

THE METROPOLITAN BUILDER

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Dialogue with a Designer



**BATHS
OF AMERICA**
FINE BATH & KITCHEN GALLERY

Teri Pugh

Teri Pugh Studio | Houston, TX



Dialogue with a Designer

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Baths Of America opened its doors in January 2005 when brothers Ali and Zeeshan Sultanali decided to start selling plumbing and tiles to the Houston market. Baths of America focuses on customer service and partners only with brands offering quality products and customer service. In addition to plumbing, Baths of America now offers door and cabinet hardware, major appliances, cabinetry, and countertops. It has turned into a one-stop shop for designers, builders, and architects, offering the latest designs and trends in the market.

This month Baths Of America speaks with Teri Pugh, owner of Teri Pugh Studio. As the daughter of a luxury residential builder, it is undeniable Teri Pugh has a passion for home from the ground up and inside out. Teri's elegant west coast style originated with her upbringing in San Bernadino, California. Today, beautiful spaces with eclectic flair have come to life with her Interior Design and General Contracting services. Teri's firm are all members of the American Society of Interior Designers. She worked early in her career at the Texas Society of Architects and has a tremendous passion for art which she studied in her youth and in college. In 1996 she established her business, Teri Pugh Studio, offering turn-key design services, and is

widely recognized as a state-of-the-art Interior Designer. She resides in Houston, Texas, with her husband, Phillip, with doors wide open for entertaining family and friends. When it comes to Teri's happy place, let nature abound, especially with her dogs & horses.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What motivated you to enter interior design?*

Teri Pugh: From a very young age, I've always had a passion for beautiful, whether it be nature, art, architecture, or fashion. As a kid, I was very creative and artistic. Throughout my life's journey, I landed in this fun and fulfilling industry. Over the years, my experience in art, architecture, and building culminated in where I am now, living my best life as an Interior Designer.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *How has the field of interior design changed since you graduated?*

Teri Pugh: Well, that has been a while! But everything changes and evolves, which is the beautiful part of what we do.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *How can an experienced interior designer help a custom home builder or a remodeling contractor with their building or remodeling projects?*

Teri Pugh: We like to be involved on a project in its infancy stage. We also take great pride in our teamwork between the architect, builder, trades, and client. This allows us to be certain ours and our client's vision comes to life.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What sets you apart from other designers?*

Teri Pugh: My 20+ years of experience, my team, my background in art, and my being a part of my family's custom home-building business for over ten years set me apart from other interior designers. I have also independently built and remodeled many projects over the years, which gives a builder and client assurance in our ability to provide sound advice and intelligent, thought-out selections.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What has been your most challenging project and why?*

Teri Pugh: They are all challenging. Each project has its separate components, from the very individuality of the clients to unexpected job surprises. There's never a dull moment.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *How do you begin the materials selection process when working with builders' and remodelers' clients?*

Teri Pugh: Again, we like to be involved early on so that the majority of the selections are complete before the foundation pour. Generally, an architect, the builder, and the client have multiple meetings at our studio to make complete selections. These are entered into our shared internet platform, which includes detailed specifications and schedules for the builder and client. This ensures that everyone is involved and on the same page with a complete understanding of all project elements and the client's vision.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What are some common mistakes builders and homeowners make?*

Teri Pugh: That's a great question. How about not having someone like a designer on their team who understands them and helps them throughout the entire process to achieve the best possible final product?

BATHS OF AMERICA: *Speaking about staying current, how do you keep yourself up to date with all the design trends happening in the industry today?*

Teri Pugh: We are continually growing, researching, and highly involved in our design community, the American Society of Interior Designers.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What is your favorite design style?*

Teri Pugh: I try to reflect our client's style, so I pretty much like most. I do prefer design that is timeless and classic. Another favorite design style of mine is mixing things that people wouldn't normally put together, making





for highly unique interiors and finished products.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What fascinates you, and how have you incorporated that into your designs?*

Teri Pugh: Challenges. They always make me be my creative best.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *How would you characterize your style?*

Teri Pugh: Reflective of my client, but with a very hands-on approach to keeping it current and beautiful.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *Any last thoughts or comments?*

Teri Pugh: Thank you for outlets and resources like magazines to connect people and reflect fantastic design style.

BATHS OF AMERICA: *What would be your recommendation for “what to do first” in a decorating project when working with the builders and/or homeowners?*



Teri Pugh: Contact and meet with a few designers you follow or like. Decide who best fits your project and personality and who you feel best fits you.

Teri Pugh Studio
Teri Pugh, owner

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