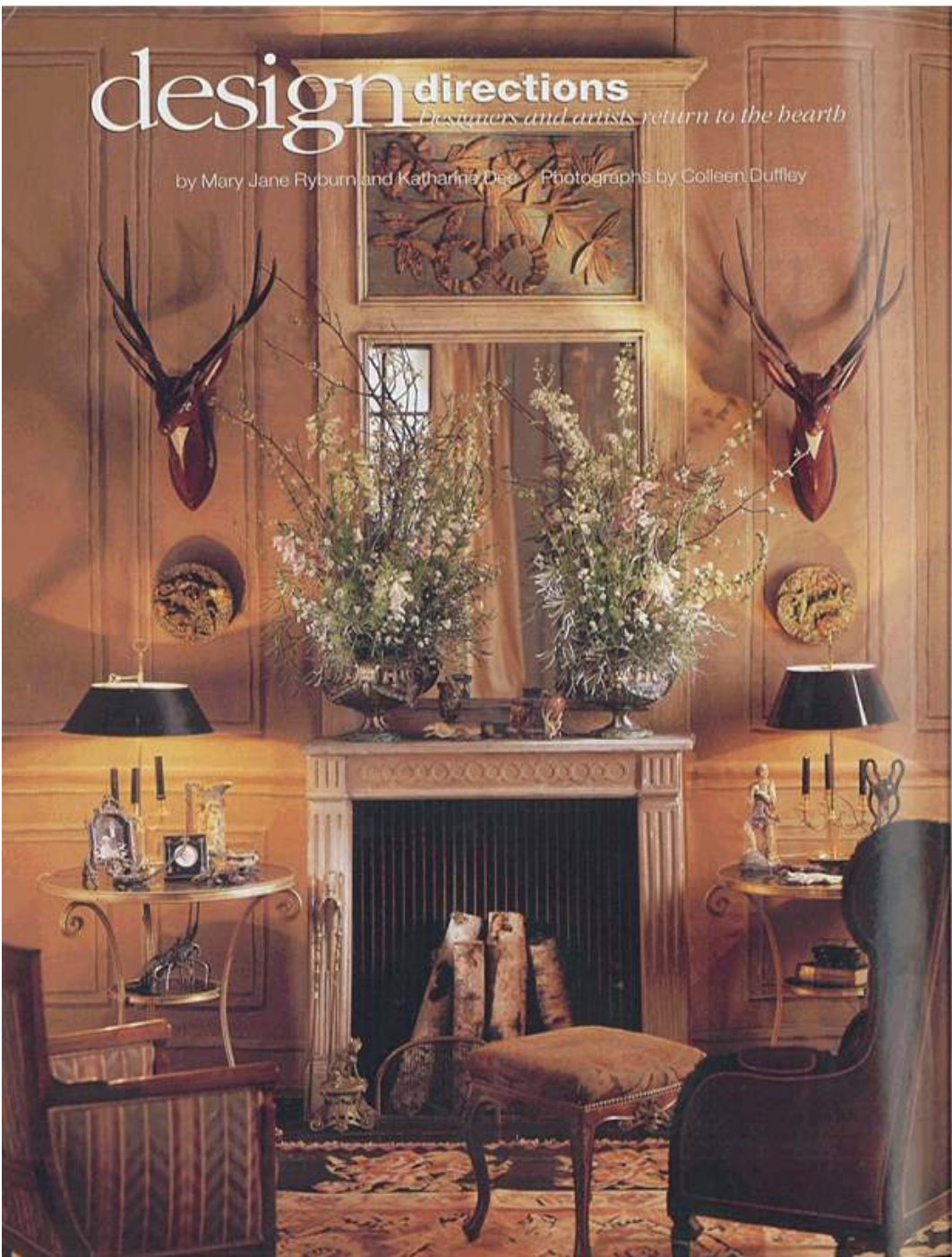


design directions

Designers and artists return to the hearth

by Mary Jane Ryburn and Katharina Dee Photographs by Colleen Duffley



The mid-90s seem the perfect time to reintroduce the notion of hearth. With fax machines and computers, we run the risk of allowing our homes to become off-site offices with sleep-over accommodations. Have we forgotten what our cave-dwelling ancestors knew? Home is a refuge, and the fireplace still the most welcoming gathering place in it.

Southern Accents asked several Dallas designers and artists to create settings focusing on the fireplace and mantel. While all chose to center mirrors between arrangements of fresh flowers, similarities in presentation end there.

Joe Minton creates a haven for the sophisticated bachelor, a drawing room reminiscent of Holmes and Watson. A leather chair and animal masks proclaim this a man's world. A



TOP: Nick and Nora Unwind by Cathy Kincaid and Charles Birdsong. **ABOVE:** Elegant clock bands, candle glow, and tarnished silver in the mirror suggest repose before the hearth. **OPPOSITE:** A Gentleman's Stronghold by Joe Minton. For buying information, see Sourcebook.