

THE LAST WORDS

How Do You Spend a Rainy Saturday?

Interviews by
MARIA RICAPITO

Exploring, remaking, hunkering down...nine designers share how they recharge their batteries.

"It's always a great chance to do a little redecorating: **redo table-tops, repot plants, move furniture around.** I live on a horse farm, so when it's not raining, we're out with the horses."

STAN TOPOL

"It's a good time to visit the vintage stores in Wicker Park [Chicago], especially Rebuilding Exchange, and look for old hardware, doors, and windows in need of a home."

ALISON VICTORIA



"It hardly ever rains in Southern California in the summer, so when it does it's really special. I immediately **light a fire in my library, make a great cup of coffee, and spend time looking through my books.** At times like these, I think I could spend a year never leaving this room." **BARBARA BARRY**

"Any Saturday without something scheduled is a huge luxury. If it's raining, I have an additional excuse not to leave the house. I'll **spread all my unread magazines on the sofa,** prop myself up on a stack of cream cashmere pillows with a content orange cat in my lap, and pore over them, ripping out articles and pictures that catch my eye."

BARBARA WESTBROOK

"**Nothing beats listening to the rain while wrapped in a cozy cashmere throw, nestled into my citron velvet-covered Prober armchair.**" **AMY LAU**

"I huddle on the deep sofas on my covered porch in Sag Harbor and look out at the rain over the water. I like to pull together **plates of cheeses, sausages, grapes or figs, crackers, and jams, and open up some wine** for any guests who stop by. Everyone's welcome!"

STEVEN GAMBREL

*"I'll curl up on the sofa on my screened-in porch on Nantucket with my three bichons frises and my cotton throw from Nantucket Looms. I've got **a novel and a glass of iced green tea at hand,** and the dogs love watching the rabbits on our lawn eating clover. We're all happy."*

TRUDY DUJARDIN

"I have both a big sofa and an old rattan chaise on my porch, and either one is an enticing option when it's just not possible to be out in the sun.

There's nothing better than dozing off to the sound of the rain." **GIL SCHAFER**

"A rainy afternoon is a gift, an excuse to veer off the list of tasks to be done. I'll head to the canopied daybed or my sleeping porch and catch up on reading. Or I'll do a **double-header of old movies under a blanket** in the dark media room with my dogs at my side. Some weekends, I pray for rain."

CHARLOTTE MOSS