

# THE METROPOLITAN BUILDER

Greater Houston Edition  
themetropolitanbuilder.com

## Dialogue with a Designer



 **BATHS**  
OF AMERICA  
FINE BATH & KITCHEN GALLERY

Linda Ewing

Double L Interiors | Houston, TX





# Dialogue with a Designer

## Linda Ewing

*BATHS OF AMERICA opened its doors in January 2005 when brothers Ali and Zeeshan Sultanali decided to start selling plumbing and tiles to the Houston market. Baths of America focuses on customer service and partners only with brands offering BATHS OF AMERICA quality products and customer service. In addition to plumbing, Baths of America now provides door and cabinet hardware, major appliances, cabinetry, and countertops. It has turned into a one-stop shop for designers, builders, and architects, offering the latest designs and trends in the market.*

*This month BATHS OF AMERICA speaks with: Linda Ewing, of Double L Interiors. A Houston native, Linda attended the University of Houston as well as the Art Institute studying Fashion Merchandise and Textiles as well as Interior Design. She has been working as a designer since 1985. She has worked on countless projects ranging from ranches to Hollywood sets, celebrity homes, second homes and private jets. There is no limit to her design style and ideas. Linda is very easy and fast to work with and will work tirelessly to bring your vision to life. She is the epitome of a people person and will become your best friend. Kenedy Trainer has been enjoying working for and learning from Linda about all the joys of design. She is new to Houston, and is currently studying Interior Design*

*at the Art Institute. Like Linda she loves every step of the design process and will work happily to ensure your vision is executed seamlessly. She loves color, texture and all the little details.*

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *What motivated you to enter interior design?*

**Linda Ewing:** It all started with Psychology at HBU! Believe me when I say, "There is much psychology in interior design!" When dealing with people, couples, families, and corporations, you will, at some point, have to be able to read people. Ultimately, architecture, fashion, textiles, and history aimed me toward design.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *How has the field of interior design changed since you graduated?*

**Linda Ewing:** Well, technology has changed everything! I attended three separate schools over many years. In the 1980s, I began with psychology at HBU. A few years later, I started fashion merchandising with a University of Houston degree in Interior Design with a bonus follow-up in Historical Architecture. Honestly, I was born a "professional student," as my mother would fondly say.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *How can an interior designer help a custom home builder or a remodeling contractor with*





*their building or remodeling projects?*

**Linda Ewing:** Construction projects are extremely stressful. Millions of monumental and intricate decisions to make on a timely basis. Budgets to establish! Designers help link the client and builder by guiding the client into their true vision. Showing them that the details matter. Having a good working relationship with the builder is key.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *How do you begin the materials selection process when working with builders' and remodelers' clients?*

**Linda Ewing:** First, a budget must be established. The price range and diversity of materials have transposed and vastly expanded. On turnkey projects, roofs and flooring are at the top. Secondly, we choose appliances, plumbing, and hardware. Usually, we give clients detailed stories enabling them to visualize a choice A, B, or C decision. We try to keep it simple (KISS).

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *What sets me apart from other designers?*

**Linda Ewing:** I grew up fortunate to be well-traveled. Architecture and textiles became my passion. However, my knowledge of construction and ability to recognize and use wasted space is what I love the most about my job.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *Speaking about staying current, how do you keep yourself up to date with all the design trends happening in the industry today?*

**Linda Ewing:** We attend trade shows and visit all the major markets, such as HPM, Vegas, Dallas, Atlanta, and, when able, European markets, such as "Design Week" in Prague. Additionally, home builder trade shows are right here in Houston! We stay current on Interior Design publications, websites, and continuing education classes through ASID.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *What is your favorite design style?*

**Linda Ewing:** Functional, efficient, and comfortable! I love them all!

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *What fascinated you, and how do you incorporate it into your style?*

**Linda Ewing:** The fifth ward fascinates me! It's such an underdog! Many so often forget ceilings. It's the best way to incorporate style and sometimes whimsy.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *What has been my most challenging project? Why?*

**Linda Ewing:** Geo H. Funeral Home. There was more than one real decision-maker. Working for SCI was a wonderful experience, but a corporation meant many channels, disagreements, and useful psychology and mediation. Eventually, it was divine.

**BATHS OF AMERICA:** *Any last thoughts or comments?*

**Linda Ewing:** If you're reading this, you're young, possibly in school for interior design, stay and graduate!





You won't be sorry. Find a great mentor and enjoy the process.

*"The details are not the details. They make the design!"*  
 – Charles Eames

**Double L Interiors**  
**Linda Lyons Ewing**  
 713-859-6701  
 Linda@doublelinteriors.com

**Kenedy Trainer**  
 210-913-1326  
 kenedy@doublelinteriors.com



**BATHS OF AMERICA**  
 FINE BATH & KITCHEN GALLERY

**713.572.2284**  
 bathsofamerica.com

APPLIANCES ■ PLUMBING  
 HARDWARE ■ CABINETRY