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42

INTERIOR APPEAL

FALL 2023

FEATURES

42 MODERN MARVEL

Listed as *Lake Estelle Modern* in the recent Parade of Homes, this lakefront award-winner was designed for empty nesters who wanted to take full advantage of the view. Builder Victor Farina, Farina & Sons Inc., along with the teams at Nasrallah Architectural Group and Brooks Design Studio, created a home with interesting architectural details, layered design elements, and modern amenities with warm and cool materials and the latest in technology.

48 COASTAL CASUAL

Designer Rob Turner, CRT Studio, is well known for contemporary interiors, but when he was offered the opportunity to do something more traditional, he welcomed the change. Terah Hensley wanted to create kid-friendly spaces that were practical and functional, but with details befitting a dream home. The final result is relaxed elegance — cozy and comfortable with an interesting mix of textures and materials in coastal tones.

52 CHEVAL CHIC

A recent Parade of Homes Merit Award winner, *Cheval Noir*, nestled in the heart of Winter Park's Vias, is the epitome of elegance and a dream come true for under-30 designer Rikhil Amin. He welcomed us in to take a tour and discover why the project was so special. Based on a modern take on a French Chateau, it has the formality of the past with the livability for today's homeowners.

cover: Rob Turner, CRT Studio, designed a Palm Beach-inspired office for his client. Photographed by Abby Liga Photography. Article on page 48.



52

KRISTEN ELIZABETH STUDIO

ABBY LIGA PHOTOGRAPHY



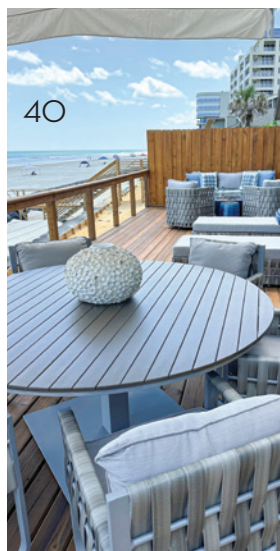
48

SENTINEL



INTERIOR APPEAL FALL 2023

INSIDE



6 FIRST LOOK

The Alford Inn, in the heart of Winter Park, will debut much-anticipated additions later this fall including The Spa, Café, 71 new guest rooms, and a second pool with an Amenity Deck.

8 TRENDS

Lighting: Interior design experts say 2023 is the year of experimental looks that play with mood, materials, shapes and technology.

18 EYE ON ARTS

A look at upcoming events and exhibitions including the Winter Park Autumn Art Festival, Indie-FolkFest at the Mennello Museum of American Art, and shows at the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens and Art and History Museums of Maitland.

24 DESIGNING MINDS

Interior designer Lise Davis, The Hunt, and Tessa McAuliff, Tessa's Table, have joined forces to open Hunt and Hostess filled with all things home and entertaining.

26 SHOWROOM SHOPPING

The Jungle Room by BWH Plant Co. offers a large selection of tropical foliage along with helpful care instruction, plant-themed accessories and studio workshops.

28 ARCHITECTURAL ACCOLADES

Steinmetz Hall at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts receives special recognition; Parade of Homes Orlando announces winning projects.

35 ON THE MARKET

Central Florida luxury listings from beachside escapes to neighborhood abodes.

36 ROOM BY ROOM

Five designers showcase their work and discuss the details and inspirations behind these stunning spaces.

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Exquisite Expansion

The Alford Inn, in the heart of Winter Park, will debut much-anticipated additions later this fall including The Spa, Café, 71 new guest rooms, and a second pool with an Amenity Deck. The new wing has been designed in harmony with the original hotel structure. A light-filled, seven-story atrium connects the two buildings, offering an uplifting interplay between inside and out. The Alford Inn's original architect, the Orlando-based Baker Barrios Architects, designed the new wing. The interior design is a partnership between Baskervill of Richmond, VA, and Sheedy/De La Rosa Interiors of Chicago.





UNEK IMAGE

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2023 IS THE YEAR of ILLUMINATION EXPERIMENTATION in the HOME *by Karen LeBlanc*

INTERIOR DESIGN EXPERTS SAY 2023 IS THE YEAR OF EXPERIMENTAL LOOKS THAT PLAY WITH MOOD, MATERIALS, SHAPES, AND TECHNOLOGY.

