

# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AUTHORITY

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## Personal Best

TOP DESIGNERS OPEN THEIR DOORS



## ONES TO WATCH



A 2014 Texas residence by the architecture firm Wernerfield.

### WERNERFIELD

**A**rchitects Braxton Werner and Paul Field of the Dallas-based firm Wernerfield often return to the same word when discussing their work: *simple*. But while spare geometries and straightforward layouts define their designs, so do a nuanced use of materials and a thoughtful approach to the interplay of indoor-outdoor space. Since founding their practice ten years ago, the duo has steadily built a stellar reputation creating site-sensitive modernist residences throughout Texas, among them a woodland house (winner of a 2015 local AIA award) with rugged

walls of board-formed concrete and patinated Cor-Ten steel. The studio is now branching out beyond its home state, with projects under way in Florida, Maryland, and Arizona. Wherever the job, a spirit of understatement prevails. "We try not to overdo it," Field says of their hallmark aesthetic, which is influenced by such design heroes as Mies van der Rohe, Isay Weinfeld, and John Pawson. Adds Werner, "Our hope is to build structures that aren't just relevant today but also 50, 100, or 200 years from now." [wernerfield.com](http://wernerfield.com)

—JACQUELINE TERREBONNE



Near right: A wallpaper pattern by artisan James Randolph Rogers (above, in front of another one of his designs). Far right: His hand-carved printing blocks.

### JAMES RANDOLPH ROGERS

**I**n 2008, after stints waiting tables, building stone walls, working with developmentally challenged children, and hitchhiking by land and sea to Brazil from his native England, James Randolph Rogers met a historic-wallpaper conservator and his wanderings came to a halt. "It was so incredible to me that you could re-create a room from a scrap of paper made 300 years ago," says the soft-spoken artisan, who divides his time between his one-man wallpaper ateliers in England's Cotswolds region and Queens,

New York. Mesmerized by the age-old craft, Rogers taught himself to carve traditional pear-wood printing blocks. Today he has 14 patterns to his name, most launched last year. Stamped on sheets of rag paper with homemade distemper paint, each design bears winsome imperfections, just like the antique examples that inspire him. "You have to see them up close," Rogers says. "They're nothing like other contemporary wallpapers. If you did this digitally, you'd lose so much." [jamesrandolphrogers.com](http://jamesrandolphrogers.com)

—MITCHELL OWENS

