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Special Feature



A HOME IN BLOOM

Island sensations inspired the vision and one can practically smell plantation rum from the arbor-decked verandas.

DESIGN VALERIE MCGREEVY TATALOVICH, VALERIE M. INTERIORS, PALM BEACH, FL
ARCHITECTURE JOHN MOORE, SMITH AND MOORE ARCHITECTS, INC., WEST PALM BEACH, FL
TEXT MARINA BROWN
PHOTOGRAPHY KIM SARGENT, PALM BEACH GARDENS, FL

Metal cranes from Floral Emporium splash in the fountain, readying for a spectacular sunset across Lake Worth. Like a mirrored reality, each room has its own outside space, extending the inside-out feel of the home around the pool.

While it may not be this couple's first house in Palm Beach, (in fact, it's the sixth for the wife's family), it may just be their favorite. Glowing a buttery yellow and trimmed in palm green shutters, the 8,000-square-foot estate wraps the arm of a cabana house around a glittering pool, and tucks a putting green and rose garden close by. And though the house exudes a West Indies flavor, Palm Beach is in the wife's soul. She recalls her grandparents and how they first settled in the ►



“Though a challenge, I loved using the owners’ antiques,” designer Valerie Tatalovich says. “Antiques bring life and personality to the space — add the vision and the rest will fall into place.”

charmingly small town in the 1930s. “Mother and I would always make one last pilgrimage to Worth Avenue in April,” she says. “After that the whole town closed for the summer.”

Now, of course, things have changed, and she and her husband have built the perfect home for extensive entertaining all year long. “What has been wonderful is the way our designer Valerie (McGreevy Tatalovich) and I worked together,” the wife says. “From the first moment I saw all of the colors she loves and her attention to detail, I knew she was the designer for this home.” And the feeling was mutual.

“From the hand-painted Chinese panels on the foyer walls to the references of flowers, birds and butterflies in the carpets and draperies, I wanted to weave in the homeowners’ ▶

ABOVE: The owners’ Zvonimir Mihanovic painting tops the living room fireplace against Colefax and Fowler’s damask wall covering from Nessen. Dennis & Leen candelabra chandeliers from Jerry Pair cast a luminous glow over the space filled with decorated antiques.



Flowers are on display in the soaring foyer, a motif repeated throughout the home. Fabricated by Stark Wallcovering, Tatalovich’s sketched designs, painted in China, took up to nine revisions before the precise color and artistic elements were achieved.

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devotion to nature," Tatalovich says. Taking her vivid interior palette from the water's aqua, foliage green, the sand and a sunset's blush, and grounding it all with impeccable black, the designer is fearless with color and the owners' antiques.

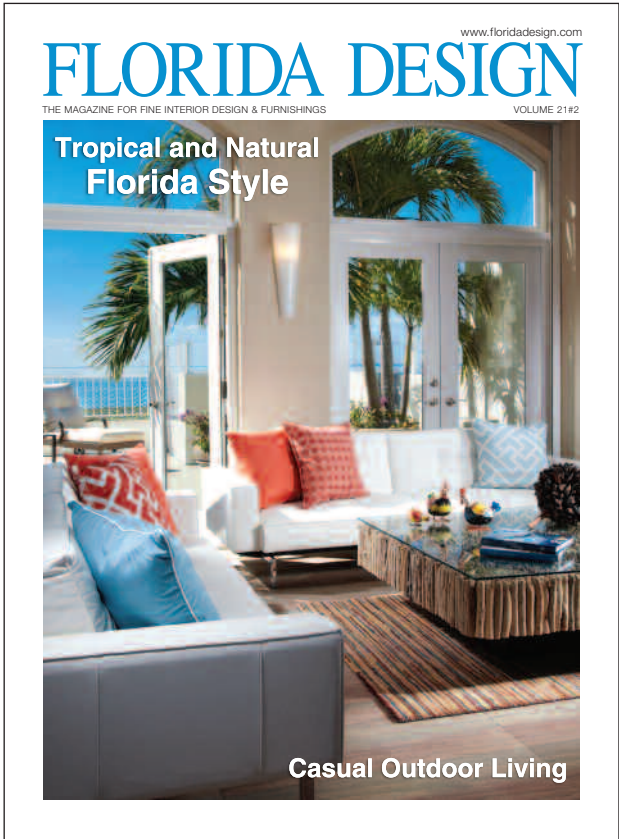
Tatalovich allows each room to unfold, flower-like, into the next. The living room's personality is revealed in swirls of tropical floral tendrils hinted at in the foyer that reappear here in muted cotton-print Boussac drapery panels from Nessen and the custom-designed area rug by Lacey-Champion. The wife used her own sofa and chairs, now sleekly covered in a tonal stripe by Stroheim. Elegant candelabra lamps by Dessin Fournir top occasional tables by Arthur Brett & Sons. "My antiques come from all over," the wife says. "From chests my grandmother bought in France in the 1920s, to tables my mother bought at thrift shops — I love them all."

