

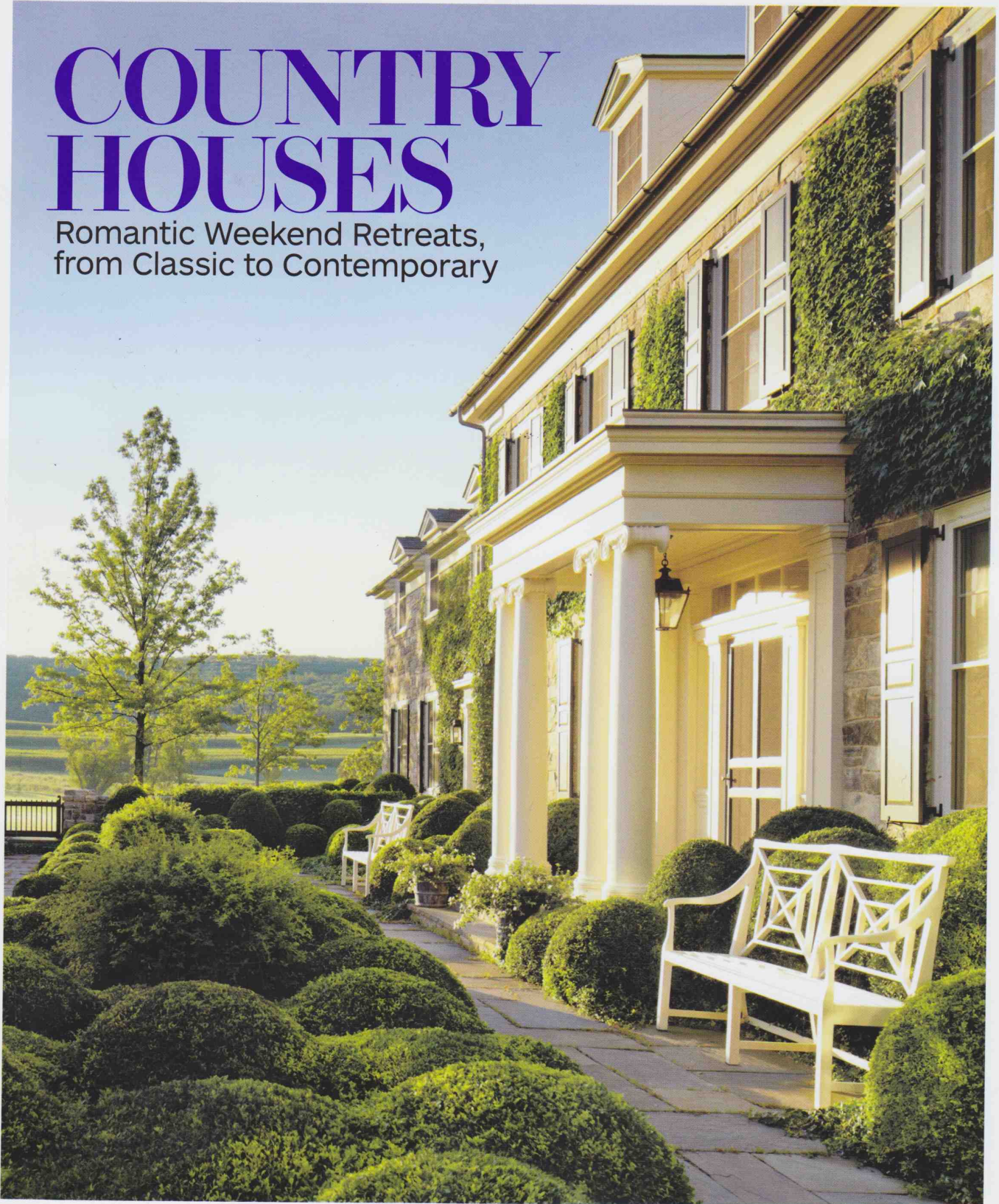
# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

THE INTERNATIONAL DESIGN AUTHORITY

JUNE 2012

## COUNTRY HOUSES

Romantic Weekend Retreats,  
from Classic to Contemporary





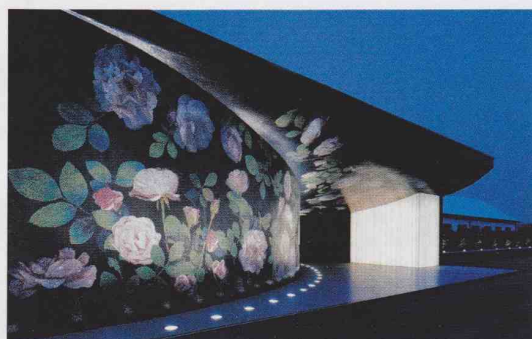


**From left:** Paul Vogel presides over his new bespoke bookbinding in the Assouline store at New York's Plaza hotel. The craftsman applying intricate gold tooling.

**ARTISAN**  
**READING RAINBOW**

One look at Paul Vogel's handiwork and that old maxim about not judging a book by its cover seems ever so unreasonable. Few finer volumes exist than those crafted by this master bookbinder, who uses centuries-old techniques to sheathe tomes in luxurious materials and embellish those second skins by hand. The process is impressively painstaking, as anyone can now observe: Vogel has a new atelier inside publisher Assouline's New York City flagship. "This is my little world,"

says the Hamptons-based artisan of his urban outpost, located on the mezzanine of the legendary Plaza hotel. Hung above a row of seemingly medieval tools are rolls of vibrant cloth and calfskin, which Vogel employs individually or in striking combinations. And he doesn't just bind books—he also makes passport covers, archival boxes, and desk accessories, among other offerings. Detailing ranges from scrimshaw medallions to raised lettering to gold tooling. Start to finish, a single commission can take him weeks—considerably longer if, as one client did, you want your yacht outfitted with 1,000 volumes bound in matching leather. For Vogel, after more than 30 years on the job, no request is too custom. 212-593-7236 —SAMUEL COCHRAN



**MUSEUMS**  
**GLASS MENAGERIE**

Ensnconed in the Italian country town of Montecchio Maggiore, outside Vicenza, the new Bisazza Foundation gallery provides a permanent showcase for the celebrated glass-tile company's collaborations with artists and designers. The airy 65,000-square-foot exhibition space in the firm's former factory opens June 8 with a retrospective on British architect John Pawson, who has produced a site-specific work—his first mosaic—for the occasion. [fondazionebisazza.it](http://fondazionebisazza.it) —AMANDA FRIEDMAN

FROM TOP: JOSHUA MCHUGH (2); ALBERTO FERRERO