

NAPLES EDITION

# FLORIDA DESIGN

Naples'  
Finest Homes



# TWISTED TRADITIONAL

FOR A FRESH PERSPECTIVE, ONE DESIGNER COMBINES TRADITION WITH A BEACH VIBE IN THIS GULF COAST HOME



DESIGN BY SUMMER THORNTON, SUMMER THORNTON DESIGN, INC., CHICAGO, IL  
BUILDER ALAIN FILIAULT, LONDON BAY HOMES, NAPLES, FL  
TEXT BY RACHEL COHEN  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CARMEL AND ROBERT BRANTLEY, DELRAY BEACH, FL

**ABOVE:** Upon entry, an arched foyer announces a sense of tradition with Greenwich Oriental Antiques' wooden console, Vaughan's accent lamps from John Rosselli and woven baskets from Mecox Gardens. A triptych by artist Allison Cosmos pays homage to the homeowners' love of birds and sets the tone for avian-inspired embellishments throughout the home.

A lantern fixture from Currey & Company embraces the vast size of the great room. Here, aged cabinets from Michael Donaldson Antiques and Anthropologie pair with a wooden armchair from Coco House, period table lamps from O'Sullivan and a small vintage lamp from Thomas Jolly to create a sense of history and antiquity. Pillows dressed in patterned textures by Quadrille and Clarence House fashion a layered look.



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“WE WANTED AN INVITING TONE WITH FLOW BETWEEN ROOMS — A PLACE WHERE FAMILY AND FRIENDS WOULD FEEL WELCOME,” HOMEOWNER KAREN HELLER SAYS. “SUMMER MADE THAT HAPPEN.”

When Karen and Dan Heller began their search for a perfect family retreat, they knew Miromar Lakes, Fla., would meet their needs. Coming from the Midwest, the Hellers desired a beach feeling with access to amenities like golf and tennis facilities. When it was time to make their new house feel like home, the couple decided to call in a professional. Summer Thornton, a designer based out of Chicago, was a longtime friend of the homeowners’ son and had previously worked on a project with him. It seemed only natural to include Thornton in this new project as well.

The belief in the importance of each client’s goals to tell the story of the their home is a true testament to Thornton’s design prowess. When she completes a project, the space should have a living narrative that reflects the wishes of the homeowner, and that’s exactly what she did here. “We walked in and it just felt like she got it,” Karen says. “It was exactly what was in my heart — what I would have done, but better.” Though the Hellers wanted a beach house, the designer created a space that implied its presence without an overt display. A warming nature flows between rooms, while a mixture of new and antique items set the tone for the open-concept home. Using neutral backdrops in each room, loud fabrics with robust texture act as focal points to catch the eye. In nearly every room, the blue and white palette creates an open, fresh feeling. Adding orange hues highlights the simplicity



Bleached walnut wood provides an exquisite backdrop in the great room. Here, sofas from Restoration Hardware join Oly Studio’s armchairs, a natural teak root cocktail table, and stools cushioned in Jacques Bouvet’s vibrant orange cotton from Betterman’s to shape a comfortable conversation grouping atop Stark’s woven jute area rug.

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BLACKENED COPPER PENDANTS FROM THE URBAN ELECTRIC CO. CAST A SOFT GLOW IN THE KITCHEN, WHERE HICKORY CHAIR'S STOOLS PULL UP TO A DARK WOOD ISLAND. BUSBY'S OFF-WHITE CABINETRY ADDS TRADITION WHILE OPEN WOOD SHELVING CHALLENGES IT.

as it takes the interior scheme from light and airy to cozy and welcoming.

Upon entry into an intimate foyer that opens to a vast living space with 25-foot-high ceilings, the home's architectural elements immediately speak to a feeling of antiquity. "The challenge of the great room was to bring it down to a human level," Thornton says. The large lanterns, extending low from the wood beams, function to scale down such a sizable space. Blue-and-white porcelain jars juxtapose with bold orange accents to introduce the desired beach-like vibes, while bird imagery presents itself through the antique Heron drawings above antique wood cabinetry. Bleached walnut wood lines the wall of the great room behind a custom-designed wooden credenza inspired by colonial woodworking. Framing the television, two vintage photographs depict the shores of early Florida to bring a bit of the outdoors in.

