

NEW YORK SPACES

decoRATING with Jason Kontos

Deck:
The NYC Design Centers

So it's been almost two weeks now of this blogging nonsense, and I'm happy to report that even though I've thrown out a few jabs here and there, nobody tried to beat me up during my visit to Manhattan's Decoration & Design Building this week.

More aptly known to the industry as "the D&D," this to-the-trade only landmark is one of a few collections of product showrooms that have proven themselves as tried-and-true mainstays on the scene. That includes the New York Design Center and the Architects & Designers building ("the A&D").

Many say these design centers won't be around in the future. But designers and architects find things in these places that are not available in a retail setting, so they're not going to disappear anytime soon.

If your showroom isn't up to par though, the design divas on the elevators will tear you apart. The conversations are intense and your shopping bags (and usually your outfit too) are heavily scrutinized while riding between floors. So as we begin 2010, I wanted to report a quick run-down of who's lookin' good at the start of this new year.

I'll spare those who need a makeover. You know who you are.

[Decoration & Design Building](#)



Moura Starr
Full of space-age bling

A. Rudin
The new line is very well-made and beautiful! The showroom vignettes reminded me of the television show Mad Men

Jean de Merry
This space is hot, dark, and very seductive--great combination

David Sutherland
Very impressive space, I have to say

Knoll luxe
Will actually not be open until March but is on track to really deliver

Donghia
Seems to have gotten a breath of fresh air

Osborne & Little
Just finished a very modern, yet kind of 50s sitting area, in chocolate and lime green

Stark
At the entrance to Old World Weavers, there is a beautiful corner I've fallen in love with that features a very pail silver-pink cherry blossom wall paper.

[New York Design Center](#)

Baker Knapp & Tubbs
These guys are always on such an upscale level

PROFILES
Always ALWAYS great design

Grange Furniture, Inc.
Step into this place and it doesn't feel like you're even in the country anymore

[Architects & Designers building](#)

(I see Joan Rivers and Tyra Banks coming out of here all the time.)



Paris Ceramics

Sub-Zero/Wolf

And PS...the aforementioned "jabs" are all in good fun.

~Jason Kontos