It's lights out for the incandescent light-bulb as of August 2023, with new rules phasing out the consumer purchase of most incandescent bulbs. As new regulations rule out old technologies, lighting enters a stage of creative experimentation.

"The days of using incandescent and halogen are obsolete. New LED technology allows us to light objects creatively, such as sculptural pieces of glass or plexi illuminated with LED light strips," says Nathan Vanags, Nathan Vanags Design.

Designers and consumers are embracing innovative and edgier lighting styles, techniques and technologies in all areas of the home, even the taken-for-granted "secondary spaces."

"We live in an era where almost anything is available if you have the time and money for it, and that continues to be true in the lighting industry," says Eric Horner, Eric Horner Interiors.

"In 2023, decorative lighting design has never been more varied and experimental," shares Nancy Short, Ansana Interior Design.

"Mixing styles is huge right now, so don't feel boxed in by one genre of design and lighting. It is crucial to successful design to incorporate varying styles to get a more lived-in feeling," adds Liv Tiblier, Mead Design.

Here's a look at the latest lighting adding personality and illumination to the home.

RECESSED LIGHTING AT THE FOREFRONT:

Recessed lighting illuminates surfaces beyond the ceiling, showing up as light slits embedded in walls, halls and floors. "Recessed lighting styles are taking on more streamlined looks in styles beyond the classic canned light," explains Phil Kean, Phil Kean Design Group. His team embeds light slits as sculptural elements in main living spaces and secondary spaces like the hallway. Envision a continuous light slit that runs from the floor, up the wall and ceiling to the other wall, as one example. "We also design these sculptural light elements with color-changing LED lights," he explains.

(left:) Nathan Vanags Design created a dramatic entryway utilizing these hand-dipped blow-glass lights from Infinity Architecture.



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Savoy House — #1-1637-8-143 — Integrated LED light source, Black and Gold finish — Mid Century Modern design

(right:) Savoy House — #7-696-5-143 — Drum shade made with hand cast Strie Piastra Glass shade



Lighting fixtures available at Lightstyle of Orlando.

Schonbek Signature Collection — organic in design, the Secret Garden chandelier features integrated LED light source and faceted Optic Crystal Haze floral buds



Recessed lighting in different sizes and shapes are popular for hidden or subtle illumination, such as smaller 2-inch pin lights. “People love the glow of light where the bulb is hidden, embedded in a wall, ceiling, walkway, or under a cabinet. Anytime you can recess a light, it becomes very sculptural,” Phil adds.

MIXING OF MATERIALS, STYLES AND LAYERS:

The monolithic look in lighting gives way to mixed materials and styles as designers and homeowners choose lighting from various collections rather than a single, matchy-matchy line. “In general, the days of a single trendy look are gone. People want more personality and warmer tones in their living spaces, so you are seeing more amber finishes in glass and more dynamic lighting packages with fixtures that have different LED colors,” Nathan says.

Lighting fixtures interplay in various styles and silhouettes in atypical pairings and places. “The rules are changing as wall sconces take the place of table lamps and pendant lights replace wall sconces in typical places such as bathroom vanities. I’ve seen people install ceiling lights on the wall for a playful, fun effect,” Phil adds.

“A big trend we are starting to see is cylindrical lighting instead of recessed lighting throughout the home. I think this is due to consumers educating themselves on different lighting applications and how lighting can affect the mood. More lighting is not always better, so the thoughtful cylindrical spotlight can help a lot,” Liv shares.

Unusual material combinations such as leather, acrylic, unlacquered brass, milk glass, and natural materials such as linen are popular in lighting fixtures. “I think softer, more sophisticated silhou-

ettes are in styles that feel authentic and original. Asymmetrical is a huge trend in lighting right now but with a traditional flair,” Liv adds.

The latest techniques layer light sources and play with configurations of fixtures at various heights to create ambiance and visual effects. “Even the linear designs often now have additional layers of height and width. What’s clearly out are fixtures that do not fit or complement the interior’s overall aesthetic or the space’s architectural integrity. Keeping a fixture because you loved it in a former space is very out,” Eric says.

MODERN INTERPRETATIONS OF CLASSIC DESIGNS:

Although sleek and streamlined styles dominate home decor, classic design elements remain relevant. “Classic designs are being reinterpreted in new materials and in bolder scale,” Nancy says.

