

# LIFE & STYLE

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Sandwich shop offers more than filling between the bread ■ **Austin360**

**WESTERN STYLE** Boot up your wardrobe at relocated shop ■ **D3**

**NOBLE PIG**

**INNER SPACE ■ WORK AT HOME**

## Build distinct spaces for working, living

By Amy Gabriel

SPECIAL FOR THE AMERICAN-STATESMAN

Most of us associate home with comfort, relaxation and recreation. A happy place far away from the demands of a workday. But what happens when your home doubles as your office?

Such is the case of full-time book publicist and part-time blogger, Tolly Moseley. A couple of years after moving into her Hyde Park duplex, Moseley was offered a stay-at-home job and was met with the challenge of creating a work environment that accommodates the demands of her work without encroaching on the comforts of home.

When she and her then-fiancé moved into their Hyde Park duplex in 2007, their top rental requirement was location, even if it meant living with a roommate. A home office didn't even enter into the equation.

"Like a lot of young Austin couples, we rent, and location is huge for us," said Moseley. "We'll live with our best friend happily if we get to live in Hyde Park!"

See **INNER, D7**



Deborah Cannon AMERICAN-STATESMAN

Tolly Moseley created an office in her stone-walled foyer. Once she passes the threshold from her bedroom, she gets into work mode.

At Second Bar + Kitchen in the Austonian, grid lighting designed by Amber Lewis brings a playful touch to the modern building. The lighting is made from electrical conduit and LED lights.



Laura Skelding AMERICAN-STATESMAN

**ARCHITECTURE ■ DOWNTOWN AUSTIN**

## Worthy of a Second look

Leaders of three defining projects talk designing for downtown district



Ralph Barrera AMERICAN-STATESMAN

In the records room at the W Hotel, architect Arthur Andersson and designer Heather Plimmer create an inviting space. Records can be played on a McIntosh stereo system. The hotel is connected to the Austin City Limits Live at the Moody Theater and features ACL photos in the hotel rooms.

**A COFFEE WITH ... TARA A. SMITH**

## Expert talks Ayn Rand as work hits stage

By Jeanne Claire van Ryzin

AMERICAN-STATESMAN ARTS WRITER

Not all schools of philosophical inquiry can celebrate the world premiere of a new play by its founding thinker.

Well, a sort of new play, that is. Opening tonight at the Long Center, "Anthem" is the first adaptation of Ayn Rand's 1938 novella of the same name. Produced by Austin Shakespeare, the premiere is piquing



By Marques G. Harper

AMERICAN-STATESMAN STAFF

Want to get a good feel for today's Austin? Skip South Congress Avenue. West Second Street is where it's at — architecturally speaking, that is. On that street, also dubbed Willie Nelson Boulevard, a bigger story about the city's design community has been cemented (yes, literally).

It's where you can find touches from some of Austin's leading stylemakers, including architect Michael Hsu, who has put his fingerprint on Second Street and its surrounding neighborhood with projects including Mulberry, Mellow Johnny's Bike Shop and La Condesa.

"I was encouraged when the city did this," he said of the dense corridor of shops, restaurants and living spaces. "Because it

**INSIDE**

■ A trio of Second Street hot spots, **D6**



Laura Skelding photos AMERICAN-STATESMAN

Reclaimed red oak covers the walls at Second Bar + Kitchen at the Austonian. Designer Amber Lewis didn't want the venue to be cold just because it's in a new building.

## Bars, eateries blend history into new Austonian

**Second Bar + Kitchen, Bar Congress and Congress** at the Austonian (200 Congress Ave., 827-2750 (Second Bar + Kitchen), 827-2755 (Bar Congress) and 827-2760 (Congress), [www.congressaustin.com](http://www.congressaustin.com))

**Interior designer:** Amber Lewis of Amber Lewis Interior Design

**Background:** Houston native Lewis, who designed the interiors of Bolla and Bolla Bar at the Stoneleigh Hotel, Ketchup Burger Bar and Medina Oven and Bar in Dallas, had a challenge on her hands in Austin: creating three spaces, which opened in December, that easily flowed into each other and still had distinct features such as the AstroTurf floor for the mezzanine patio. Austin-based La Corsha Restaurant Partners runs the spaces.

"We wanted our guests to feel like they were being entertained in a friend's home," said Lewis, 34, who's considering a move to Austin from Dallas. "That's the concept that tied it all and makes it easy to flow from space to space."

**Favorite design elements:** In Second Bar + Kitchen, she's into the restaurant's grid lighting, which brings industrial and urban touches to the space. Part art, part lighting and part sculpture, the fixtures help to anchor and give depth to the space. "Those were really inspired by initially wanting to bring the outdoors in," said Lewis, who worked with architectural team of David Lynch and Lisa Retrum of STG Design on the project.

In Bar Congress, Lewis adores the woven leather bar die-mold that wraps the lower wall of the pint-sized space. The leather wrapping was inspired by a hand-tooled leather cuff she bought on the Drag a few years ago. And in the upscale Congress restaurant, she's all about the crystal mobile chandeliers, which were inspired by a mobile of little fish made from wrapping ribbon hanging in a friend's guest room.

"That's the inspiration for the design," said Lewis, who spent weekends stringing the crystals that make up the design for the seven pieces. "It ended up being the very last design element that came together. I took (the mobile idea) back and made these more fabulous with the crystal and just wanted something completely unique that would add the jewelry to the space."

**Why the design reflects Austin's character:** When she started this project a year and a half ago, she did research on the history of the actual site of the Austonian. That allowed her to pay homage to the past. Check out the recycled windshield glass tile on some of the walls that was inspired by Alamo Glass windshield shop, which once occupied the space.

"I wanted to make sure we connect to that history," she said. As for Second Bar + Kitchen, "I knew I wanted to create that warm casual, almost like a, you know, modern rustic appeal but be original and be true to who we are because we are in a new building. I didn't want to do, you know, faux brick everywhere. That's where the reclaimed, red oak flooring planks came out of the walls in Second giving us that warm appeal to the room."



In Congress, Lewis had fun with crystal mobile chandeliers. This table with banquette seating is in a private dining nook at the upscale restaurant.