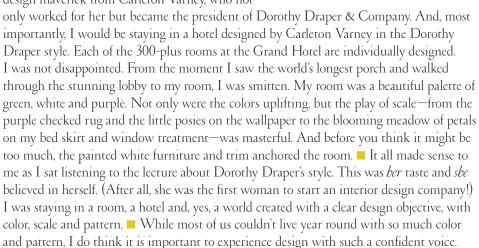






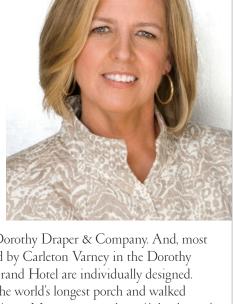
Back to School

HE WORLD OF DESIGN AND THE concept of taste are inextricably linked. In fact, designers would not exist if taste were not so important to all of us. Designers are seen as tastemakers, yet few things are as personal. But how do you define taste? This is where things get murky. Iconic American interior designer Dorothy Draper (who professionalized the industry) said, "It was not good or bad, it was just taste." ■ This past June, I attended the fifth annual Dorothy Draper School of Decorating at the Grand Hotel (made famous from films like This Time for Keeps and Somewhere in Time) on Mackinac Island in Michigan. I could not think of anything more fun than learning about this design maverick from Carleton Varney, who not





The Grand Hotel (grandhotel.com) lobby embraces color, scale and pattern. See October CTC&G for an excerpt from Carleton Varney's new book Rooms to Remember (Shannongrove Press, 2019).





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Carleton Varney thinks, "These days it seems as if we are living in a bowl of oatmeal." And perhaps Dorothy Draper & Company designs remind us that our homes should be uplifting and we should have some fun creating them! And then, most importantly, believe in our taste. As Dorothy

Draper said: "If it looks right, it is right!"



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