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TRENDS

“The return of some classic elements of crystal and stone mixed with iron or metal is something I’m continuing to see. I also see signature collections in wider ranges of size, dimensions and finish options,” Eric notes.

The timeless chandelier takes on modern interpretations with LED-lit colored crystals or glass surrounded by box shades. “Lighting that incorporates new crystal shapes with cutting-edge integrated LED styles adds sparkle to any space,” says Wendy Rensenhous, owner, Lightstyle of Orlando. “Cabachon optic haze crystal orbs, faceted crystal teardrops, trillion-diamond shaped crystals set in modern, integrated LED lighting designs bring a level of artistic beauty to lighting previously unattainable with crystal chandeliers and pendants,” she adds.

ORGANIC MATERIALS AND DESIGNS:

Organic forms and natural materials continue to characterize home decor, styling furniture, accessories and lighting. Designers say environmental awareness is driving consumer demand for natural forms and materials. “Organic forms convey a global sensibility expressed in earthy materials such as hand-woven jute or rattan rope,” Nancy says.

“There are many new lighting collections using alabaster stone, hand-made glass, Capiz and Kabebe shells, just to name a few of the materials we’re seeing in today’s lighting designs,” Wendy adds.

ARTISANAL LIGHTING:

Bespoke is a buzzword in lighting design as consumers opt for hand-crafted, custom fixtures in lieu of mass-produced, lower-quality products. “These unique options require great advanced planning, but if the project allows that, they can become prized additions to a client’s art



An artist crafted this undulating light fixture for a Vero Beach home, designed by Phil Kean, with 1,000 small light bulbs, each with a handmade porcelain bird attached at the end of the bulb.

portfolio,” Eric says.

Phil Kean says his team recently worked with an artist who crafted an undulating light fixture for a Vero Beach home with 1,000 small light bulbs, each with a handmade porcelain bird attached at the end of the bulb.

“Bespoke, artisan-inspired and hand-crafted is in, while fast, disposable and conventional is out. We are using decorative lighting more sparingly but more dramatically while allowing architectural lighting to play a more important role in the overall experience,” Nancy says.

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TRENDS

LIGHTING IS PUT TO TASK:

Homeowners are shining the light on secondary and hard-to-see spaces giving priority to task lighting. "Secondary and utility spaces have come into focus as opportunities to express aesthetic and cohesive design by selecting lighting that seamlessly ties the entire space together. In the past, these tiers of rooms (guest rooms, laundry, utility, etc.) often came last in terms of budget, available funds, timeline, and efforts. We've re-thought that equation, which brings a higher value to the entire project," Eric says.

"Kitchens are getting more and more lighting from under-cabinet lighting to pendants to wall sconces. We are seeing a huge shift in the traditional application of just three pendants and some recessed lighting in kitchens," Liv says.

ADDING THE OUTDOOR GLOW:

Outdoor fixtures function as the jewelry of the facade and create the ambiance for alfresco entertaining and activities. "There are many ways to create beautiful outdoor settings utilizing landscape lighting, path



Schonbek Beyond Collection — Dining Room scene with integrated LED light source and using Schonbek's Optic Haze crystal. Image provided by Lightstyle of Orlando.

lights, string lights, and outdoor-rated pendant lights and chandeliers. More styles and designs are available than ever before in decorative outdoor lighting. We should also mention that outdoor fan designs have improved in style, size, and air movement capabilities," Wendy says.

"The number one realization for designers and consumers is comfort in outdoor

lighting, especially bulb density and glow. Let's be honest: nobody likes staring into bright glaring light at night. So, an increased awareness and design sensitivity to the usage and function of space will direct the choice," Eric adds.

Battery-operated lighting also opens up more outdoor options for illumination. "Battery technology, coupled with LED bulbs using less energy, enables homeowners to create temporary lighting scenarios for entertaining; for example, lighting a pathway or the pool," Phil says.

As new technologies continue to unleash lighting's creative and functional possibilities, consumers are discovering new ways that lighting contributes to quality of life. "Lighting is an indispensably functional part of any interior, but it is also an opportunity to set the mood and profoundly influence how one experiences the interior," Nancy says.

