

New Canaan Darrien + ROWAYTON

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WAYS TO LIVE THE

GOOD LIFE

SPECIAL COASTAL ISSUE

IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

The fun doesn't stop at our borders! **Explore all that our neighboring towns** have to offer.

2019-2020
EDUCATION
GUIDE

213 TOP
DENTISTS

41.0772° N



73.4687° W



above: With the help of an experienced architect and other professional consultants, an older home can have new life.

PRO TIPS

Greenwich architect Charles Hilton of **CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS** and New Canaan-based architect Dinyar Wadia of **WADIA ASSOCIATES** have both completed many renovations and historic restorations.

Here are their suggestions for a prospective or current owner of an antique or an older, architecturally significant property.

DINYAR WADIA wadiaassociates.com

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DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL AN ARCHITECT

If the home you're thinking of buying will need work, seek advice from an architect. One who has renovated older homes will know what to look for.

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OLD MATERIALS MAY BE HAZARDOUS

Asbestos and lead could be lurking in older homes. Plumbing, mechanicals and insulation may also be antiquated. All of these are fixable, but come at a cost that homeowners should be prepared for.

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DO NOT FORGET THE BENEFITS

An older home with mature trees, unique scale and interesting features is difficult and expensive to replicate.

CHARLES HILTON hiltonarchitects.com

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TAKE THE TEAM APPROACH

In addition to an experienced architect, professional consultants may have specialized knowledge of preservation zoning incentives, antique construction methods and other helpful tips.

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RESEARCH

Archives, libraries, deed books and atlases can offer clues to changes made to your house over time. A detailed history of your home will also provide stylistic pointers to inform the design and renovation process.

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STABILIZE PROBLEM AREAS FIRST

The charming patina of age often comes with the entropic effects of time. Problems in old houses are often caused by water, so look for signs of damage such as rot, stained or peeling paint, mildew, damp basements or insect infestations.

HOME & GARDEN

art stars

SAVE THE TRIP TO NEW YORK AND VISIT SOME OF THE EXCELLENT GALLERIES CLOSE TO HOME

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CAVALIER EBANKS GALLERY cavaliergalleries.com

A top source for art in Connecticut for thirty years, this gallery was recently renamed to reflect the partnership of Ron Cavalier with Lindsay Ebanks, the longtime gallery director. Expect to find a mix of classical museum-quality pieces and works by contemporary up-and-comers. With locations in Greenwich, New York, Nantucket and Palm Beach, Cavalier has its roots in sculpture. Owner Ron Cavalier grew up working in his father's bronze casting foundry and helped restore the collection of sculptures on the Hirshhorn estate before it was moved to The Smithsonian. His galleries represent a true range, from a recent showing of important American artists such as John Singer Sargent, Mary Cassatt and Childe Hassam, to edgy modern pieces by Federico Uribe, whose animal sculptures are made from bullet casings.

"We work like art consultants, taking into account budgets, style preferences, your space and more, and put together a presentation of things from our collections and private dealers and collectors around the world," says Ebanks.

LOCAL ARTIST TO LOVE:

William Nelson of Redding. His oil paintings fuse pop-culture icons and vintage cartoons, inviting the viewer to explore the link between the figures.

EMERGING ARTIST TO WATCH:

Jim Rennert, whose sculptures include a series of business men in suits (some on Greenwich Avenue outside the gallery), has already received significant recognition.

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GILLES CLEMENT GALLERY gclementgallery.com

Gilles Clement, owner of his namesake gallery and design studio, has art in his DNA. He grew up in Paris with artists Marina Kamena and Serge Clement as parents. The pair continue to create new art together and their works on display include "Jar Memory," a series of recognizable art "preserved" in mason jars. Other intriguing works hung within custom-furnished vignettes in the design store: video sculptures by MARCK that comment on women's roles and David Datuna's multifaceted collages made with optical lenses. As an interior designer, Clement typically plans rooms first and then curates the art for a space, but he has also designed around a piece that a client loves. For his gallery, he says, "I only select art that moves me. My passion is contagious, and that formula has worked marvels for me. Let the artwork fascinate you, inspire you, and it will change you for the better."

LOCAL ARTIST TO LOVE:

Robert Mars, who lives in Redding, recently had a solo show in the gallery. His work blends iconic images of personalities such as Sophia Loren, Paul Newman and Kate Moss with compositions made of vintage newspapers, magazines and quilting patterns.

EMERGING ARTISTS TO WATCH:

"Many people are not yet familiar with the street artists that defined the last decade; I recommend they check out Paul Insect, D*face, Cyclops and Ron English."

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SAMUEL OWEN GALLERY samuelowengallery.com

Opened ten years ago, this gallery owned by Lee and Cindy Milazzo paved the way for other contemporary galleries in Fairfield County. "I show artists that I would hang in my house," says Lee. "I pick art that's sophisticated, has value and is also uplifting." An artist himself (he creates under his middle names Charles Patrick), Lee appreciates pieces that have good process behind them, such as works by Vincent Mock, who welded together long-line fishhooks to create the whale hanging from the gallery's ceiling or British photographer Nick Veasey, who layers images from a powerful X-ray machine. Lee and his team are happy to help newcomers buy art. He carries work ranging from a couple hundred dollars to tens of thousands, so it's accessible for many budgets. His advice: "Buy what you like, not because somebody told you it's a good investment or this is going to be the next big artist."

LOCAL ARTIST TO LOVE:

Peter Anton. His works are shown around the world and his Conversation Hearts collection "sold like candy" at Samuel Owen. "You'd think he's making it in L.A. or New York, but his studio is this bright tree house in Fairfield."

EMERGING ARTIST TO WATCH:

Bisco Smith, a Bushwick-based artist, creates abstract works, mostly in black and white, that reflect street art and capture the rhythm of music in a visual form. "He's blowing up. Price points are reasonable, and his work sells rapidly."



INSIDE OUT

No.
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GREENWICH LIVING

Over the top even by Greenwich standards, at \$29.5 million this **Lake Avenue** residence designed by award-winning architect Dinyar Wadia was the most expensive house on the Greenwich market until very recently (in late May Houlihan Lawrence's Sally Maloney listed a Belle Haven waterfront estate for \$39.5 million). Rivaling the stunning interior of the **twenty-six room home** are the magnificent gardens and outdoor entertaining spaces **(18,000 square feet on three acres).**

"Amarpali is an impressive, one-of-a-kind estate combining new construction with impeccable old-world grandeur. The property is **exceptionally designed for intimate or grand-scale entertaining** and blends formality with comfort seamlessly," says listing agent Amy Balducci of Sotheby's International Realty. Who needs Versailles when you've got Amarpali?