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L Design Studio

THE MAKING OF ORIGINALS

FINDING YOUR VOICE. PROTECTING THE VISION.
CREATING WORK THAT ENDURES.

written by **SHELBY SINCLAIR**

In a design landscape saturated with imagery, inspiration, and influence, developing an authentic voice has become one of the most defining—and challenging—acts of creative leadership. For this Expert Advice feature, we invited interior designers, architects, and builders to explore what it truly means to create work that is original, intentional, and enduring.

From the design perspective, interior designers and architects address the question of Finding Your Voice in a Saturated Design World—sharing how clarity, restraint, and deep listening shape a point of view that feels personal rather than derivative. Their insights reveal that originality is not a formula or a trend, but a thoughtful evolution grounded in experience, intuition, and a genuine understanding of how people live.

Running parallel is a conversation with builders who approach originality from a different, yet equally critical, vantage point. Often positioned as the executors of vision, today's most respected builders reveal a more nuanced role—one where building itself becomes a creative act. Through judgment, material knowledge, and an intimate understanding of craft, they act as stewards of design intent, protecting architectural clarity from dilution as ideas move from paper to physical form.

Within the Icons & Originals theme, these combined perspectives underscore a shared truth: original work doesn't happen by accident. It is the result of intention, collaboration, and trust—when designers, architects, and builders move in alignment to create homes that feel cohesive, timeless, and deeply considered.



Lyndsey Davis Nicklas



Joyce Owens



Timothy Riehm



Luke Fredrickson



Jeffrey Fisher



Tim Dupre



Nan Wright



Michael King



Anthony Paterra

TIM DUPRE

PBS CONTRACTORS



Founded in 1986 by Russell Budd, PBS Contractors has grown into one of Southwest Florida's most respected Concierge Builder® firms, recognized for delivering luxury custom homes, condominium renovations, and commercial projects with exceptional care and precision. Built on a foundation of craftsmanship, integrity, and long-standing relationships, PBS has become a trusted partner for homeowners, architects, and designers throughout the Naples area and beyond. Now led by President, CEO and Partner Tim Dupre, PBS Contractors continues to evolve while staying true to its





core values. With a people-first philosophy and a deeply collaborative approach, the firm guides clients seamlessly from concept through completion—protecting design intent, prioritizing clear communication, and delivering work that is both original and enduring.

Q&A with Tim Dupre

D+D: At what point does building move beyond execution and become a creative act?

Tim: Building becomes a creative act the moment a design has to live and breathe in the real world, where our coastal environment, materials, and the way people truly use a home all come into play. Our role isn't to self-perform the work, but to bring together the right trade partners, align everyone around the original intent of the client and design professionals, and manage the entire process with clarity and consistency. By protecting that vision through thoughtful planning, open communication, and disciplined processes, we give our Trade Partners the room to apply their craft in ways that enhance the project without changing its essence.

D+D: How do you help protect thoughtful design decisions so they aren't diluted?

Tim: Protecting the design starts with ensuring everyone understands what matters most to the client and which elements cannot be compromised. We communicate that clearly with our trade partners so they know where to be especially intentional and where flexibility is appropriate. When challenges arise, we focus on value stewardship—finding solutions that preserve the integrity of the experience rather than defaulting to the quickest fix.

D+D: What mindset is shared on projects that feel most enduring?

Tim: The projects that stand the test of time always begin with alignment. Builder, architect, and designer operate as one team, defining early how the home should feel, function, and age. Trust, respect, and consistent communication create a calm environment where thoughtful decisions come naturally, allowing the work to become more than construction—it becomes a shared craft. ♦

Resource: Designers: PBS Contractors; Tim Dupre, President, CEO and Partner; Naples, FL; 239.643.6527; pbscontractors.com.