Karen LeBlanc is host of The Design Tourist series. She travels the globe attending some of the world's premiere design events in search of the latest trends, tastemakers and unique finds. Learn more at thedesigntourist.com.



This kitchen features Crystorama Black and White pendants available at Lightstyle of Orlando.



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UPCOMING ARTS EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS

JAPANESE EMBROIDERY: A JOURNEY OF TRADITION AND INNOVATION

August 29 – December 3

Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture
Gardens

The Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Garden is delighted to host *Japanese Embroidery: A Journey of Tradition and Innovation* exploring the thousand-year-old technique of traditional Japanese embroidery, *nihon shishu*, and its modern adaptations to a global art form. *Nihon shishu* is characterized by intricate patterns of silk and metallic thread, utilizing traditional symbolic motifs that are woven onto the finest silk fabrics. Winter Park resident Karyn Plater trained extensively with *nihon shishu* masters. Having mastered the traditional skills, she now creates her own original designs, making adaptations to the traditional uses of color and composition. polasek.org



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September 15, 6:30 – 9pm

Art and History Museums of Maitland

Celebrate the opening of this new exhibition, *(Un)Common Bond*, with live music, delicious food, a cash bar, and the featured artists. This exhibition will feature the photography and audio/visual work of Monica Jane Frisell and Adam Scher from their time as Artists in Residence at the Art and History Museums of Maitland. The exhibition will be on view through November 5. artandhistory.org

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50TH ANNUAL WINTER PARK AUTUMN ART FESTIVAL

October 7 - 8, 9am - 5pm

Central Park in downtown Winter Park

The Winter Park Autumn Art Festival is the only juried fine art festival exclusively featuring Florida artists. The Winter Park Chamber of Commerce is proud to host the festival on the second weekend in October each year. The community-oriented sidewalk show presents quality visual art and live entertainment the whole family can enjoy. The festival is held in Central Park located along historic Park Avenue in downtown Winter Park.

winterpark.org/autumn-art-festival



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Rollins Museum of Art

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INDIE-FOLKFEST AT THE MENNELLO

October 28, noon – 5pm

Marilyn L Mennello Sculpture Garden

The 9th annual Indie-Folkfest is generously presented by VyStar Credit Union. This free outdoor event located in the Mennello Museum's lakeside sculpture garden is a family and pet-friendly festival that celebrates community, gathering for the arts, food, and local artists. This year's lineup includes favorites Beemo, Beth McKee & Her Funky Time Band, Shine of Shine and The Shakers, and Oak Hill Drifters. Vendors such as Alex's Fresh Kitchen, Pizza Bruno, Cholo Dogs, Kelly's Homemade Ice Cream, Hanson's and more will be serving up fresh eats, drinks and treats. Artists and artisans returning include Anthony Darby, Baharri Collection, DML Paintings, Black Lab Soapery, John Baker, Senja's Designs, Black Bee Honey, and more to be announced. mennellomuseum.org

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FESTIVAL OF TREES: ENCHANTED HOLIDAYS

November 10 – November 18

Orlando Museum of Art

Presented by Council of 101 as a fundraiser for the Orlando Museum of Art, Festival of Trees returns with enchanting décor, more than 30 designer decorated trees, exceptional gingerbread houses and wreaths. Visitors will also participate in the crowd favorite Entertaining and Design tablescape raffle, silent auction, photo ops with Santa and more. In addition, there will be a holiday shopping experience as well as live entertainment throughout the event. A variety of special events, including the Opening Night Party, Breakfast with Santa, and a children's Reindeer Romp party, will add a special holiday touch to this year's Festival of Trees. councilof101.org

FUSIONFEST 6TH ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

November 25, 10am – 8pm, & November 26, noon – 6pm

Seneff Arts Plaza at Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

FusionFest Inc. — a project of the Orange County Arts & Cultural Affairs — organizes weekly and monthly events that keep the community engaged and connected to the cultural diversity in Central Florida. The nonprofit's signature event is a free, two-day festival that draws people from more than 110 different cultures to experience music, dance, food, visual arts, spoken word, games and interactive activities. fusionfest.org



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The seamless flow between the living spaces creates an atmosphere of warmth and togetherness, making it ideal for both family living and entertaining. The interior is bathed in natural light, thanks to numerous windows that adorn the home. For relaxation and entertainment, you'll be delighted by the two large outdoor screened spaces. PRICE: \$1,475,000



