



## ART FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

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BALI COLLECTION

**Contact:** Debra Dziewit (619) 807-6069 or Tamara Tuttle - (619) 276-0601

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### Natural Elements Bring Fresh Shine to 2009

Trends this holiday season include high-end global and eco-conscious design.

SAN DIEGO, CA – “As color trends go, I think this holiday season’s rich metallics and lush, modern jewel tones will carry that understated elegance into 2009,” says Kathleen Roarty, a color expert, interior designer and founder of Mint Pillows, a limited-edition pillow design manufacturer. “Color trends always reflect what’s happening in the world. And this year, garish brights and electric hues are not in sync with what’s happening with the world at large. We’re all a bit more thoughtful – and hopeful – these days. I think that shows in what’s happening with color.”



New York’s runway shows, upscale furnishing manufacturers - even color selections in the automobile industry - all reflect a trend toward understated elegance. According to Roarty and the popular design blog, 2modern.com, shoppers are also looking for eco-friendly, multi-use elements that have an understated luxury and a Zen-like appeal.

“A major shift has happened in the world in terms of the economy, consumerism and sustainability. People are more conscious,” says 2modern.com founder Greg Finney, 38. That also translates to what he’s seeing with current style trends. “As people become aware of the green movement, the aesthetics shift more to nature and natural elements.”



According to Pantone color experts and the Color Marketing Group, earth tones and subdued metallic colors will combine with natural, relaxing and ethnic themes in a design trend poised to continue well into the 2009 season. It’s a fact not lost on Roarty.

“We were careful in designing this collection,” affirms Roarty, “We’re a globally conscious company anyway, and this season I wanted our lines to reflect that. The colors, stylized organic plant and animal designs and striking metallic accents are in line with what I see happening in the world. The fact you can use our pillows inside and out, and only need to buy one set instead of two is in line with the new pragmatism of our times. For any designer to be successful, it’s essential to pay attention to what’s happening in the times in which we live.”

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*Kathleen Roarty is an artist, interior designer and color specialist with more than 25 years experience in residential design. She is a current member and founding Vice President of The North American chapter of The International Association of Color Consultants, and is the co-founder and designer-in-chief of Mint Pillows, Inc. She lives in San Diego, California with her husband Dan, and is regularly visited by kids, grandkids and fur-kids.*



*Mint Pillows currently offers three contemporary and surprisingly durable outdoor/indoor pillow collections – Bali, Aloha and Tokyo. Featuring culturally traditional designs from the worldwide travels of the eclectic Roarty family, the pillows are produced with environmentally-friendly inks and in accordance with good national and international business practices.*