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athome magazine presents the Second Annual
A-List Awards 2011

by JUDY OSTROW and MARY KATE HOGAN

Meet Our A-List Winners

BEAUTY MAY BE in the eye of the beholder.

But good design is in the eye of the homeowner—it must appeal in a visual way while also satisfying the needs of those who live with it. It's no coincidence, then, that the striking projects selected by our esteemed judges to win this year's A-List competition are also those that wow with their smart solutions and livability. We caught up with the award-winning professionals and their clients to find out what sets the A-List apart from the pack. Their stories reveal a host of creative ideas that are certain to inspire first-rate home projects in the future.

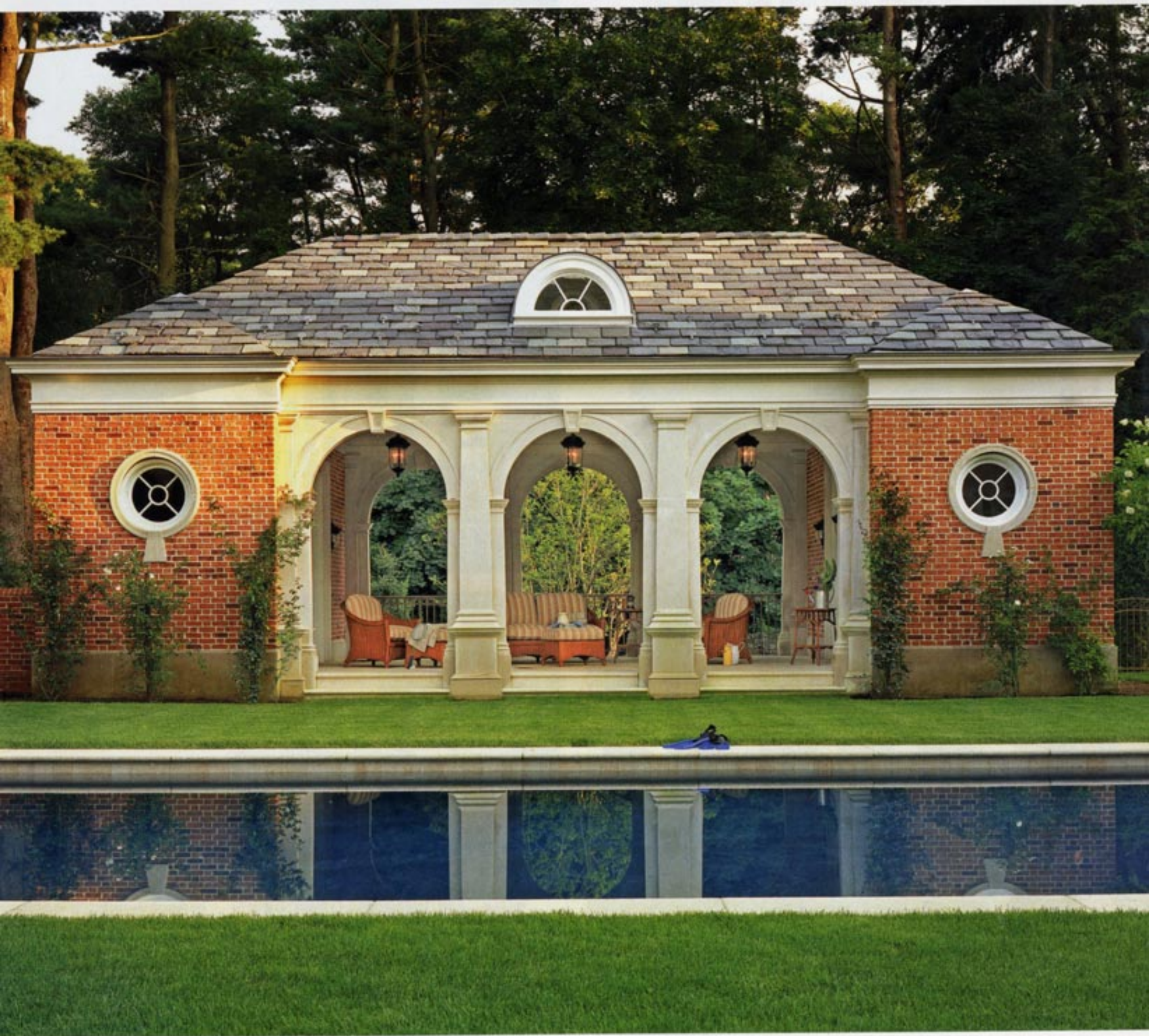


athome magazine **A-List Awards 2011**

winner **pool house**

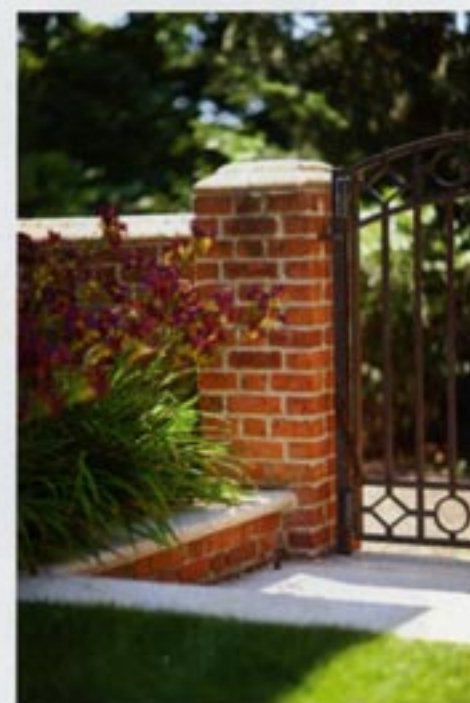
swim club

POOL DESIGN:
Wadia Associates
203-966-0048;
wadiaassociates.com





Stately and serene, the slate-roofed brick and limestone pool pavilion is a compact and elegant mirror image of the main house; its detailed architecture requires no decorative embellishment other than its comfortably simple furnishings.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY JONATHAN WALLIN

Dinyar Wadia's practice has burnished his reputation for designing in classic styles that reference the past while living firmly in the present. Many of his projects are reminiscent of great European country houses, fully finished and equipped for modern use. So when the owners of an extraordinary brick mansion he had designed were ready to install a pool pavilion, they commissioned him to fashion it in the same spirit of tradition and livability.

Set in a beautiful pastoral landscape, and placed on an axis with the home's screened porch, the pool house design mirrors the porch, and its Georgian style, in form, character and impact. While Wadia equipped the pavilion with the expected accoutrements—showers, a

small kitchen and bar for food and drink—its intricate details and components, all of the same quality as the manor house it complements, make it remarkable.