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Listing Agent: Mary Wolters Colton
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Hunt and Hostess Debut

Photos by Zoe Heafner Films

When Lise Davis (The Hunt) and Tessa McAuliff (Tessa's Table) met, they immediately shared a natural love for rattan, chinoiserie and classic style. These two former designers spent the last few years collaborating on numerous events together such as Art in Bloom at Orlando Museum of Art, an Amanda Lindroth book signing and private dinner, and Vermillion pop-ups. It only made sense for them to open a shop in the heart of Winter Park filled with everything for the home and hostess. They carry their favorite lines such as Meg Braff, Amanda Lindroth, Casa Branca, Carriere Freres, Hunter Blake and more.

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SHOWROOM SHOPPING

Green Up Your Spaces

Most people love plants, but most people don't have green thumbs. And that's why BWH Plant Co. opened the Jungle Room two years ago in College Park. They not only want to make fresh greens accessible, but they want to be able to help you maintain them.

What began as a hobby for two couples (Carlie and Jason Paluzzi and Gail and Kyle Kroeplin) grew into a mobile store, and Bros with Hoes Plant Co. was born. Soon an online store began shipping nationwide and expanded as the pandemic turned the home-bound into serious shoppers. The business was renamed BHW Plant Co. to better represent their vision. But, as Carlie explains, they wanted to connect in person with their customers, so the retail

shop was created.

Jungle Room was originally in a shared space with Freehand Goods in the Hourglass District, but since relocating to the prime corner on Edgewater Drive, it has continued to add new offerings including plant-related accessories from local vendors, dried florals, studio workshops, and a share wall where customers can leave and take clippings. The open, airy space is filled, floor to ceiling, with a variety of tropical plants from the extremely popular Monstera 'Thai Constellation' to easy-

to-care-for Sansevieria 'Cleopatra.' And if you would like to purchase a plant and container, you can pot it yourself in-store.

Current workshops include the Beginner Moss Art Workshop where customers create with preserved moss and dried floral for zero maintenance, and the Kokedama Workshop, a Japanese bonsai style that breathes life into a plant's root system, transforming it into a living sculpture wrapped in vibrant moss and string. Carlie says more workshops are planned for the future with the Jungle Room serving as a community gathering spot.

JUNGLE ROOM BY BHW PLANT CO.

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DESIGN DISTINCTION

Steinmetz Hall was named as one of the 11 most beautiful theaters in the world by *Architectural Digest* in a recent article. From concert halls to opera houses to theaters — including Sydney Opera House, Palacio de Bellas Artes (Mexico City) and Opéra Garnier in Paris — each was selected as a model of unique design, creative innovation and remarkable appearance. Out of the theaters recognized, only three are located within the United States. Steinmetz Hall was also highlighted as one of the world's most acoustically-advanced theaters and praised for its multiform capabilities to transform shape, seating and sound to accommodate multiple types of performances.

“To be recognized among these world-renowned theaters was a goal of ours starting in 2003. The perseverance and commitment by our board of directors, colleagues, donors, design and construction teams, partners, volunteers and guests to create Steinmetz Hall was an incredible achievement and we're thrilled to be acknowledged by such an authority in the design field,” says Kathy Ramsberger, president and CEO, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts.

PARADE OF HOMES ORLANDO AWARD WINNERS

Greater Orlando Builders Association (GOBA) recently honored Parade of Homes Orlando projects in a variety of categories. Each entry was judged by building professionals from across Florida and out of state on the quality of craftsmanship, products used, architectural design, and much more. Among the highlights of this year's Parade was the Lake Sheen Showcase Home (first place winner) by Hardwick General Contracting, located in Dr. Phillips.

First place awards in the custom home category include: *The Pearl*, Phil Kean Design Group; *Sleiman Stables*, The Freeman Company; *Lake Estelle Modern*, Farina & Sons; and *Savannah Model*, Bella Collina, Davila Homes. Merit award winners include: *Cheval Noir*, Cole Homes; 11835 Lake Butler Windermere, ROI Development; *The Grand Getaway*, McNally Construction; and *Handsome Hampton*, LunDev Custom Homes.

Lake Sheen Showcase Home



The Grand Getaway



The Pearl



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agenda

Orlando Health, Winnie Palmer Hospital



Melissa Wiggins
and Kay Rawlins



PLAY BINGO!

