

# THE EDGE



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

## NICOLE SASSAMAN HONORED AS THE 2007 VIKING FEATURED DESIGNER

The winner of the annual Viking Featured Designer award for 2007 is Nicole Sassaman of Nicole Sassaman Designs, Malibu, California. Sassaman's award-winning entry was designed for the Malibu home she shares with her husband and baby daughter.

"We're pleased that our Designers of Distinction competition is continuing to grow in industry recognition," says Jim Gregory, Viking Range Corporation Director, Design Relations. "We have been receiving outstanding entries, and we are delighted to recognize Nicole Sassaman's design as the grand prize winner this year."

"I am so honored Viking chose me as their designer of the year," says Sassaman. "After

attending the Viking Training Program in Greenwood, Mississippi, seeing the factory and learning how the company is organized and run, I am beyond impressed. Fred and Margaret Carl are amazing people with a fabulous story. They are a constant inspiration to me, and I am blown away that I am being honored with this award. Thank you so much! It really means the world to me."

Viking created the award as part of its commitment to professionalism in the kitchen design industry and in order to provide a national showcase for excellence in kitchen design. To be eligible for the award, simply register as a Viking Designer of Distinction at [VikingFeaturedDesigner.com](http://VikingFeaturedDesigner.com).



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## Nicole Sassaman

Sleek, stylish Viking indoor and outdoor kitchens are featured in her Malibu home that blurs the line between interior and exterior.

The 2007 Viking Featured Designer, Nicole Sassaman, was the Third Quarter Viking Featured Designer in 2005. Since that time, she has renovated and sold several residential properties in Los Angeles. She describes the house in Malibu as “a 1980’s wannabe Spanish villa with arches everywhere.” It is a project she holds close to her heart. Rather than resell it, she plans to live in the house with her husband and daughter.

When she began working on the Malibu house, Sassaman knew she wanted a working kitchen where two people could cook at one time, as well as a functional outdoor kitchen

for entertaining. She also knew she needed to eliminate most of the existing arches.

By eliminating nearly every arch in the house and installing a series of NanaWall bifold doors, Sassaman opened up the house, blurring the lines between indoors and out. Now the Malibu house features a stunning series of interconnected spaces for cooking, dining and entertaining.

Both the indoor kitchen and outdoor kitchen feature a wide array of Viking products. “As a developer, I learned that Viking products are fabulous, both in terms of design and function,” says Sassaman. “Viking is the Rolls Royce of appliances and I certainly want the best in my kitchen because I cook every night — especially now that I have a baby. I would rather spend time at home with her

than go out to restaurants.”

The focal point of the indoor kitchen is a giant island. “Everyone congregates around it when I’m cooking — especially when I am making sushi, which I’ve been doing a lot lately,” she says. “I have been cooking a lot of Thai and Italian dishes, too,” she adds.

Sassaman’s 2007 Thanksgiving dinner was very traditional. The kitchen has a 60”W. Viking range with two ovens, a feature that came in very handy as it allowed her to cook both a turkey and a ham for her 16 holiday guests. She also used her Viking warming drawer to warm their plates.

Entertaining a large group of people may result in a lot of dishes, glassware and cutlery that need to be washed, but that’s not a time-consuming challenge for Sassaman. She

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**VIKING PROFESSIONAL INDOOR APPLIANCES**  
60”W. Range with 6 Burners, a 24”W. Griddle and High-Shelf  
Griddle Covers (2)  
60”W. Wall Hood  
1200 CFM Exterior Power Ventilator  
48”W. Side-by-Side Refrigerator/Freezer  
24”W. Undercounter Dishwasher (2)  
Microwave Oven and Built-In Trim  
30”W. Warming Drawer

**VIKING OUTDOOR APPLIANCES**  
53”W. Ultra-Premium Gas Grill  
27”W. Warming Drawer  
24”W. Wok/Cooker  
24”W. Refrigerated Beverage Center



PHOTOS BY: GREY CRAWFORD

has two Viking dishwashers, one near each of the indoor kitchen's two sinks.

Sassaman says when she designs her kitchens, aesthetics are very important. The countertops in the indoor kitchen are concrete and the custom cabinetry is African mahogany. She also wanted to make certain all of her appliances matched. "I have a thing about matching appliances, especially the handles," she says. "With the Viking line offering so many different kinds of appliances and options, it was perfect for what I wanted to accomplish."

The outdoor kitchen of the Malibu house features a 53"W. Ultra-Premium gas grill, as well as a Viking warming drawer, a Viking outdoor wok/cooker, and a Viking refrigerated beverage center. Although she hasn't used it yet to sauté food, Sassaman says the wok/cooker has come in very handy when boiling fresh corn on the cob and/or lobster, instead of grilling it.

Sassaman is currently working on another Malibu house located on the Pacific Ocean. "It's a second home, and its owners will be using it purely for entertaining," she says. Like her home, the house on the ocean will feature a full Viking indoor kitchen, as well as an outdoor kitchen.

"As a renovator and designer, I am known for a certain style, and I insist on a high level of quality in all of my work. Viking products play an important role in helping me sustain my commitment to both of those things," she explains.

"Your space should be one that reflects who you are, what you want to be, or supports who you already are," says Sassaman. Sassaman recently joined forces with



Shannon Colburn to launch a new home accessories and furniture store in the heart of Los Angeles: Colburn Sassaman, Inc. The store features her new, environmentally conscientious furniture line, which includes dining chairs, accessories and bar stools made from walnut wood from managed forests.

"It's important to be planet-conscientious these days," she insists. "That's another good thing about Viking — they're on top of this. They are already making some eco-friendly products, and I understand there are other green ones in the works." Among the products she cites are the Viking induc-

tion cooktops, which do not waste energy heating up the kitchen; the Energy Star-rated freestanding refrigerators; and the energy-efficient dishwashers.

Another factor was the professionalism and service of the Viking Southern California distributor. "I cannot say enough about the people at Sues, Young & Brown," says Sassaman. "I work closely with Linda and Ron, and they are always very helpful. The service is absolutely top-notch."

To find out more about Sassaman and her work, check out her profile on the Viking Web site, or go to [nicolesassaman.com](http://nicolesassaman.com).