The building's symmetry, with its covered terrace opened to front and back with triple arches, flanked by circular windows in its brick ends, delights the eye like a perfectly constructed jewel box. "Using brick, slate, limestone and plasters creates the right fit," notes Wadia, who also designed the pool to reflect the pavilion and the porch, its mirrored structure. The effect of this careful composition is a tranquil environment worthy of description in a nineteenth-century novel, with all the comfort and luxury of the twenty-first. —JO

athome magazine A-List Awards 2011

winner landscape *french twist*

LANDSCAPE DESIGN:
Wadia Associates
203-966-0048;
wadiaassociates.com



Details of the landscape created by Dinyar Wadia for this French country house include lush flower beds, espaliered fruit trees for courtyard walls, and outdoor rooms accessed by stone entries, such as the shade garden (far right). A well-groomed apple orchard outside the walls provides fodder for local deer.



A plan for the setting of an elegant stone house, crafted in the mansard-roofed style of nineteenth-century Paris, became the puzzle that led Dinyar Wadia to tackle the landscape portion of his Greenwich project.

"It was an experiment," recalls Wadia, who underscored this fact as he accepted his A-List award, one of two his firm captured this year. "The house called out to me for a traditional French garden, and with my client's permission I decided to design it as my first landscape commission."

The architect, credentialed in landscape as well as residential architecture, needed to solve a continuing backcountry dilemma: roving and rapacious deer herds. Adding to the complexity of the landscape requirements, the property adjoins the local polo fields, and perimeter mesh deer fencing is a no-no. For the solution, Wadia drew on the

European tradition of a long approach to a country place, with passage to the house via an imposing gate and walls that conceal all but the entry, and enclose a courtyard.

Inside the gate, the view opens to the home's decidedly French façade, and a veritable cornucopia of delectables for the deer—plants, flowers and shrubs—preserved and protected by the impressive stone fence.

With the plants and cutting gardens deer-proofed, the design remains kind to the fauna outside the gate. Exterior greenery includes espaliered apple trees trained along the walls, as well as a carefully pruned and restored orchard that separates the residential landscape from the polo grounds.

Says Wadia, whose initial commission has led to many more: "The deer can feast, and do no harm to the owners' garden." —JO

