



CHANGE UP | ELWOOD GRILL

When the owner of the [Elwood Grill](#), Jim Forbes— consummate preservationist and purist — came to us to gussy up his historic diner, we were ecstatic. This little number, designed by Charles Noble in 1936, derived its name from a hybrid of its original location at Elizabeth and Woodward. It was moved during the construction of Comerica Park, and continues to be a beloved example of Art Moderne architecture and Detroit baseball

fandom. We recovered the original (and pretty drab) wooden booths in catcher's mitt leather and pinstriped upholstery, reminiscent of a baseball uniform. We brightened the space with light, fresh paint and playful fabrics, while dutifully preserving its storied past, playing off original architectural details and amazing period lighting. We're so grateful to people like Jim—a tireless caretaker of Detroit's history.





PTD PILGRIMAGE | DESIGN INSPIRATION AT SHAKER VILLAGE

Patrick recently took a design road trip to [Hancock Shaker Village](#), where his mom is the curator. Shaker-like design has no shortage of imitators (cue the peg rail trend), but visiting the beautiful old buildings in Pittsfield, Massachusetts imparted a deep appreciation for the Shakers' core values, from their emphasis on consummate craftsmanship to their simple, well-organized aesthetic. Patrick was inspired by the cleverness of design elements (ingenious window operation, pulley systems, floor-to-ceiling bureaus!) and the mesmerizing blend of form, function and beauty in every detail. A precursor to so many design movements and craft throughout the years, the Shakers were the OGs in Americana folk design.



SNEAK PEEK | WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON

In-progress photos of one of our favorite residential projects: expansive, top-to-bottom renovation of modernist Barton Hills home, designed by beloved local architect [David Osler](#) in 1967 and untouched since. Favorite new design elements, like the gorgeous new kitchen, floating stairs, and fluted, concrete-clad fireplace fit seamlessly into the original Osler design. Stay tuned for the complete renovation reveal.

A NOBLE THRONE



When Humble Design invited us to participate in their [upcoming auction](#) to support their important work -- furnishing homes for families emerging from homelessness -- we jumped. The concept: select a piece of furniture from their warehouse and reinvent it. We couldn't resist picking out an old, very worn Thonet-inspired bentwood rocking chair with deteriorating green velvet for the full PTD treatment. We deconstructed and stripped the entire thing, reassembling, painting, and then recovering in Alexander Girard's Checker Split fabric from [Maharam](#). "With those graceful Thonet lines and iconic fabric, it's as much a piece of sculpture as a piece of functional furniture," says Patrick.



DESIGN RADAR

Currently trending on PTD moodboards:

- + Natural hues: antique terra cotta, creamy whites and flax linen colors
- + The geometric patterns and use of color in barn quilts
- + Work by Ohio potter with the serendipitous name [Patrick Thompson](#)

Learn more about Patrick Thompson Design



Copyright © 2021 Patrick Thompson Design, All rights reserved.

Patrick Thompson Design
2111 Woodward Ave, Suite 1002
Detroit, MI 48201

313.800.4005

Would you like to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).