

# hospitality design



spas that soothe  
wave of the future 2006  
latin design heats up

Produced by Jana Schwartz



**Growing up.** Laura Kilar enjoyed entering the look of a room by adding small, but significant details—she once used Shapere to write notes on the walls of her family's summer house. Today, she manifests spaces by paying close attention to scale and materials.

The Laura Kilar W3 Collection for Kallista, a Kallista company, was designed to satisfy transitional to modern interiors. "I wanted to create a line with an American historical aesthetic, something more handcrafted and refined than some collections that have a tendency to feel cold and industrial," she explains, adding that she takes cues from the Bauhaus and Danish Modern movements and incorporates linens and waxes.

Born in the Windy City, Kilar attended the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. After graduation, she landed a job at the Holly Hunt studio, where she found her passion: furniture design. In 1988, she headed to New York City and in 1990, founded her interior design firm, TKO Design. After seeing that the product and licensing sector of her company was requiring a lot of attention, Kilar started KCI, Laura Kilar Design Licensing in Miami. She now heads a range of hospitality clients including Sheraton's Sheraton and Westin brands. "With a public space, I am aware that my client plays a part in the memories that people have of a great vacation... or a spa visit," she says.



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