

# SCENE

WRITTEN BY ELIZABETH EXLINE



## RAISING THE BAR

THE ROSE GARDEN

They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, but virtually everyone can agree that downtown Phoenix's newest cocktail bar, The Rose Garden, holds that quality in spades. Indeed, beauty is at the heart of both its menu (think a pastel rainbow of botanically inspired sips) and its design. Located in the landmark U.S. Bank Center, The Rose Garden celebrates sumptuousness with moss green walls, banquette seating, brass accents and just the right amount of wood grain. A sapphire-hued peacock floats above the main dining room, its presence nodding to the origin story behind the design concept in which a peacock and rose garden compete for

admiration. The well-executed details are no surprise considering the developers behind The Rose Garden are Chiara Katz, Josh Katz and Moe Murillo, the same trio who created Sip Coffee and Beer as well as 36 Below. "We wanted to do something elevated and sophisticated," Chiara explains. "The downtown market is becoming a destination for nightly entertainment, and we wanted to be a part of it." In addition to cocktails and tapas, The Rose Garden offers 2,000 square feet of interior space, a newly opened patio with about 40 seats and, due to open in 2023, a private room for up to 25 guests. [therosegardenaz.com](http://therosegardenaz.com)

## OPEN HOUSE

INTERIOR DEFINE STUDIO

Good things come to those who wait. And in the case of design aficionados in Scottsdale, the good thing is Interior Define, a customizable furniture studio that recently moved from a pop-up location to a permanent storefront at Kierland Commons. Interior Define will be familiar to some of Arizona's more recent transplants from California and Washington, although its new Scottsdale digs may feel refreshingly different. The 6,758-square-foot showroom resides at a well-trafficked intersection of the shopping center. Inside, it looks like a well-appointed home—albeit one that happens to be occupied by a team of design experts wielding cutting-edge technology. Stroll through the studio to browse 80% of the brand's current product offerings, a dedicated work space for design consultations, and more than 125 fabrics, rug swatches, cushion fills, leg options and other features that have made Interior Define a go-to vendor for customizable furnishings. [interiordefine.com](http://interiordefine.com)



RAISING THE BAR PHOTO: KEVIN BROST.  
OPEN HOUSE PHOTO: COURTESY INTERIOR DEFINE.



## MEET THE MAKER

AILEEN MARTINEZ

Sometimes it takes extraordinary circumstances to find your destiny. Such was the case for Aileen Martinez, who began sketching local coffee shops and Phoenix landmarks when pandemic lockdowns closed the school where she worked. Martinez, an art school graduate, found her calling while drawing. Using watercolors and a blend of instinct and training, each of her illustrations riff on reality, whether she's depicting ASU Gammage or a personal residence. Martinez now draws full time, taking on several commissions a week and running an online shop with prints and postcards. Here, she reflects on her most unusual project, why people are drawn to her art and what she'd like to do next. [lookseedraw.com](http://lookseedraw.com)

**Why do people want illustrations of local landmarks?** Someone remarked that they always see Paris romanticized and landmarks in other cities, but never in Phoenix. People have attachments to these

places, though, and it's gratifying to be able to say, "Oh, it's my city being illustrated."

**What has been your most surprising commission to date?** Gila River Arena asked me to draw Black Dog Forge in Seattle, where Pearl Jam got their start, with the intention of gifting the illustration to the band. It was cool that something I made was given to them while they were on tour in Phoenix.

**Why do you think your art resonates so strongly with people?** Anyone can relate to it, regardless of their belief system, background or political views. It's a neutral space. And I think it comes down to memories and nostalgia; emotions attached to places.

**What's next for you?** I like drawing and watercolors so much because you can finish faster. Painting takes longer, but I'd like to get into it. I want to make something bigger and challenge myself in that way.

## POST MASTER

@THECOLLECTORSHOUSE

**WHO:** Classically elegant Scottsdale showroom The Collector's House, where designers and clients alike can gratify their senses with a selection of accessories, furnishings and antiques.

**WHAT:** Bringing a refreshing dose of refinement to social media, The Collector's House offers a virtual stroll through sumptuous interiors, along Mediterranean beaches and into a world you thought no longer existed.

**WHY:** You want to feel like time has slowed down. You wonder what it would be like to live as a European aristocrat. You miss the Italian villa you own (or wish you owned).

**IN THEIR WORDS:** "Our Instagram feed is meant to inspire, help the mind unwind, move away from the busyness of life and allow us to step into a dreamlike place. It is consistently filled with the beauty that surrounds us every day—the people, places and objects we love and dream about."





## DATE BOOK

ANGELICA HENRY



Known for her elegant approach to contemporary design, Angelica Henry is as devoted to her craft as she is to her home state. Maybe it's because she's a second-

generation Arizonan, or perhaps because she's passionate about things that matter to her. Either way, she has shown herself committed to versatility in design (she can pull off an ultramodern aesthetic as convincingly as a traditional one) and multiple good causes. She and her team have contributed to a variety of philanthropic efforts over the years, from designing a home for a wounded military veteran to regularly supporting the Phoenix Art Museum. With her impeccable design credentials and deep Arizona roots, Henry knows how to celebrate the winter holiday season in a way that is both inspiring and inspired. Here, she shares her ideal day.

[angelicahenrydesign.com](http://angelicahenrydesign.com)

**8 a.m.** I'll start the day by hiking Scottsdale's Granite Mountain to enjoy the cool weather and beautiful scenery.

**10 a.m.** After working up an appetite on the trail, it's off to brunch at Arcadia Farms Café, an iconic local restaurant specializing in organic salads, composed sandwiches and artistic desserts, all within a cozy home-turned-dining room.

**12 p.m.** Next, I'll stop by Scottsdale Fashion Square to do some holiday shopping for families in need with the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

**1 p.m.** The shopping continues at A Curated Touch, where I can choose from luxurious throws, bath accoutrements and specialty chocolates.

**3 p.m.** A visit to Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art is next on the day's itinerary. I like to drop by to view their latest exhibitions.

**6 p.m.** For dinner, I'll meet up with some of my colleagues at Christopher's at Wrigley Mansion.

**8 p.m.** To end the night, I'll pay a visit to Desert Botanical Garden to see the magical Las Noches de las Luminarias, celebrating its 45<sup>th</sup> year of dazzling hand-lit luminaries and holiday entertainment.



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: HEADSHOT, BRIDGETTE MARIE BALMES; CHRISTOPHER'S AT WRIGLEY MANSION PHOTO, COURTESY CHRISTOPHER'S AT WRIGLEY MANSION; A CURATED TOUCH PHOTO, COURTESY ANITCA FARMACISTA; GRANITE MOUNTAIN PHOTO, COURTESY THE MCDOWELL SONORAN CONSERVANCY; SCOTTSDALE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART PHOTO, MICHAELA YEARWOOD-DAN, IT'S ALL HAPPENING, 2021, COURTESY OF IRIS AND ADAM C. SINGER.