THE MAGAZINE OF VAIL RESORTS

COLLIFE

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View From the Top

Designer Eddy Doumas shares his vision for mountain living.





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WORK

HEN A DAY of play is over, Eddy Doumas of Worth Interiors in Avon, Colorado, wants to make sure the homes he's been designing for 25 years continue to celebrate their incredible locale. "The reason you have a mountain home is the view," Doumas says, "in all its seasonal glory." He and his colleagues at Worth design from the outside in, creating fresh spaces that show off the scenery without competing with it.

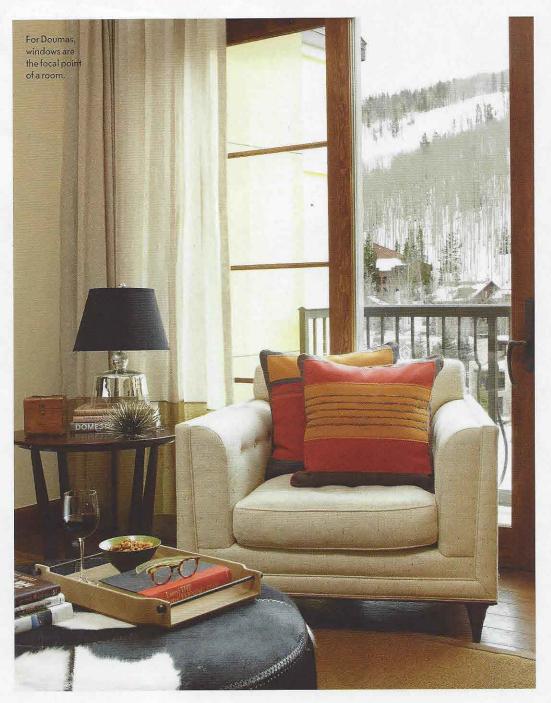
Doumas and his co-worker Sian Christie have designed many interiors at The Ritz-Carlton Residences, Vail, and they always start by looking out the window. In this home, unit 511, the sectional is arranged to take advantage of the fabulous, two-story living room window and also be close to the fireplace. The palette is neutral, so as not to clash with the changing colors of the mountain range, but pops of color in pillows and accessories keep the scheme lively. The use of leather, nail heads, cowhide, and organic materials exude a Western aesthetic in a fresh and contemporary way, as does original art from Denver artist Michael Dowling and felted throw

pillows by artist Pat Stevenson of Vintage Designs in Boulder.

"Whenever I'm working, I want to be respectful of where I am, whether it's the beach or the mountains," Doumas says. "There's always an associated aesthetic, but you need not buy into the clichés. If you want a lot of plaid and antlers, you're probably not going to come to me. I like to create something fresh that gently plays off that sense of place. In the mountains, the architecture tends to be heavy, which is appropriate, but I like the interiors to be a little lighter. There's beauty in juxtaposition."

Doumas finds second-home collaborations, like the ones he has designed at The Ritz, a lot of fun. For one thing, most of his clients are fulfilling a lifelong dream. "It's an aspirational thing, and it's joyous to be a part of the process." And, he says, "they're all looking for a casual, feeton-the-coffee-table, and hang-outwith-me attitude." In many cases, Doumas forges friendships with his clients, who then ask him to refresh their primary homes.

Doumas, who was one of the early snowboarders at Vail, now enjoys his home at the base of Beaver Creek. And while his busy schedule doesn't allow much time for riding these days, he still squeezes in an occasional après-ski. When challenged to describe the mountain home he'd build for himself, Doumas quickly replies, "I'd do something very Le Corbusier or Mies van der Rohe and use a lot of glass. Definitely a glass box of some kind." Now that's certainly starting with the view.



SECOND HOME, FIRST LOVE

If you love the idea of a mountain getaway but don't want to furnish and maintain it yourself, consider One Ski Hill Place in Breckenridge. This luxurious, ski-in/ski-out property offers beautifully designed condominiums that range from studios to four-bedroom residences. Ownership includes access to the exclusive One Club, with a concierge, ski valet services, and aprèsski. Owners can also take advantage of the fitness, aquatics, and rejuvenation centers and even private movie theaters.