

# LAKESHORE

Life & Style

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Complimentary

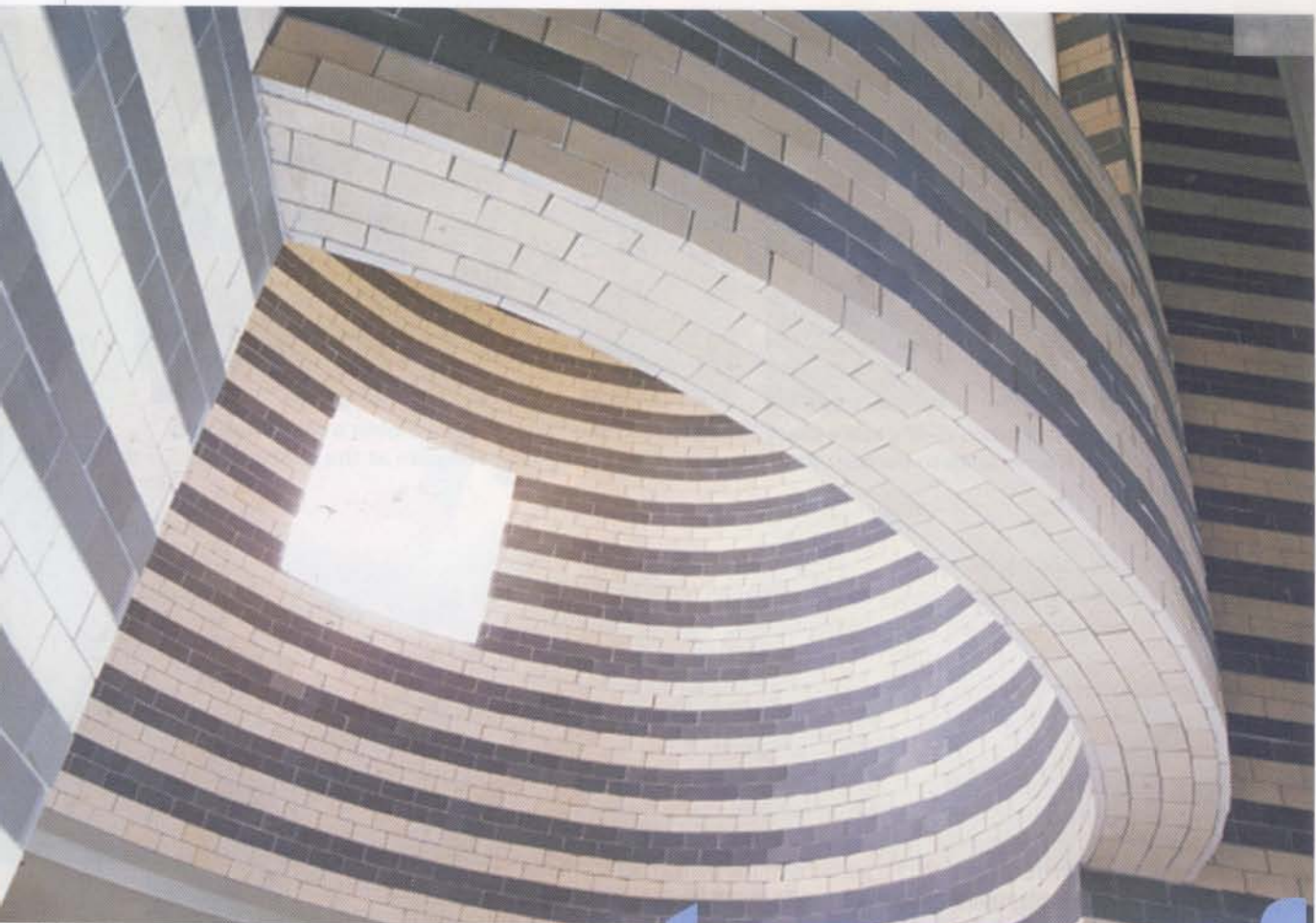
All that  
glitters are  
**GIFTS**

Some pearls of wisdom  
for your holiday shopping

**ALSO INSIDE:**

Stoney Creek Tourist Inn  
a dream realized





# tower of shower

and other new jaw-droppers at The Kohler Design Center

**Does your bathroom lack, shall we say, imagination?**

**Is your kitchen in a functional funk?**

Take a trip to The Kohler Design Center where five new bathroom vignettes and a new kitchen vignette may jumpstart your creative juices and transport you from a powder room with a "secret passageway" to a kitchen that doubles as a dressing room for a very sophisticated lady about town.

**inside & out**

STORY BY ANN GROTE-PIRRUNG



## 'A Private Retreat'

Start with designer Tristan Butterfield's "A Private Retreat." Butterfield, creative brand strategist for Kohler Co. and a renowned British architect and designer, took a true story from the 18th century about a bathroom in the Ham residence, a country retreat for the queen and her court that included a powder room with a secret door.

"The secret in the powder room was the fact that if you lifted a panel, there was a 'private retreat,'" said Anne Gaskin Nemschoff, spokesperson for The Design Center, as she gently pushed a pale pink paneled wall in a powder room that opened into an opulent bathroom with Kohler whirlpool bath and toilet in Innocent Blush. The room was further accented with polished English saddle brown marble flooring and a heavy damask shower curtain, a fabric of Butterfield's own creation.

