



JAN GLEYSTEEEN

Jan Gleysteen Architects, Inc.

With a passion for history and love of classical form, Jan Gleysteen, AIA, works to create historically accurate homes that function for today's living. An accomplished artist, designer and professional architect for more than 20 years, he founded his namesake firm in 1993 and it is now one of the Boston area's preeminent full-service studios, built on the core philosophy of design excellence, sound management, technical knowledge and a close and responsive collaboration with each client.

Providing classic elegance with an up-to-date aesthetic sensibility and functional modern lifestyle approach, the firm understands the rules of proper proportion, balance and scale. Applying these principles of classicism, using carefully selected materials and crafted architectural details, he and his eight-person studio have masterfully designed new custom residences and historical renovations. Styles range from New England Shingle style and Classic Colonial to English Tudor and Queen Anne



ABOVE:
This formal entry stair is based on a pure ellipse, with the cascading stairs leading toward the music room.
Photograph by Sam Gray

FACING PAGE:
Rear façade of a classic New England Shingle-style residence. The octagonal shaped rooms anchor each wing, while providing expansive exterior views and dynamic interior rooms.
Photograph by Sam Gray



residences. His refined architectural design work is known for its wonderful sense of harmony where all elements coexist in a beautiful synchronicity of curved forms.

Being true to classical design is Jan's strength—he also feels strongly about being true to family values and appreciates the importance of home as a place where relationships are nurtured and daily life is enjoyed. This sense of family translates to the kitchen as being the heart of the home as he prefers to design comfortable spaces with flowing floor plans as well as practical mud rooms—integral aspects of his family-oriented designs. Arriving at a solution for each homeowner starts with examination of their situational needs and wants. He asks fundamental questions as to what activities take place in the home and what amenities are absolutely necessary to their specific lifestyle. Gaining a grasp of each client's current lifestyle and their aspirations fuels Jan's design process

Jan earned his bachelor's degree in environmental design from Tufts University and a Master of Architecture at Columbia University—his master's thesis focused on eco-sensitive architecture. Even before Green thinking was in vogue, Jan had a consciousness to create residential architecture attuned to the landscape with an ability to integrate homes seamlessly into their



sites. With sustainable design in mind he has also utilized new product technology to ensure homes are energy efficient and in keeping with environmentally progressive standards. Beauty is achieved through meticulous craftsmanship, superior materials and judicious use of curved form. Jan says that each luxury home he designs is "like a graceful waltz with circular rhythms and patterns." His design talent is

ABOVE LEFT:

The octagonal breakfast room is ideal for intimate dining use and appears like a landscape pavilion that is nestled against the house.
Photograph by Sam Gray

ABOVE RIGHT:

This custom kitchen is designed around a large box bay window and central skylight that bathes the kitchen softly in natural light.
Photograph by Sam Gray

FACING PAGE:

This extensive addition/renovation and full façade replacement includes new exterior shingle siding, which swoops and undulates throughout. New bracketed-gable lookouts and chevron bead-board wall panels provide a new distinct Queen Anne-period style.
Photograph by Sam Gray







showcased in well-crafted signature stair towers, octagonal breakfast rooms and dramatic gables; visually interesting rooflines and windows are a hallmark of the firm.

Even in his youth, Jan was very artistic. He observed his surroundings and sketched at every opportunity, but it was his world travels as son of an American diplomat, that inspired his keen interest in architecture. Born in Indonesia, his family also lived in Sweden, France and the Soviet Union—the experiences of which fostered his affinity and lifelong commitment to great classical architecture—the creative impetus of his remarkable firm.

ABOVE:

This new Shingle-style residence uses bold gables and curved roof forms to create a sense of massing relief within an elongated house façade. A rounded eyebrow dormer overlooks the front entry portico.
Photograph by Sam Gray

RIGHT

The family room and master bedroom use curved forms and generous glazing to let in natural light, creating exciting interior spaces with views to the rear garden.
Photograph by Sam Gray

FACING PAGE:

This new Shingle-style residence features many different roof massing forms to create a dynamic lakeside home. The central stair tower provides a bold romantic form.
Photograph by Sam Gray

