

Great design is a process, not a product. —PAUL VINCENT WISEMAN

COLEMAN
MILLMAN

Inner Spaces PAUL VINCENT WISEMAN & THE WISEMAN GROUP

Paul Vincent Wiseman & THE WISEMAN GROUP Inner Spaces

BRIAN D. COLEMAN photographs by MATTHEW MILLMAN

with forewords by FRANK O. GEHRY
and PAUL GOLDBERGER

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PAUL VINCENT WISEMAN opened his San Francisco firm, The Wiseman Group, in 1980. At the age of twenty-seven, his success in the design world was still just a dream. Yet, the business he created is now recognized as one of the top interior design firms in the world. Today, TWG is respected for the superb quality of its work and for the highest standards of professional integrity.

Paul has assembled a talented team of designers, including principals James Hunter, Brenda Mickel, and Mauricio Munoz. With its deep field of talent, The Wiseman Group is equally comfortable creating beautiful traditional rooms as well as sophisticated contemporary spaces. The style of architecture might be country, pan-Asian, or tropical, but all TWG projects reflect an attention to local history and indigenous motifs, existing architectural features, site requirements, and the clients' deepest desires for the private world in which they wish to live.

The Wiseman Group believes in building a meaningful relationship between designer and client: designing each residence is a unique and personal process. The firm's goal is to create a home that reflects each client's needs, life experiences, and aspirations.



BRIAN D. COLEMAN is a practicing psychiatrist in Seattle, Washington. Also an old-house enthusiast, he has grown his love for historic restoration into an active second career. He has written numerous articles on historic home design for magazines ranging from *Old House Journal* to *Period Living in the U.K.* and is editor-at-large for *Old House Interiors*. Coleman is the author of *Fortuny Interiors*, *Farrow & Ball: The Art of Color*, and *Scalamandré*, among other home design books. He divides his time between New York and Seattle.

MATTHEW MILLMAN has been photographing interior design and architecture for over twenty years and has shot for such books as *West Coast Modern*, *Model Making*, *Jay Jeffers Collected Cool*, and *Suzanne Tucker Interiors: The Romance of Design*. In addition to his fifteen-year-plus collaborative relationship with Paul Wiseman, Matthew has had the honor of working with design luminaries like Orlando Diaz-Azcuy, Barbara Barry, Gary Hutton, Ken Fulk, and many others. He lives in San Francisco with his wife, Megan, and baby daughter, Frances Mae.



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English Country Living in California

Fine antiques and luxurious fabrics, museum-quality Chinese bronzes, art, and sculpture—the owners' interests were diverse. They had outgrown their family home and while their children were still young decided to start again from scratch. Working with California-based architect Mark Hornberger of Hornberger + Worstell, the old house was taken down and a new one begun; the owners asked Paul and The Wiseman Group to help create just the right interiors. It wasn't long before the direction became obvious: what was needed was an English country house, a

home layered with tradition, good color, and time-honored design. A verdant setting would be important, with gardens of brightly blooming perennials, heavily scented roses, and old-vine wisteria set beneath the spreading, centuries-old live oaks on the Northern California property.

They began with the basics: wonderful rugs and chimney-pieces. Buying trips to London, Paris, and New York turned up elegant, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century, carved-stone chimneypieces that became the focal points for the major rooms—living, dining, family, and master bedroom.

I saw this pair of chairs in the window at Mallett's. They had been a gift of the Maharaja to Kedleston Hall in England. The sunlight hit them just so, creating a translucent glow in the ivory. They were overwhelmingly beautiful, and I was thrilled when our clients wanted them for their home. —PVW





Who wouldn't want a modern apartment floating above Lake Michigan, with colors that complement every season? —JH

High Line Condominium in Chicago



He wanted contemporary art; she wanted a home that was comfortable and warm. After doing several projects with them, we reached an intellectual understanding that contemporary did not mean cold. That put us on the same page. —TWW



Living with Art in San Francisco