

DESIGN ODYSSEY:

2 MICHAELS DESIGN EXPLORES THE FRONTIERS OF ART AND INTERIOR DESIGN

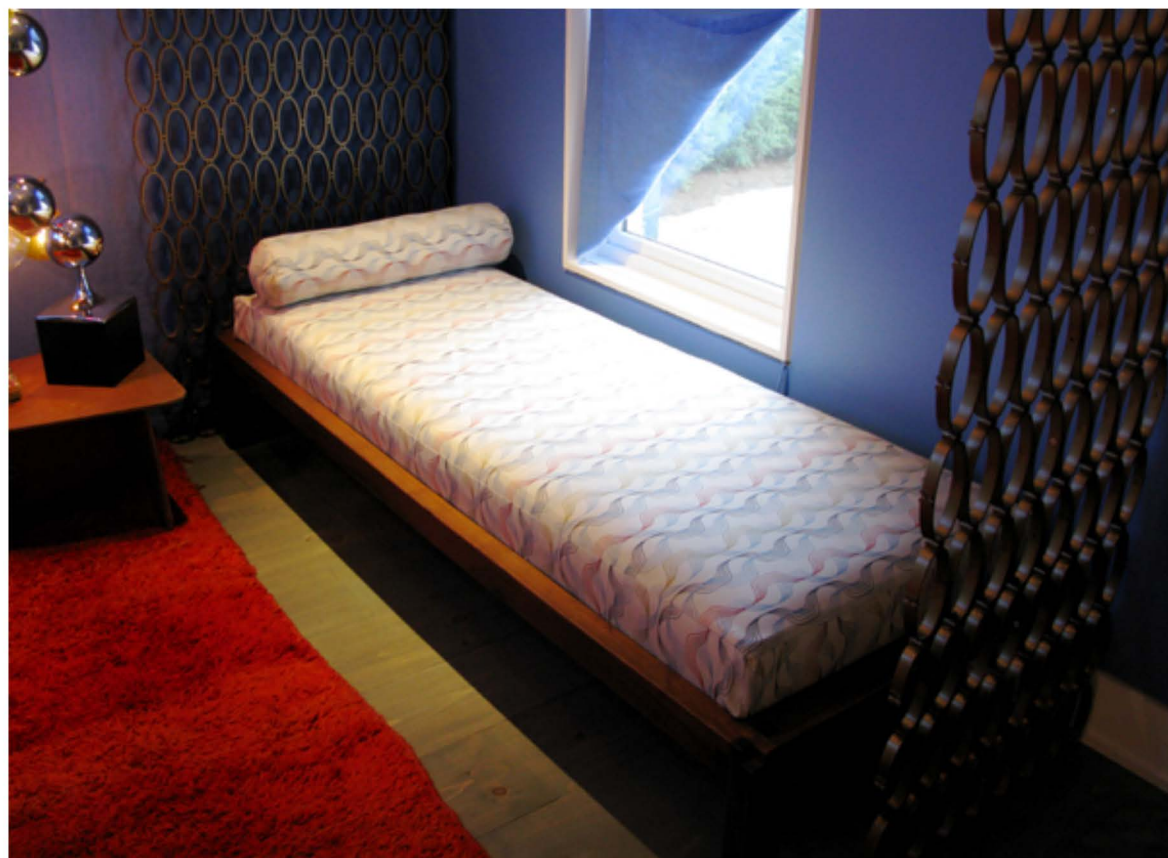
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Design Odyssey: 2Michaels Design

Posted on Oct 7, 2008 by [Donna Sapolin](#)

Written by Donna Sapolin.

Like most designers, Jayne and Joan Michaels, the identical twin principals of New York-based design firm [2Michaels](#), probe their prospective clients' lifestyles and tastes before developing interior schemes for their rooms. But the project they recently took on in a Hamptons show home—two eco-conscious bedrooms for twins—had no residents whose penchants could be plumbed. So, digging deeply into the repositories of their own childhood memories, the Michaels conjured imaginary versions of the prospective occupants and unearthed qualities they recalled having loved in the past—some that they actually had and others they wished they'd had. "My brother, whose passions served as the inspiration for one of the rooms, labeled our design approach 'recycled memory'," says Jayne.



Low-to-the-ground, slimly proportioned, and topped by a mattress and bolster tautly wrapped in a Kate Korten-designed fabric, the boy's bed is both eye-catching and practical. "This is a '40s French daybed designed by Pierre Chapo that functions as a sofa during the day and, at night, when the sheets come out, as a bed," says Jayne. "The fabric used in the cover is made out of water bottles and can handle any spill; the pattern has an Outer Limits quality to it." Two plastic screens from a '60s bank that Jayne purchased on eBay act as head and foot boards and lend the seating-cum-sleeping area a sense of enclosure without hemming it in. "They're hung from the ceiling and they create a fort-like feeling; every child wants a cozy, protected place of their own," Jayne explains.