The ladies brought their 'A' game to the Orlando City Foundation's Play Bingo Ladies Luncheon, sponsored by Orlando Health Winnie Palmer Hospital, with wild and crazy table themes vying to win the coveted 'Best Dressed' table award. Guests were treated to bubbly while competing to win amazing prizes.

BRIAN JOYCE
CREATIVE DIRECTOR



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PLAY
BINGO!



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agenda



Craig Ustler and Brooke Myers



Craig Borkon and Jennifer Lastik



Jason & Sue Chin, Nikk Burton and Michael Pestana

GOLDEN BRICK AWARDS

The Golden Brick Awards, presented by AdventHealth at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, is Downtown Orlando Partnership's exclusive annual awards celebrating the people, projects, and initiatives that propel downtown forward including the "Downtowner of the Year."



Susie & Buddy Dyer and Brooke Myers



Nichole Spates, Emily Bourmas-Fry and Maureen Walsh



Stephanie Darden and Kay Rawlins



Elisha Gonzalez and Casandra Matej



Paul Skomsky, Margaret Lezcano and Tom Cook





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ONtheMARKET



COASTAL FARMHOUSE

LISTING AGENT: Mary Wolters Colton,
Fannie Hillman + Associates,
mary@fanniehillman.com,
407-222-7388

Golf cart friendly neighborhood just a short distance from historic downtown Winter Garden! This exceptional property located in Winter Garden's family friendly Oakland Park neighborhood represents a rare opportunity to own a beautifully crafted Coastal Farmhouse-style home, originally designed and built by a custom builder for personal use. Situated on the coveted Center Green, rarely does a house come available here and it is just steps from the main resort-style pool and community center. The seamless flow between the living spaces creates an atmosphere of warmth and togetherness, making it ideal for both family living and entertaining. The interior is bathed in natural light, thanks to numerous windows that adorn the home. For relaxation and entertainment, the home features two large outdoor screened spaces.

1032 GALSTON ALLEY WINTER GARDEN 34787

BEDROOMS: 5 | BATHROOMS: 4.5
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 3,506
LIST PRICE: \$1,475,000



OCEAN AND SUNSET VIEWS

LISTING AGENT: Skip Kirst, Collado Real Estate,
skip@skipkirst.com, 407-342-0265

5275 S. ATLANTIC AVE. #1108 NEW SMYRNA BEACH 32169

BEDROOMS: 3
BATHROOMS: 3
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 1,908
LIST PRICE: \$2,199,000



This is one of a very few high-floor, end/corner residences in the coveted South Tower of Tradewinds - allowing for 180-degree unobstructed views of the ocean, Mosquito Lagoon and sunsets over the Intra-coastal Waterway from the expansive windows and four balconies. The elegant kitchen opens to the dining and living spaces and features solid wood cabinetry, granite countertops and stainless appliances. Porcelain wood-look tile floors throughout the living spaces provide a neutral backdrop for the elegant, inviting furnishings. All three bedrooms are en-suite with beautifully renovated bathrooms featuring high-end fixtures and finishes. The spacious Primary Suite provides luxury and privacy with its own oceanfront balcony. This stunning residence is offered beautifully furnished (with a few exceptions).

COUNTRY CLUB CONTEMPORARY

LISTING AGENT: Steven Ritz, Keller Williams Winter Park,
steven@ABODEhometeam.com, 321-277-8271

Located in Sweetwater Country Club, this low-maintenance home comes with new solar panels (paid off by seller at closing) that average only \$44 per month in the heat of Florida summers. Guests enter through double courtyard doors and past a private plunge pool on their way to the front door. A large, open, tiled foyer leads to the huge dining room and into the expansive great room with newer wood-look flooring, a wood-burning fireplace, and bar area. Large glass sliders and tall windows offer views to the rear patio area, which is just off the 5th fairway. Bright and open best describes the kitchen with center island breakfast bar and room for a kitchen table. Enjoy the country club atmosphere, access to Lake Brantley for water skiing, fishing and fun, plus nearby Wekiva Springs State Park.



1549 OAK TREE COURT ALTAMONTE SPRINGS 32712

BEDROOMS: 3 | BATHROOMS: 2
SQUARE FOOTAGE: 2,808
LIST PRICE: \$575,000



ROOM *by* ROOM

Area designers share details about some of their favorite rooms.