"The reason everything is pink," Nemschoff said, "is that Butterfield's take is that it's an old story, an old feel, but he's contemporizing it with the use of color."

As Butterfield noted, "Even a room that is based on designs of the past can have a relevant place in contemporary design when color is used."

An astounding crystal chandelier and a mirror that doubles as a television screen completes a very private and pretty retreat.

## 'Cabochon'

Jamie Drake, a New York-based designer and one of the interior design industry's leading experts on color, put his dramatic spin on "Cabochon," a powder room that, while somewhat small, is large in drama and color.

"Cabochon is a polished gem stone that is cut and convex and uncut, but it's a kind of a rough polished gemstone and Drake really went off on that and played with different materials to create the feeling of a cut gemstone," Nemschoff said.

In this room, colorful beads hang off the wall-mounted lavatory in Vapour Orange and a vivid Drake-de-



"Cabochon"

signed patterned chair.

The floor is mosaic tile that is designed to look like one of Drake's fabrics. The toilet is a new award-winning design by Kohler called the Purist Hatbox in Thunder Grey, and the low-profile toilet, which literally looks like a hatbox, adds to the contemporary feel.



Jamie Drake



**"Spa Tower"**

Continued from 13

**'Spa Tower'**

Cleansing relief. That's the feeling designer Eric Cohler wants you to have as you enter his astounding "Spa Tower."

"The use of the 14-foot castle-like shower space fuses classicism with modernism," said Cohler, a leading expert on interior design and the mastermind behind this bathroom.

When you enter the room, a bathing area has two shower stations featuring a multi-function hand shower and Kohler MasterShower. "Each shower system has the body spray and this is a new product by Kohler which

allows you to program six different settings for a shower," Nemschoff said. The personal level and temperature of the spray can be programmed into the digital showering system for up to six people.

"Cohler's concept is that you have a feeling of cleansing yourself as you enter the bathroom, Nemschoff said. "You come home after a long stressful day and — I think this is a universally felt experience — the most relaxing feeling is a nice, hot shower or bath. It's the sense of cleansing the day off of you."

As you walk through the tower of shower power, tile in Luxor Grey and Linen brings your eye past the shower area to an intimate powder room with walls covered in a geometric linen fabric and a luxurious wall of curtains that partitions a private toilet area with a Leighton Comfort Height toilet and a lavatory in Kohler Cashmere colors.

**"A Shell Collector's Bathroom"****'A Shell Collector's Bathroom'**

"This is the feeling that the designer gets when you look at a conch shell," said Nemschoff of "A Shell Collector's Bathroom," a creation by Harald Heissmann, a designer from one of New York City's most renowned interior design firms.

From the pebbled flooring to the Vapour Pink finish on the Kohler Cast Iron Works Historic Bath, the seashore comes to life in this amusing vignette.

"This is obviously more novel, for somebody with a good sense of humor," Nemschoff said.

A wall treatment that evokes images of stones piled upon each other further pulls the sea image into the area. Seashells, starfish and a variety of other sea-related ornaments adorn the glass-shelved areas surrounding the tub, toilet and lavatory.



**"Woodland Sanctuary"**

## 'Woodland Sanctuary'

The sea blends into the woodlands in the fifth new bathroom vignette. Woodland Sanctuary, created by Nikki Blustin and Oliver Heath of Blustin Heath Design, a British design firm, uses natural and recycled materials to create an environmentally conscious bathroom space that is also a splendid tribute to the eye and spirit.

"Out of genuine respect for one's self and nature, this room was created as a serene sanctuary," Blustin said.

And serenity — as well as ecology — reigns, from the eco-friendly resin-encased bamboo wall panels to a cork stool with cushions made from used seatbelts.

A backlit Kohler Escale Suite, textured tile and a nature audiotope complete with animal sounds make for what Nemschoff described as "a feeling like you're in nature. A really peaceful feeling."



**Nikki Blustin and  
Oliver Heath**

## 'Couture Kitchen'

When is a kitchen not a kitchen? When it is a Couture Kitchen, an underutilized metropolitan kitchen designed by Alison Spear, a New York City designer.

Couture Kitchen is a place for the elegant lady about town to hang her little black dress and toss her spangly black shoes.

Oh sure, there's a small stove area, a wine refrigerator and the usual trappings of a kitchen, including a stainless steel entertainment sink.

But the cabinets are mirrored for a quick "touch up" and the usual kitchen trappings are downplayed.

"Spear decided to play off the metropolitan woman's

**"Couture Kitchen"**

life, who is living in the city and maybe doesn't use her kitchen for what every other woman uses her kitchen," Nemschoff said. "Maybe she eats out so much that she's more interested in using her kitchen as a closet."

To view these new vignettes as well as all the other innovative Kohler products on display at The Kohler Design Center, visit the center at the corner of Highland and Greenfield drives in Kohler. It is open seven days a week. Call The Design Center at (920) 457-3699 or visit the Web site at [www.KOHLER.com](http://www.KOHLER.com).



**Alison Spear**