

## New+Next / TREND

Mystifying as it seems, blue—the color that stretches our sky to infinity and laps our shores and beaches—gets the brush-off when a design scheme calls for a neutral. But blue *is* both a color and a neutral. Designers are partial to it for its ability to soften the apprehensions of clients who fear intense pigments in their interiors.

“Blue eases people into the world of color,” explains designer Anthony Baratta, who with his partner, William Diamond, specializes in creating dramatic rooms with bright colorings and magnified patterns for the clients of their New York interior design firm. “Many of our ▶



### EDITOR'S PICK

#### Garden of Blue

“Liberty” porcelain, \$315 for five pieces; Haviland (haviland-limoges.com)

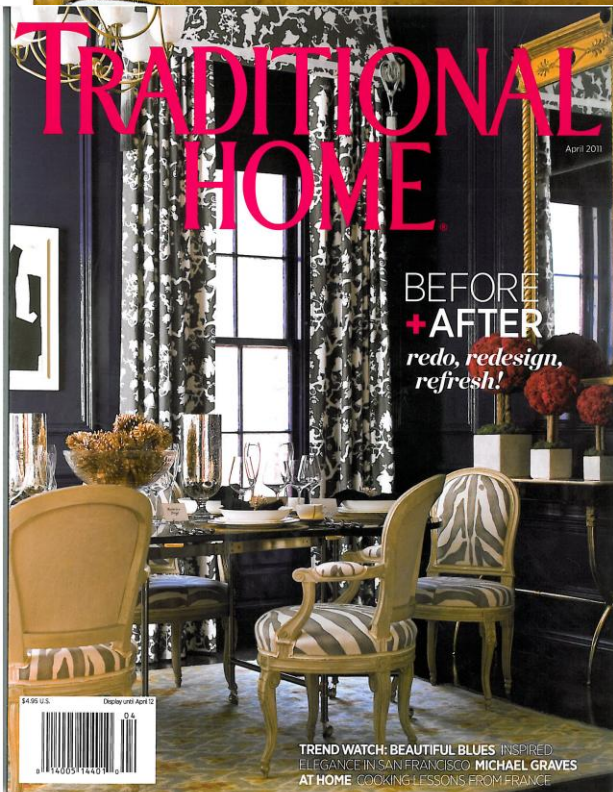
#### Strokes of Style

“Blue Print” porcelain, \$230 for five pieces; Richard Ginori at Michael C. Fina (212/557-2500)



#### Pillow Talk

1. Hand-embroidered details on indigo-colored linen, \$450; Ankasa (sachinandbabi.com)
2. Beads swirl in shimmering blue and silver on dark denim-colored linen, \$340; Ankasa (sachinandbabi.com)
3. “Larissa” cotton velvet pillow with ruffled edges, \$110; Company C (companyc.com)
4. Faceted jewels on this pillow, \$125, alluringly interrupt a sea of rich velvet; Donna Karan Home (donnakaranhome.com)



cherry  
It's also  
itage.com).

in the natural world, so anytime you put a color against it, **contrary.** —Eileen Kathryn Boyd



#### Style Underfoot

Foliage in “Avalon” (far left), \$95 for 2x3 feet, ditches fiery hues in its tropical scheme; Company C (companyc.com). The colors of “D’este” (left) are soft, but the elegant rococo flourishes speak volumes; Decorative Carpets (decorativecarpets.com).



TREND WATCH: BEAUTIFUL BLUES INSPIRED BY ELEGANCE IN SAN FRANCISCO MICHAEL GRAVES AT HOME COOKING LESSONS FROM FRANCE