OUTDOOR RETREAT

With fall weather on the way, it's time to enjoy the outdoors. The mosaic porcelain floor and solid outdoor fabrics create a timeless, relaxed space. The hanging bed gives the patio added interest and allows for a siesta or serves as cozy seating for conversations by the fire.

WOLFE-RIZOR INTERIORS

Photo by Stephen Allen





DINING ROOM

Architecture and interior detailing merge in this sophisticated, yet simple space with clean lines, warm wood, colorful art, statement chandelier, and natural light. The ceiling material extends down the wall bringing scale into the room and creating a sense of place in this indoor/outdoor room that is adjacent to the kitchen and opens to the courtyard.

PHIL KEAN DESIGN GROUP

Photo by Uneek Image





HOME OFFICE

Old World style and an appreciation for antiques led the design direction in this home office. Above the fireplace, a Highwayman painting is flanked by vintage brass candlesticks. Meanwhile, a new Chesterfield sofa blends seamlessly with an antique library ladder found by the client in Miami. An antique show find, the Victorian rolling desk chair rounds out the space. This client came to Gail Barley Interiors with an appreciation for vintage furniture and Macallan Scotch; both are proudly used and displayed in this home office.

GAIL BARLEY INTERIORS

Photo by Abby Liga Photography





ENTRYWAY

Nathan Vanags Design curated a balanced masculine look to match the scale of this client's custom 5,307-square-foot home on Lake Sue. Utilizing various drop heights created a dramatic entryway that spans all three stories of the home.

NATHAN VANAGS DESIGN





OUTDOOR LIVING AREA

The Atlantic Ocean is the perfect backdrop for this new outdoor living area in New Smyrna Beach. It was washed away in last year's hurricanes and completely rebuilt. The overall size is large enough to accommodate three distinct areas: living, lounging/sun-bathing, and large dining space complete with umbrella coverage. Color-wise it features a weathered coastal vibe with enhancements of vibrant blues and greens in pillows and ceramic accents. And a main highlight of this triple-space deck is the gas fire table which will serve functionally on cooler coastal evenings and aesthetically throughout the year.

ERIC HORNER INTERIORS



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MODERN MARVEL





Architect:
Nasrallah Architectural Group

Builder:
Farina & Sons, Inc.

Interior Design:
**Angela Brooks and
Jacquelyn Harmeling,
Brooks Design Studio**

Photography:
Eric Cucciaioni

Once the challenge of a sloping lot was solved through intricate engineering, it was all systems go on this lakefront beauty that combines interesting architectural details, layered design elements and modern amenities with warm and cool materials. Listed as Lake Estelle Modern in the recent Parade of Homes, the award-winner was designed for empty nesters who wanted to take full advantage of the view.

The main living area affords the view the owners wanted, and the soothing palette and comfortable seating make it perfect for relaxing or entertaining. Textures and angles on the front exterior hint at the design details inside.





In the dining room, an “L” shape appears in textured wood with LED lighting and again with the pergola just through the window. In addition to a private dock, sandy beach, infinity pool and fire bowl, the outdoor space also features a covered patio with a summer kitchen that flows into the great room, dining room and kitchen. Custom walnut cabinetry in two tones, muted Caesarstone countertops, statement ceramic backsplash and all the amenities – wine storage and hidden appliances – make the kitchen functional and elegant. The foyer showcases the pivoting front door and floating staircase.



The 4,700-square-foot, two-story home features four bedrooms plus an office and loft with another 1,300 square feet of usable space under the roof. Starting at the front elevation, an “L” shape emerges in the combination of limestone and tongue-and-groove walnut. It is repeated inside the home in a seamless merging of inside and outside. In addition to natural stone and wood, the use of glass is stunning — expansive windows, doors, and stair railing. Portuguese limestone floors that sit flush against the walls in a contemporary style, wood accent details, and custom cabinetry bring in depth.

“These newer modern homes are a lot warmer, and the windows have become so much more important. In this home there are a lot of embellishments. The stone goes up from the first floor to the second and throughout the entire house. What’s outside is inside and continues — the flooring on the porch is the same as the interior. That’s what makes the difference — some of the contemporary homes are just box on box and don’t have character,” says builder Victor Farina.

