

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS CONTACT:

Victoria Kent
Public Relations Manager
MMPI
Phone: 312.527.7508
E-mail: vkent@mmart.com

The Washington Design Center Draws Designers, Architects, Students and Industry Experts to Capital Design Days, March 10-12, 2010

Washington, DC (January 26, 2010)- Capital Design Days, March 10-12, 2010 is an annual market extravaganza highlighting trends in furniture, design, textiles, and color. This year's celebration will educate and inspire trade professionals and students alike through guest lectures and feature presentations by industry leaders including *House Beautiful* Editor-In-Chief Stephen Drucker, Jamie Drake, Celerie Kemble, and *Metropolis* Editor-in-Chief Susan Szenasy.

"We have a fantastic line-up of speakers for the feature presentations this year and our showrooms will conduct their own seminars and events throughout the week," said Mitchell Walters, marketing director, The Washington Design Center. "Capital Design Days are a chance to enlighten and educate designers, architects and students about the design industry and the luxury resources available at The Washington Design Center."

Capital Design Days boasts feature presentations, new product introductions, food and beverage hospitality and individual showroom events throughout its duration. Keynote presentations during Capital Design Days are as follows or for a full event listing visit www.dcdesigncenter.com/capitaldesigndays:

Wednesday, March 10th

11:00am, Conference Room, Concourse-Level

Feature Presentation

"Interior Design Today: The New Rules"

Sponsored by House Beautiful Magazine

Join *House Beautiful* Editor-in-Chief Stephen Drucker and celebrated designers Jamie Drake and Celerie Kemble as they discuss the fast-changing world of interior design, and how they see people decorating now.

Stephen Drucker

Editor-in-Chief, House Beautiful Magazine

Stephen Drucker has spent his career as an editor and writer in the style world. He has held positions of editor in chief/executive vice president at Martha Stewart Living and editor of The New York Times Home section. At the end of 2005 he took over as editor in chief of House Beautiful. His total redesign of the 113-year-old publication launched an exciting new era for America's oldest decorating magazine.

Jamie Drake

Designer

The man behind some of the country's most dynamic, distinctive, and livable interiors knows how to create delightful environments and craft décor that is as right for a particular place as it is for the person or family occupying it. Equally comfortable in traditional and contemporary styles, he

has a natural gift for making modern interiors inviting, and enlivening traditional spaces with a fresh mix of contemporary elements. Drake's device of choice is color – used boldly, fearlessly, and with great flair. Says, Drake, “there is little that doesn't inspire me.”

Celerie Kemble

Designer

For 12 years Celerie has been working as a much publicized residential and commercial interior designer based out of New York City. She has also created a to-the-trade fabric collection with F. Schumacher, a faux leather and technical surfaces collection with Valteckz, a recycled and recyclable commercial fabric line called FRESH for Valley Forge Textiles, and a furniture collection with Laneventure.

Following the presentation, please join us for a luncheon in the Schumacher Showroom, Suite 521

Thursday, March 11th

11:00am, Conference Room, Concourse-Level

Feature Presentation

“Brilliant Simplicity” featuring Susan Szenasy

Sponsored by Metropolis Magazine and Kimball Office

1.5 LU/HSW for Architects and .1 CEU for Interior Designers

Brilliant Simplicity signifies the happy outcomes of smart design decisions that can lead to seemingly simple solutions to new paradigms. *Brilliant Simplicity* probes the thinking behind a new generation of breakthroughs in materials, methods, and things. It traces new ideas, from inspiration to prototype. It tells the stories of designers at work on making our world more energy efficient and healthy, using their high-level technical skills and their innate desire to make things.

Susan S. Szenasy is Editor in Chief of METROPOLIS, the award-winning New York City-based magazine of architecture and design. Since 1986 she has lead the magazine through decades of landmark design journalism, achieving domestic and international recognition. She is internationally recognized as an authority on sustainability and design.

Boxed lunches will be served during the presentation.

Friday, March 12th

****FOR STUDENTS AND EMERGING DESIGNERS***

Sponsored by ASID

9:00am, Conference Room, Concourse-Level

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“Brilliant Simplicity” featuring Susan Szenasy

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Pastries and coffee will be served.

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Visit http://www.dcdesigncenter.com/capitaldesign/event_info/gallery.cfm for photos from Capital Design Week 2009.

About The Washington Design Center:

Dedicated to providing the finest in home furnishings to the design trade, The Washington Design Center houses over 60 wholesale residential, commercial and building products showrooms. Considered the mid-Atlantic region's largest resource and destination for the design industry, The Washington Design Center works closely with designers to guarantee consumers the best possible luxury shopping experience. The Washington Design Center is located at 300 D Street, SW in Washington, DC. Above the Federal Center SW Metro Station, The Washington Design Center is served by the Orange and Blue lines. To learn more about The Washington Design Center and its showrooms, programs and special events, call 202.646.6100 or visit the Design Center online at www.DCDesignCenter.com.

MMPI is a trade show and property management firm, specializing in managing buildings devoted to wholesale showrooms and commercial office space. MMPI produces more than 300 trade shows, market events and conferences each year.

MMPI manages The Merchandise Mart and 350 West Mart Center in Chicago; Market Square, the Suites at Market Square, Hamilton Market, Plaza Suites, Furniture Plaza and the National Furniture Mart in High Point, N.C.; the Architects & Designers Building and 7 W New York in New York; the Boston Design Center in Boston; the L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and The Washington Design Center

Vornado Realty Trust, owners of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated equity real estate investment trust. Vornado's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO.

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