

VERANDA

the new mix

GREAT STYLE FOR SPRING

Cheerful
Colors
Beautiful
Interiors
Glorious
Outdoor
Living

MARCH-APRIL 2018

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84 SELF-PORTRAIT

Colette van den Thillart's Toronto house is filled with color, wit, and whimsy.

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A New York couple call on Jim Howard for a radiant renovation that exudes style.

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Ashley Whittaker mixes bright shades and patterns in a chic Manhattan family home.

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A 1926 Florida home by Lou Marotta embraces classicism but nods to the new.

ON THE COVER
The living room of a New York townhouse by Ashley Whittaker is a soothing, artful mélange of vivid hues and calming textures. Art, Agnes Barley.

PHOTOGRAPHY
BY MAX KIM-BEE

LIGHT AS AIR

After 30 years in the same home, a New York couple call on Jim Howard to exchange dark and formal rooms for radiant new spaces that exude sophistication and style.



INTERIOR DESIGN BY JIM HOWARD | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MAX KIM-BEE
PRODUCED BY CAROLYN ENGLEFIELD | WRITTEN BY CATHERINE HONG

BALANCING ACT

ASHLEY WHITTAKER COMBINES A RIOTOUS ARRAY OF COLOR, TEXTURE, AND PATTERN INTO A STYLISH AND SURPRISINGLY TRANQUIL HOME BASE FOR A YOUNG FAMILY ON MANHATTAN'S UPPER EAST SIDE.



INTERIOR DESIGN BY ASHLEY WHITTAKER
ARCHITECTURE BY JIM JOSEPH
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MAX KIM-BEE
PRODUCED BY CAROLYN ENGLEFIELD
WRITTEN BY CLINTON SMITH



Venetian-plaster walls by Deirdre Newman give the eclectic living room a serene backdrop. Custom sofa (right) in a George Spencer Designs velvet. Custom armchairs, sofa (left), and curtains in Bennison fabrics. Todd Alexander Romano side chair in a Nobilis velvet, Schumacher. Cocktail tables, Liz O'Brien (foreground) and Harbinger (center). Lamps, Christopher Spitzmiller. Mirror and chandelier, John Rosselli & Associates. Rug, Stark. Art, Alex Schuchard (right) and Michael Eastman (left).



LOU MAROTTA'S MOVE FROM NEW YORK TO FLORIDA was the realization of a dream deferred. The beloved antiques dealer and interior designer was waiting for his husband, lawyer Michael Fullwood, to retire—even if his own profession was more amenable. “When you are creative and work for yourself, you never really stop,” Marotta says. Given his background, it’s no surprise that he conjured up a magical atmosphere for their eventual sunny retreat.

The couple had originally envisioned a move to Palm Beach, but after an exhaustive search on the barrier island yielded little inspiration, the siren of a 1926 Mediterranean Revival drew them across the bridge to the El Cid Historic District in West Palm Beach, whose laid-back vibe was immensely appealing. “We wanted a warm, casual setting where we could entertain in a relaxed way,” Marotta explains. “Moorish architecture is all about fantasy, so the house and the neighborhood suited us perfectly.”

To establish a whimsical tone, he hired the decorative artist Chuck Fischer to paint an exuberant mural in the vaulted reception area, which serves as both the home’s entry and dining room. “Initially, I wanted a Moroccan tent,” Marotta admits. But then his friend Nelson Hammel, owner of the home-and-garden shop Devonshire of Palm Beach, came over and urged, “You can do better than that.”

And he did, commissioning Fischer to create a fanciful black-and-white gazebo design interspersed with vines and passionflowers in hues of coral pink, purple, periwinkle, and yellow. Those colors reappear throughout the house, where the overall palette was inspired by the area’s aqueous

