



a piece of jewelry."

ROCK SOLID

"Federica Rettore is organic and asymmetrical. I love how she allows the natural beauty of the stone to be a part of her composition."



BOARDING HOUSE

These handcrafted wood floors are made and finished off-site, making them a favorite of architects and designers who want wider boards or specific finishes. "They have sophisticated colors and finishes that work in modern and traditional interiors."

## Celeste Robbins

## THE ARCHITECT OF STYLE

Robbins Architecture's new streetfront offices in Hubbard Woods make a gorgeous statement even before you walk in the door. Visible from the street (and pictured below) are two large backlit pieces of art that have caused drivers to slam on their brakes for a better look. "We worked with the artist to get the blue just right," says owner and Principal Celeste Robbins. It's just one detail in her office but telling of her aesthetic sense. "I would describe my style as clean-lined and well-edited, and while modern, also fairly timeless," she says. Her firm of seven people takes on projects from additions and renovations to designing homes, including her own, which she shares with her husband, two teenage children and two golden retrievers. And while her style is confidently realized in her home and office, this architect has a knack for collaboration. "Clients are becoming more confident and willing to express what they like and what makes them happy," she says. "It's inspiring for us to work in those personal details." And while most of us may never stop traffic, we can be inspired by these must-have picks from Winnetka's most visible architect.

robbins-architecture.com -LH



"Brass finishes are being used again in bathrooms and bar areas, but this time the metal has a complex and natural look."



LIGHT BOX







THAT'S AMORE Rina Menardi's Italian ceramics merge function with a modern design aesthetic. "The colors and shapes are derived from nature and mix and match beautifully."

## ROBBINS' MUST-HAVES

- → 1. Bell side table, \$2,793, by Sebastian Herkner at Luminaire, Chicago
- ⊕ 2. Earrings with rose-cut diamonds and fossil coral, \$13,350, by Federica Rettore at Neapolitan Collection, Winnetka
- 3. Handcrafted wood floors, price upon request, by BoardHouse at Apex Wood Floors, Downers Grove
- → 4. Henry bar faucet, \$1,702, at Waterworks, Chicago
- → 5. Luminescent LED sheets, \$60 per square foot, at LumiSheet by DLC, dlc-lumisheet.com
- → 6. Wood and glass custom-made windows, price upon request, at Duratherm, durathermwindow.com
- → 7. Ceramic bowls and vases, \$120-\$390, by Rina Menardi at Morlen Sinoway Atelier, Chicago