Exquisite hand-painted apricot wall covering provides the backdrop in the dining room, where the couple's own English mahogany table and chairs sit as well as a bow-front sideboard created during the reign of King George III. But it is the Chippendale mirror, circa 1790, and the Myran Allan 24-carat gold-plated chandelier that catch the eye.

Amidst copper sconces, wide balconies and rooflines reminiscent of the Indies, the couple returns from their homes in Telluride or the Bahamas and feel as if they are "walking into a fantasy from long ago" — a graceful vision they've happily dreamed into reality. ►

LEFT: Recalling plantation days, a white china cabinet gives a nod to a bygone era in the dining room, where lace under panels and layers of ivory silk by Stroheim frame the window. Tatalovich designed the Lacey-Champion area rug in a floral pattern that echoes the hand-painted apricot wall covering.

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SOURCES

REAR EXTERIOR

Pool and fountain fabricated by Royal Palm Pools, Loxahatchee, FL
Deck - Custom designed by Mario Nievera Design, Inc., Palm Beach, FL
Poolside armchairs, chaise lounges and patio seating - Brown Jordan, El Monte, CA
Cushions - Scalamandr , New York, NY
Dining table, side chairs, server and patio seating - JANUS et Cie, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Cushion fabrics - Giati, William Switzer Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL; Brunswick & Fils, Brunswick & Fils Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL; Nomi, John Rosselli & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL; and Perennials Outdoors, David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Rocking chairs - Gloster Furniture, Terrace 436, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Fabric - Giati Designs, The William Switzer Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Umbrellas - Santa Barbara Designs, Santa Barbara, CA
Wall sconces - Bevolo Gas and Electric Lights, New Orleans, LA
Garden benches - The Van Cleve Collection, Jacksonville, FL
Railings fabricated by Reich Metal Fabricators, Inc., West Palm Beach, FL

LIVING ROOM

Sofa and lounge chairs - New Dimensions Custom Upholstery Manufacturers, Riviera Beach, FL
Armchairs, ottoman, occasional chairs, sofa table, cabinets flanking fireplace, mirror and artwork - Owners' Collection
Sofa, lounge chair, gold armchair and Roman valance fabrics - Stroheim & Romann, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Plaid armchair and ottoman fabric - Lee Jofa, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Green fabric on occasional chairs and accent pillow fabric - Brunswick & Fils, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Cocktail table - Julia Gray, Ltd., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Occasional table next to sofa - Arthur Brett and Sons (USA) Ltd., High Point, NC
Occasional table next to lounge chair - Karges, Baker Knapp & Tubbs, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Occasional table in corner - French Heritage, High Point, NC
Fireplace screen - Arte de Mexico, Burbank, CA
Table lamps flanking sofa - Dessin Fournir, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Floor lamp next to gold chair - The Bradburn Gallery, Atlanta, GA
Drapery fabric - Boussac, Nessen Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Drapery rods - Van Gregory & Norton, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Wall covering - Colfax & Fowler, Nessen Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Chandeliers and candelabra wall sconce - Dennis & Leen, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Area rug fabricated by Lacey-Champion, Inc., Fairmount, GA

FOYER

Pedestal table - Julia Gray, Ltd., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Side chairs and chests - Owners' Collection
Fabric - B. Berger, Macedonia, OH
Wall covering - Custom designed by Valerie M. Interiors, Palm Beach, FL
Fabricated by Stark Wallcovering, D&D Building, New York, NY
Entrance light fixture and chandelier - Myran Allan Chandelier, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Centerpiece vase on table - Baccarat, Inc., New York, NY
Area rug and stair runner - Vera Za'araur Design, David Sutherland Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

DINING ROOM

Dining table, chairs, sideboard, cabinet, mirror, decanter, vase and decorative plates - Owners' Collection
Dining chair fabric - Stroheim & Romann, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Candleholders on table - Baccarat, Inc., New York, NY
Chandelier and sconces - Myran Allan Chandelier, ADAC, Atlanta, GA
Drapery treatment, wall covering and area rug - Custom designed by Valerie M. Interiors, Palm Beach, FL
Drapery fabric - Stroheim & Romann, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Wall covering fabricated by Stark Wallcovering, D&D Building, New York, NY
Area rug fabricated by Lacey-Champion, Inc., Fairmount, GA

THROUGHOUT

Drapery an upholstery fabrication by Lorenzo & Edgar Lopez Interiors, West Palm Beach, FL
Wallcovering installation - Stu Clark International Wallcovering Specialist, Deerfield Beach, FL
Wood flooring - Absolute Hardwood Flooring, West Palm Beach, FL
Hardscape architecture - Mario Nievera Design, Inc., Palm Beach, FL
Landscape architecture - Armstrong Landscape & Design Group Inc., Jupiter, FL

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Photography by Kim Sargent, Palm Beach Gardens, FL