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Gift Show trends: handmade and well-crafted items for your home



February 9, 1:30 PM
by Jay Johnson, NY Home Design Examiner

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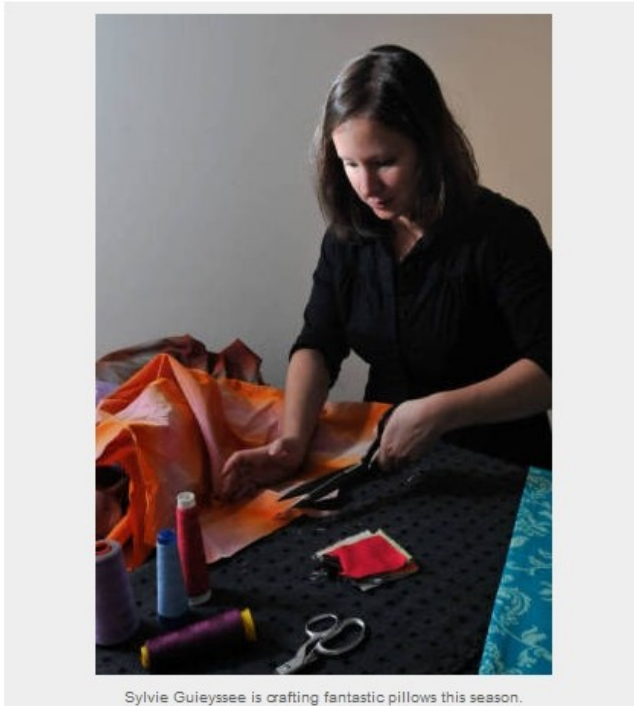
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Jay Johnson NY Home Design Examiner



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Jay Ellwood Johnson has been a fixture on the NYC publishing scene for 30 years. In 2006, he and interior designer Irwin Weiner co-founded Design2Share.com, a leading home decorating resource center.



Sylvie Guieysse is crafting fantastic pillows this season.

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Susan said that the influence of Asian textiles is enormous this year. "The colors, symbolism, motifs, and weaving techniques translate well to modern applications. Blues that originate from the Indigo plant, medallion motifs from Central Asia ([Suzani](#)), Indian paisleys, Chinese chrysanthemums (the delightful [Company C](#)), and Japanese kimono designs ([Sylvie Guieysse Pillows](#); see photo below and picture of Sylvie at top) were splendidly interpreted by modern masters, among them [Ralph Lauren Home](#)."



Here's another spot from Susan: "Wabi-sabi, the Japanese respect for the beauty of imperfection was evident in the weathered beauty of patinas and distressed surfaces. For expediency, many of the products seemed prematurely aged through a variety of curious techniques; but it's the thought that counts."

Susan Slotkis is an Interior Design faculty member at NYU's School of Continuing & Professional Studies, and she also teaches at FIT and MIID. She

is the author of [Foundations of Interior Design](#), a basic text in the design field. Contact Susan at sslotkis@nyc.rr.com.

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