

Home Zone: Welcome friends with style and flair

by Maggie_Reed

When people come to your home, the first thing they encounter is your front door. Let it say, "Welcome, friends."

And the door handle is only the beginning.

LET ME IN - Von Morris turns out some of the most exquisite creations for every type of door need - interior, exterior, utility, decorative, residential and commercial - including this signature Bamboo design. CNS Photo courtesy of Von Morris. KARASTAN HAS YOU COVERED - The Marie Louise design is just one of many offered in the American Treasures collection by Karastan. CNS Photo courtesy of Karastan. Today's choices of door adornments have become so pervasive that there is an entire specialized category now referred to as "doorware." Think hinges, knobs, knockers and locks.

A specialty in doorware and mastery of the metals for this very finite usage has become the passion of Eric Morris and his wife, Hu Man. Together they founded Von Morris 16 years ago and began producing quality hinges - actually, just two simple door hinges to begin with. Morris literally peddled his hinges to hardware stores across the country, often making cold calls from phone book listings he'd found at the library.

The quality of their work spread quickly, and Von Morris expanded into other architectural hardware, including door latches, knobs, levers, mortise locks, rosettes and turn pieces, plus other fine accessories.

"As design informs our lives more than ever before, people are realizing that style is all about artful details," Morris said. "Architectural hardware, and in particular doorware, was once purely functional and is now increasingly design-driven, reflecting this trend.

"And, unlike other decorative accessories, doorware is something you physically touch every day. This sense

of connection - not only how the designs look, but how they feel in the hand - is what inspires Von Morris to create truly one-of-a-kind products of unprecedented quality."

The craftsmen of Von Morris hand-finish each piece through many stages of polishing and buffing to achieve a rich, high luster. Each piece is then clear-coated with a catalyzed epoxy lacquer to produce a long-wearing protective coating to preserve its beauty.

Each piece is given a painstaking inspection before leaving the plant and the packaging is as beautiful as the doorware.

While Von Morris offers an extensive selection of styles, the six signature designs are: Bamboo, Beaded, Deco, Moorestown, Ribbon & Reed, and Weave.

The entire Von Morris collection is available in 30 finishes. Von Morris' own proprietary Eterna finish is guaranteed not to tarnish, pit, flake or discolor for as long as you own your home. Von Morris can also match any custom finish.

For more information, call 800-646-6888 or visit www.vonmorris.com.

KARASTAN HAS YOU COVERED

No matter where you live, a cold, bare floor is almost never really inviting.

There is just something about a carpet, runner or area rug that speaks of yourself and to your guests - that makes your home your home.

So, don't fret. Karastan has you covered.

Any designer or homeowner knows that trying to match carpet in one room with an area rug in another is a challenge. Karastan solves the dilemma with American Treasures, a collection of coordinated flooring that includes wall-to-wall carpeting, area rugs plus hall and stair runners. Karastan has paired with ABC Carpet & Home to offer this trio of products and take the guesswork and gamble out of mixing and matching.

"When Karastan presented America Treasures to us, we knew in an instant this was earmarked for success because it answers such a critical need," said Paul Chapman, vice chairman and president of ABC Carpet & Home.

"We hear from designers and specifiers all the time that they're looking for stylish coordinates to satisfy installations for wall-to-wall, along corridors and stairs, and then also to offer as options for area rugs," Chapman said.

The initial American Treasures is comprised of nearly a dozen designs and is one of the largest single collections to be launched by Karastan. The series is expected to double soon.

The palettes are saturated hues principally of red, black, ivory, green, gold and black with eight other accent colors. The products feature pure New Zealand wool fiber woven on Wilton and Axminster looms, and Karastan is American made.

Classic in design, American Treasures transcend trends and endure from season to season and generation to generation.

For more information, call 800-234-1120 or visit www.karastan.com.

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