

South Florida SPECTACULAR

Tropical vistas, European influences, and whispers to unplug: This year's **Kips Bay Decorator Show House Palm Beach** ushers a wave of big ideas into our vernacular, courtesy of 19 of the country's top designers.

↑ ENTRY HALL

Alizee Brion commissioned a leafy palm mural (Austin Kerr) for a lush welcome. Custom terrazzo rug, Art + Loom

The Open-Air Arrival

AN ENTRY HALL THAT DOESN'T abandon the outdoors? How very Florida. The Lars Bolander-designed home features a broad foyer that remains open to a loggia on the far end, inspiring designer Alizee Brion to create a total embrace of the tropical landscape. Hand-painted palms and a terrazzo path pick up where Jobe Lopez's evergreen entry garden leaves off for a welcome that feels like a mystical walk through a palm forest.



ENTRY GARDEN AND HALL ↑ Sunbrella drapery fabric with tassel trim, The Shade Store. Paint, Alligator Alley and Spring Meadow by Benjamin Moore



THE SANCTUARY ↑ Window treatments, The Shade Store. Cushion and pillow fabrics, Zoffany. Rug, New Moon Rugs

Trending: Quiet Rooms

CALL IT THE RISE OF THE SCREEN asylum. “More and more, clients are asking for quiet spaces inside their homes,” says designer Sarah Magness, who turned a second-floor study into a technology-free meditation room (right). Similarly, in a detached garden casita, Keith Baltimore and Marva Kalish banished the idea of a guest suite with all the bells and whistles in favor of sensory tranquility akin to a private spa. “This room struck me as the perfect place to just ‘be,’” says Baltimore, who drew upon the fine art principle of sfumato, which calls for the blending of tones without perceptible transitions to create immersive visual harmony.



MINDFULNESS RETREAT ↑ A gallery of Japanese antiques channels the Far East. Pillow fabric, Fabricut. Bookshelf color, Symphony Blue by Benjamin Moore. Hand-painted wallpaper, Gracie Studio

The (Modern) Classical Kitchen

WOVEN WALLS, SHADES WITH pretty nailhead trim, creamy backsplash tiles: Connecticut-based designer Sarah Blank flipped the script on the crisp white cookspaces of the past decade, grounding this one instead in a sense of history and flora and fauna. “It’s important that a kitchen feel integrated

with the environment and the architecture, which are both so strong here,” says the designer, who didn’t overlook the role of modern craftsmanship, floating a dashing brass leaf chandelier over an old European tailor’s table.

As for the cabinetry’s buoyant blue? “It’s just a great color for Florida.”



↑ KITCHEN

Custom linen shades, The Shade Store.
Woven linen wallpaper, Carlisle & Co.
Dekton countertops, Cosentino.
Cabinetry color, Blue Dragon by Benjamin Moore. All sink fixtures, Kohler

WINE ROOM ↓

Brass pendant, Currey & Co.
Leather wall panels, Fabricut.
Tibetan wool and Chinese silk runner, New Moon Rugs



Party Closet, Uncorked

NOW THIS IS WHAT YOU CALL bottle service: a wine room that’s as much a part of the cocktail-hour scene as a cozy living room tête-à-tête. By repurposing a pantry as an open wine cellar (and mini tasting room), Blank brought the space into the social flow without forfeiting practicality. Painting the shelving an ash brown mimics the intimate sensibility of subterranean storage, while a lustrous brass pendant beckons guests inside to indulge their inner oenophile. “It adds elements of fun and fantasy to the kitchen,” says the designer.





↑ **COCKTAIL “SNUG”**
Vintage rush chairs, sofa, and chandelier, Harbinger. Midcentury still-life painting, André Minaux

Bon Vivant, En Suite

IT'S LIKE THIS ROOM WAS BORN to entertain—and Los Angeles designer Joe Lucas was more than happy to oblige. “I’ve always loved 1940s French design,” says the decorator, who paid homage to the free-flowing lines and earthy pastel palette of midcentury artist and architect Le Corbusier as he reimagined the room as a sophisticated conversation parlor. “It flows right off the entry and opens to the backyard and pool area, so it’s the

perfect spot to whisk guests away to for cocktails before dinner or after a day in the sun.”

◇◇◇
“It’s the perfect spot to whisk guests away to for cocktails.”

—DESIGNER
JOE LUCAS

The forms within are curvilinear, among them, a new Fromental wallpaper designed to mimic hand-drawn artistry; a serpentine bookcase by Peg Woodworking; and a shapely sofa of Lucas’s own design. “I wanted it to be cozy and comforting and soothing, away from the more grand scale of the rest of the home,” he notes.



↑ **ADJOINING BATH**
Schools of koi rush the walls in CW Stockwell’s revival of a post-war pattern. Fixtures, Kohler. Sconces, Hector Finch. Stool, Serena & Lily

Kips Bay Show House



↑ **MASTER BEDROOM**
Bed, valance fabric, and embroidered linens, Casa Branca. Banquette and fauteuils trim, Fabricut. Fauteuils upholstery, Creations Métaphores

When the Walls Say It All

From 13th-century tilework to artisanal odes to the ocean, designers envelop rooms in stories from near and far.