Tranquility from the great room carries through to the kitchen, where the neutral palette acts as a base for the intricacies Thornton uses to add complexity to the space. Wood beams across the ceiling juxtapose with the delicate light pendants in the elegant but cozy space. Thornton reinvents a classic look with wooden cabinetry and the hand-painted tile backsplash that adds age and detail. With a kitchen that opens to the

**LEFT:** Bringing the feel of the outdoors into the dining area, wicker chairs from Made Goods surround Henredon's walnut table. Circa Lighting's gilded-iron candelabra chandelier shimmers above, while ABC Carpet's blue and white stripes ground the space with a beach-chic vibe.

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WRAPPED IN WALLS OF WHITE AND FLOORED IN BIANCO CARRARA MARBLE, THE MASTER BATH, WITH ITS ARCHED ENTRY TO A VICTORIA & ALBERT TUB AND A LINEAR SWEEP OF FRAMED WINDOWS, EXUDES ALL THE CHARM OF A PRIVATE RETREAT.



In the guest room, traditional takes a twist with Williams-Sonoma's "Chippendale" bamboo bench cushioned in China Seas' coral-hued print from Quadrille and Gump's wicker-seated, cane armchair.

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great room and the lanai, this home is designed for the family to come together. "We wanted a place where we would look forward to coming home," Karen says.

Color acts as a conduit for the guest room with its accessible open-air patio. A fourposter bed draped in Calvin Fabrics' sleek silk from Donghia contributes to the traditional narrative, while sandy hued grass cloth on the walls and a thick textured carpet add layers of comfort to the space.

In keeping with her penchant for pushing the edge, Thornton added texture and marble in complementary contrast to the otherwise sterile atmosphere in the master bath.

Here, a small blue-toned porcelain garden stool embellishes the freestanding tub to carry through with the home's indoor-outdoor essence.

The interior scheme continues onto the lanai, where the Nicaraguan tile accent wall serves as the centerpiece of the open-air space. In addition, the blue and white motif reappears with pillows, porcelain and pottery that enchant with floral accents.

Designing their dream home proved to be a wonderful experience for the Hellers. "We really enjoyed the process," Karen says. "We are a 'come home and put your feet up' kind of people. And that's exactly the ambiance Summer created for us."

Palladian arches line the lanai with its outdoor kitchen sporting a state-of-the-art barbecue from Artisan Grills and casual wicker furnishings from Kingsley Bate.

## SOURCES

### FOYER

Console - Greenwich Oriental Antiques, Greenwich, CT  
Table lamps on console - Vaughan, John Rosselli & Assoc., Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Blue and white porcelain - Charlotte And Ivy, Williamsburg, VA

Baskets beneath console - Mecox Gardens, Dallas, TX  
Artwork above console - The Art & Design of Allison Cosmos, Corona, CA

Front door - London Bay Homes, Naples, FL

### GREAT ROOM

Sofas - Restoration Hardware, Chicago, IL

Fabric - Restoration Hardware, Chicago, IL, and Kravet, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Upholstered by Eli-Wyn Upholstery, Chicago, IL

Armchairs - Oly Studio, Reno, NV

Chair and blue accent pillow fabrics - Quadrille, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Floral print accent pillow fabric - Clarence House, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Orange stools - Showplace Antique + Design Center, New York, NY

Cushion fabric - Jacques Bouvet et Cie, Betterman's, Chicago, IL

Cocktail table and sofa table - Jayson Home, Chicago, IL

Blue and white garden table - Wayfair, www.wayfair.com

Lamps on sofa table - O'Sullivan Antiques, New York, NY

Tall wood cabinet - Michael Donaldson Antiques, San Francisco, CA

Small table lamp on wood cabinet - Thomas Jolly Antiques, Buchanan, MI

Sunburst art on wood cabinet - Jean-Marc Fray French Antiques, Austin, TX

Small wood cabinet - Anthropologie, Chicago, IL  
Crane pictures - www.art.com

Armchairs next to small wood cabinet - Coco House & Company, West Palm Beach, FL

Blue and white vase on small cabinet - Pottery Barn, Chicago, IL

Wood display TV cabinetry - Custom designed by Summer Thornton Design, Inc., Chicago, IL

