

LUXURY POOLS

THE PREMIER OUTDOOR LIVING PUBLICATION
FALL/WINTER 2016

+ OUTDOOR LIVING

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2016 PINNACLE AWARDS
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OPULENT
NATURAL POOLS
AUTOMATION AND
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Pool of Talent

DRAKELEY POOL COMPANY, LLC

➔ Next time you look at your pool, ask yourself some simple questions. How does it make you feel? Do the style, shape, size, and color inspire you? Do the technology, water quality, and eco-friendly features excite you? Does the pool work for your unique lifestyle?

If the answer to all is yes, you're tapping into a quiet revolution in luxury custom pool design that's changing the nature – not to mention the look and feel – of home pools.

"A lot of companies build pools, and some build good pools, but it's really about how our clients feel when they are in that space; that's what makes us different," says Bill Drakeley, principal of Drakeley Pool Company, based in Bethlehem, Connecticut.

This third-generation builder is at the forefront of a new breed of pool designers who are championing a much more thoughtful, collaborative, and intuitive approach to creating the perfect pool.

"It's about creating a pool space that's restorative, intuitive, elegant, sleek, and supremely luxurious without being overwrought," adds Lily Samuels, a Columbia graduate and company vice president who heads up a high-energy executive team with Drakeley.

The dynamic duo – Drakeley with his expert construction skills, and Samuels with her contemporary sensibilities – works in partnership with every client, getting to know them before putting design pen to paper.

While a pool is a quintessential feature of a classic or contemporary home, Drakeley argues it should never be a focal

point. "It should blend seamlessly with its surroundings and never compete with the scenery," he says. "A pool has to look right, but it also has to work right."

Drakeley is a full-service company designing and building about a dozen exceptional custom pools a year. And Bill Drakeley's 35 years' experience in construction stands him in good stead.

He's currently president of the American Shotcrete Association, is a highly respected voice in the industry, and is committed to elevating construction and pool design through education. His many industry awards further cement his reputation.

But the true test of success lies with their clients. "We have clients who say they've seen our work, been in one of our pools, and trust us implicitly," says Samuels.

"And with our waiting list, we have more than a few clients who are willing to wait to work with us. It's very flattering that our pools are coveted spaces that speak to the quality of what we're doing." ■

DRAKELEY POOL COMPANY, LLC
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