

# Contributors



{ WRITER }  
**Michele Keith**

New Yorker Michele Keith is a freelance writer who covers a range of lifestyle subjects, from interior design and resorts to food and real estate. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Departures*, *O the Oprah Magazine* and *Traditional Home*, among others. In this issue she interviews renowned designer Vicente Wolf (“**Interiors for the Modern Man,**” page 64) and learns about his approach to designing for men and their must-haves. Visit [www.michelekeith.org](http://www.michelekeith.org) to read about her newest book in progress.



{ WRITER }  
**Renate Stendhal**

Renate Stendhal (“**Spider Woman,**” page 90) was born in Germany and is a Paris-educated writer and writing coach in the San Francisco Bay Area. She has worked as a cultural correspondent for German radio and press in Paris, where she was the personal assistant of artist Meret Oppenheim. She has published several books, including the award-winning photobiography *Gertrude Stein: In Words and Pictures*. Her essays have appeared in various magazines; her cultural reviews can be read in the international magazine *Scene4* at [www.scene4.com](http://www.scene4.com).



{ PHOTOGRAPHER }

## Cedrik M. Mirande

Cedrik Mikael Mirande (“**Vive la Belle Époque,**” page 74) was once asked why he took pictures. “Someone asked a priest why he got faith, and he answered: ‘I found faith when I got inside a church.’ So I will say that photography found me, not the other way around.” After psychology studies and working at a modelling agency, he assisted various photographers on editorial shoots for magazines and advertising campaigns. Then he developed his own photographic style, a mixture of elegance and glamour. Born in the West Indies, he has lived in Paris the past 15 years.



{ WRITER }  
**Helen Battersby**

Born in Britain, with a nomadic childhood that took her to eight different schools (from North Wales to Canada’s Northwest Territories) before high school, Helen Battersby (“**Beguiling Beirut,**” page 106) has travel in her blood. Fortunately, she has been able to indulge it through writing about places on every continent but Antarctica. A copywriter, creative consultant and garden writer, she lives in Toronto with her husband and the last of their three nestlings. For fun, she co-authors with her sister Sarah the garden blog [www.torontogardens.com](http://www.torontogardens.com).



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{ ILLUSTRATOR }

## Dave Stevenson

Dave Stevenson ("The World's Most Decadent Sandwich," page 60) grew up in the Sonoma Valley of Northern California and studied advertising and design in Denver, Colorado. He's been a freelance illustrator for more than 20 years, working with *National Geographic*, *Condé Nast Traveler*, Robert Mondavi Winery and Microsoft, among others. His work has appeared in *HOW*, *Print*, *Art Direction* and *Communication Arts* and he has received a Silver Medal from the New York Art Directors Club and a Silver Award from the San Francisco Society of Illustrators.



{ WRITER }

## Michele Meyer

If fashion had rehab, Michele Meyer ("A Passion for Fashion," page 46) would have been committed in childhood. The daughter of a retailer, she signed up to cover Paris collections at age 10 (not that her allowance covered airfare). By age 20, Meyer mourned the rift of designer Geoffrey Beene and W's John Fairchild. Her dark garb served her well as she covered Paris, Milan and New York runways. A former correspondent for *Lucky*, *Allure* and *Women's Wear Daily*, she has also contributed to *GQ*, *Travel + Leisure* and *National Geographic Traveler*.



{ WRITER }

## Steven Beschloss

Steven Beschloss ("Marimekko: The Expression of Joy," page 84) visited Helsinki, Finland, in 1991, not long before the neighbouring Soviet Union collapsed. Inspired by the excellence of Finnish design, the special quality of the northern light and the dramatic stories emerging from post-Soviet Russia, he moved to the Finnish capital from New York, staying four years. An award-winning journalist and filmmaker, Beschloss has tackled assignments on culture and international affairs for *The New Republic*, *The Village Voice*, *GQ* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*—and he has made several films for European television, including *The Miracle*, shot in St. Petersburg.



{ WRITER }

## Jonathan Lerner

Jonathan Lerner ("Indulging in Good," page 70) recycled his earlier life as an itinerant antiques dealer into a career as a feature writer specialising in topics such as historic preservation, architecture and urbanism, decorative arts and travel. His work has appeared in *Metropolitan Home*, *Travel + Leisure*, *Town & Country*, *Metropolis*, *American Craft* and many other publications. He lives in Atlanta, venue of the 2010 annual meeting of the Congress for the New Urbanism, for which he volunteers as head of media outreach efforts.