

NO MATTER THEIR STYLE, good architects design for the lives that are to be lived in the space. Put another way, a home is well designed only if it suits the lives of its owners—not the other way around. In keeping with the theme of this issue, here are places and spaces that have been beautifully designed or renovated by talented architects, designers or builders. But don't take our word for it: With the fall real estate market underway, October is a great time to take advantage of weekends packed with open houses. We'll see you there!

MODERN MIRACLES

CONTEMPORARY HOMES ARE SOME OF THE more obviously "designed" dwellings. Unlike our area's farmhouses, say, the modernist design ethic is often dramatic, even showy. Case in point: the Greenwich international-style home designed by German-born architect Ulrich Franzen, whose most famous commission was probably the Phillip Morris building in New York City.

Franzen built widely in the area, including the Dana House in New Canaan, now on the market for \$5.5 million. Both for-sale homes demonstrate the architect's refusal to blend in with the prevailing aesthetic: They are starkly cool, uncompromisingly unadorned. Listed for \$12.9 million, the Greenwich home was built in 1992, during the last decade of the architect's life. At nearly 9,000 square feet, the geometric, all-white dwelling is softened by the sweet amenities it offers: an outdoor pool with a spa, a cabana and an outdoor kitchen; an indoor pool, a two-story atrium and a lighted tennis court. The home is listed with Fran Ehrlich of Sotheby's International Realty in Greenwich.

Another striking contemporary was designed by Lakeville-based architects Demetriades + Walker in Washington. Constructed to meld with the environment, its stone-and-hardwood exteriors are made light and bright by walls of glass. The inside-out aesthetic is best enjoyed in the combined living/dining room, with soaring ceilings and a gas fireplace. The open-plan interiors also offer five bedrooms and seven



Washington Post Designed by architects Demetriades + Walker, this Washington modern is listed at \$6,250,000 with Peter Klemm of Klemm Real Estate in Washington (860-868-7313, ext. 24).

bathrooms. On the 9.24 acres is a tree-lined driveway, meadows, woods, a pond and a guesthouse. It's listed for \$6,250,000 with Peter Klemm of Klemm Real Estate in Washington.