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Clockwise from top left: Private residence by Roger Ferris; Ferris sits at The Bridge; Equinox Hotel and Residences in Chicago.



Beauty Builder

HOW THE HAMPTONS INSPIRE ARCHITECT ROGER FERRIS' DESIGNS

BY JULIET IZON

If you're a fan of contemporary architecture, chances are you're familiar with the name Roger Ferris (ferrisarch.com). The architect, who maintains offices in Bridgehampton as well as Westport, Conn., is responsible for some of the Hamptons' most jaw-dropping residences and commercial spaces. He is the mastermind behind financier and art collector Robert Rubin's home, Green House, and the sleek, ultramodern townhouse additions to Topping Rose

House, both in Bridgehampton. Commercially, he's spearheaded the Equinox Hotel and Residences skyscraper in Chicago, as well as Screenland Lofts, a mixed-use project in Burbank, Calif.

Ferris has also been recognized as the architect of choice for homeowners looking to display their substantial art collections. "I have a sense of how art can be integrated into a living space," he says. "I figured out a way to balance both views of vistas, of nature, and outside,

while at the same time having walls for artwork." Ferris has even accompanied clients to artists' studios, so that his design and the pieces will work in tandem.

With or without art to showcase, Ferris is a big believer in highlighting the natural beauty of the area with his designs. "There are so many visual opportunities in nature in the Hamptons," he says. "I think everybody would agree that there's something magical

about the environment and the climate. We try to engage the landscape visually, and in a dramatic way."

Ferris is also fascinated by the history of the East End. "I'm inspired by the diversity of architectural styles that are evident in the Hamptons from the last 200 or more years," he says.

"You can go from one town to another and see great contemporary or historical architecture. So I draw inspiration from all of that."

ROGER FERRIS PHOTO BY RICK WENNER; RENDERING COURTESY OF ROGER FERRIS + PARTNERS; PROJECT PHOTO BY PAULI BIVBA