Fabricated By Custom Woodcraft, Fairbury, IL

Wall treatment behind cabinetry - Aaron Bladon Studio, Chicago, IL

Old photographs above cabinetry - Robert Lighton, Brooklyn, NY

Blue and white porcelain - Owners' Collection

Lantern light fixtures - Currey & Company, Atlanta, GA

Carpet - Stark Carpet, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

### KITCHEN

Cabinetry, storage cabinets and island - Busby Cabinets, Naples, FL

Countertops - Fusion Industries, Naples, FL

Counter stools - Hickory Chair, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Fabric - Holly Hunt, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Hood - London Bay Homes, Naples, FL

Backsplash - Urban Archaeology, Chicago, IL

Wood display shelving - S & L Designs, Dallas, TX

Light pendants - The Urban Electric Co.,

North Charleston, SC

### DINING AREA

Dining table - Henredon, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Dining chairs and cushions - Made Goods,

Baldwin Park, CA

Console - Lee Jofa, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Wall sconce and chandelier - Circa Lighting, Chicago, IL



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Centerpiece planter - Wisteria, www.wisteria.com  
Candleholders - Charlotte And Ivy, Williamsburg, VA  
Area rug - Madeline Weinrib, ABC Carpet & Home, New York, NY

### MASTER BATH

Tub - Victoria & Albert, Studio 41, Chicago, IL

Faucet - Kohler, Studio 41, Chicago, IL

Accent table - Owners' Collection

Blue and white garden stool - Williams-Sonoma Home, Chicago, IL

Planter - Driftwood Garden Center, Naples, FL

Bench - Ateliers Dubois, New York, NY

Cushion fabric - Quadrille, Merchandise Mart,

Light fixture - Circa Lighting, Chicago, IL

Window shades - Fabricat, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Fabricated by H&R Drapery, Naples, FL

Flooring - Alpha Tile & Stone, Fort Myers, FL

### GUEST ROOM

Bed - S&L Designs, Dallas, TX

Headboard, bench and orange accent pillow

fabrics - China Seas, Quadrille, Chicago, IL

Bedside chests - Wisteria, Farmers Branch, TX

Bench - Williams-Sonoma Home,

Naples, FL

Blue and white accent pillow fabric - Quadrille, Chicago, IL

Table lamps - Bungalow 5, Saddle Brook, NJ

Cane armchair - Gump's, San Francisco, CA

Wall treatment - Kneedler | Fauchère, Dessin Fournir, Chicago, IL

Bed drapery fabric - Calvin Fabrics,

Donghia, Inc., Chicago, IL

French doors - London Bay Homes,

Naples, FL

French door drapery fabric - Fabricat,

Chicago, IL

Window and French door shades - Kravet Fabrics,

Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Fabricated By H&R Drapery,

Naples, FL

Carpet - Stark Carpet, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Area rug - Nomadic Trading Co., Durham, NC

### LANAI

Grill - Artisan Grills, Commerce, CA

Hood - London Bay Homes, Naples, FL

Backsplash - Granada Tile, www.granadatile.com

Wall lanterns - The Urban Electric Co.,

North Charleston, SC

Dining table base - Berkshire Home and Antiques,

Great Barrington, MA

Tabletop - Naples Stoneworks, Naples, FL

Dining chairs, armchairs and sofa - Kingsley Bate,

Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Sofa and armchair cushions - Perennials, David

Sutherland, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL

Patterned pillow fabric - Quadrille, Merchandise Mart,

Chicago, IL

Cocktail table - Ballard Designs, www.ballarddesigns.com

Blue and white vase - Wisteria, www.wisteria.com

Coral - Shell Horizons, Clearwater, FL

Accent table and area rug - Restoration

Hardware, Chicago, IL

Floor planters - Owners' Collection

Fan - Wayfair, www.wayfair.com

### THROUGHOUT

Wood flooring - The Garrison Collection, London Bay Homes, Naples, FL **11**