“I WAS INSPIRED BY PORTUGAL, AND in particular, azulejos,” says designer Alessandra Branca of the elaborately patterned wallpaper crowning doorways and windows and tracing a vibrant wainscot around the master bedroom. Born of her new collection with de Gournay, it channels the blue and white tiles emblematic of Portuguese buildings and carries the palette to transporting effect. “The beauty

of this particular bedroom is that it is very livable. It is flooded with light, the space is generous, and so the colors are restful, light, and uplifting,” says the designer, who furnished the room with a mix of new pieces and antiques from local shops. “I wanted the room to be super relaxed but also have a fundamental elegance to it.”

Below, more ways the designers turned walls into scene-stealing design elements.



Rug, New Moon Rugs. Wing chair and ceramic tiger, Elish Van Breems Home

↑ **WRITER'S RETREAT**
Kevin Isbell layered abstract art (Gunnar Theel) atop an overscale tropical vista by Gracie Studio.



Coffee table, Sutherland

↑ **SIDE VERANDA**
Joe Lucas created a three-dimensional gallery wall of ceramic shells by artist Lucie de Moyencourt.



Stool, Elish Van Breems Home. Ceiling wallpaper, Carlisle & Co. Sconces, Currey & Co.

↑ **GUEST BEDROOM**
Robin Gannon framed grisaille mural wallpaper by French Market Collection for a pretty panel series.

His & Her Dressing Lounges

ON EITHER SIDE OF THE MASTER bath, architect Tom Kirchhoff and designer Betsy Wentz expanded the idea of traditional closets into more personal, airy lounges “where you can linger with a glass of wine as you get dressed,” says Wentz, who saw seating (in the form of ottomans and a slim settee) as integral to transitioning the utilitarian rooms into cozy refuges. Layers of pattern, softness, and color ensure the spaces exude a sense of warmth and connection to place, most notably in a leafy wall print that embodies the colorful spirit of south Florida.



↑ MASTER CLOSETS

The designers worked with experts from The Container Store Custom Closets to design the cabinetry. Hardware, Kohler



↑ DINING PAVILION

Custom outdoor carpet, New Moon Rugs. Turkish cushions fabric and trim, S. Harris and Stroheim. Woven shade, The Shade Store. Sconce and ceiling lights, Currey & Co. Lanterns, Serena & Lily



1

↑ POOL CABANA
Teak furniture, Sutherland. Cushion fabric, Perennials. Drapery sheer, The Shade Store. Contrast cushion welting, Samuel & Sons



2

← MASTER BEDROOM PORCH
Woven lamp and bar cart, Serena & Lily. Drapery fabric, Casa Branca (custom fit by The Shade Store). Garden stools, Sutherland

The Ultimate Outdoor Idylls

Denizens of Palm Beach celebrate the outdoors to magical effect. Here, the designers offer insight into reimagining alfresco spaces for maximum livability.

1 CHANNEL ST. BARTS: Jonathan Savage drew upon his visits to the Caribbean island to lighten a previously dark cabana, draping the rear wall in a breezy white sheer, inviting sunlight through slatted Indonesian teak, and fitting the ceiling with thatched panels.

2 SCREEN OUT DISTRACTIONS: On the master balcony, Alessandra Branca fashioned a soft privacy screen from a striped indoor/outdoor fabric from her new collection. “It’s an oasis within an oasis overlooking a beautiful garden,” she says.

3 LURE IN THE LANDSCAPE: Joe Lucas mixed an array of organically inspired elements on the terrace, from textural

rope and bamboo to banana-leaf patterns and woodland faux-bois, giving the natural world an esteemed seat at the table.

4 EMBRACE THE WILD: Drawing inspiration from the bougainvillea’s free-form roots, designer Colette van den Thillart took a deconstructed, relaxed approach to the dining pavilion. Moroccan ottomans and a handloomed carpet keep it loose for picnic-style dinners and “just allow it to be a magical, multipurpose space.”

5 PAVE IT WITH PATTERN: Local landscape designer Mario Nievera replicated a Persian motif he spotted on a fountain at the Taj Mahal to redefine the garden and guide seating, plantings, and paths.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP CENTER) NICKOLAS SARGENT (2); BRIAN WOODCOCK (2); TYLER SARGENT; BRIAN WOODCOCK (2); TOP: FLORAL STYLING BY BRIDGET VIZOSO.



↑ GARDEN
Crushed coral stone and low-growing Empire zoysia grass form the foundation of Mario Nievera’s Moghul-inspired garden.

→ BREAKFAST TERRACE
Table, glasses, and pitcher, Serena & Lily. Vintage chairs, Harbinger. Lighting, Remains Lighting. Cushion fabric, CW Stockwell



3



LIVING ROOM ↑
Woven lamp, Visual Comfort.
Bookshelf color, Custis Salmon
by Benjamin Moore. Wallpaper
and oak Arts and Crafts table,
Jamb through Ainsworth-Noah



Neutral, Redefined

“THE FOUNDATION OF THIS room is white,” says designer Suzanne Kasler, pointing to much of the upholstered furniture, the sisal rug, and the water lilies chandelier. And yet, when it came to bringing in touches of lively Palm Beach color to the soaring central living area, a little went a long way. Painting a single bookcase flamingo pink was a way “to help anchor the room a bit,” notes the designer, who dropped hints of the shade, along with yellow, in a custom-trimmed de Gournay wallpaper and seating. “It’s funny how much color comes across with those few accents, but I think it embraces Palm Beach’s very sophisticated sensibility.” ♦

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MAIN IMAGE, DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN; TOP IMAGE, BRIAN WOODCOCK; BOTTOM IMAGE, NICKOLAS SARGENT; FLORAL STYLING BY BRIDGET VIZOSO.