Indeed. What the teams at Nasrallah Architectural Group and Brooks Design Studio drew up, Victor and his team brought to life. The 10’ pivoting front door leads into the 25’ tall foyer punctuated with Hollis + Morris hexagonal lighting, but your eyes gaze past the floating staircase straight through to the pool and lake. As you walk you notice the wood slat wall with LED lighting and a special feature — a hidden door to the powder room.

Victor has high praise for the interior design team. “Angela designed those walnut ribbon walls that continue on the second floor concealing the entrance to the guest room. The way she uses the stone is



really special. Sometimes she will reverse it and sand blast it or brush hammer the stone for different effects. In this case, it is smooth on the fireplace and brushed on the elevator,” he adds.

Nothing was spared in the technology arena including Starphire glass, a low-iron, crystal clear product; lightweight concrete for the second floor promoting soundproofing; internal drains that flow to the middle of the roof eliminating out-

side gutters; as well as programable lighting, shades and draperies.

Even though the project was complex, it was smooth. “They are wonderful clients and every time the designers or I had an idea, we explained to them what they were going to get and how it was going to look, they were excited about it. I also took them to many of the homes we are doing so they could see some of the ideas. They trusted us a lot,” he shares.



Stone surrounds the fireplace in the great room without detracting from the view. The drop ceiling in the office highlights the warm woodwork with backlit LED lighting. A custom leather and velvet headboard by Decorative Interiors brings texture and drama to the neutral palette in the main bedroom. Creative use of lighting in the powder bath showcases more of the natural materials. The main bath has a zero-entry shower, soaking tub, Caesarstone countertop, Graff fixtures, and a glass enclosed water closet with frosted lower section for privacy. Windows above the mirror let in natural light. Timeless Works Millwork fabricated the cabinetry throughout the home.





coastal casual

Builder: **Jim Winters, Winters Brothers Construction**

Interior Design: **Rob Turner, CRT Studio**

Photography: **Abby Liga Photography**





Designer Rob Turner, CRT Studio, is well known for contemporary interiors, but when he was offered the opportunity to do something more traditional, he welcomed the change. Terah Hensley wanted to create kid-friendly spaces that were practical and functional, but with details befitting a dream home.

“We didn’t want a museum-looking home, we just wanted it to be welcoming, where people could come and feel comfortable. We do a lot of entertaining, so we wanted it to be warm, inviting and down-to-earth, but beautiful. Rob nailed all of that with everything he chose,” Terah says.

Rob put together plans that illustrate a relaxed elegance — cozy and comfortable with an interesting mix of textures and materials in coastal tones of sandy beiges, crisp whites and ocean blues. He also added some dimensional elements such as shiplap,

built-ins, curved draperies and dramatic ceilings throughout.

“I love the ceiling details. It’s one of our favorite things that was added. It’s not something you would normally notice but we notice it. The house looks big from the outside but it’s not really all that big. This makes it more casual,” she adds.

And none of the decor screams new, even though most of it is. Rob carefully added things to layer in the quiet nuances and nods to the past. In the dining room, a gallery wall of oil paintings could have been family heirlooms. And in the family room, the mantle and shelves (backed in Phillip Jeffries grasscloth) hold porcelain

The breakfast room features a round pedestal table, coastal blue banquette and kid-friendly chairs. Curved draperies draw the eye up to the ceiling with beam and shiplap details. Warm tones and textures make the family room a comfortable and cozy relaxation zone. Custom built-ins corral the collectibles and items of interest.



urns, fish plates and objets d'art. The pretty, patterned tile in the kitchen offsets the white cabinetry.

With most of the rooms fairly subtle, Rob pulled out all the stops in Terah's office. She wanted something Palm Beachy, and he obliged with a white lacquer desk with acrylic and brass accents, blush pink velvet desk chair, black spindle chairs upholstered in stripes and the pièce de résistance — walls covered in Manuel Canovas, Florida Collection palm print.

The main bedroom is bathed in soothing and calm hues that provide a backdrop for the Thibaut Traveler's Palm draperies bringing some lush landscaping in — a motif mimicked in the framed prints on the wall. The pendant clusters are virtually doubled in the large bedside mirrors, and the tufted headboard adds some softness.

A special little library was created on the second-floor landing with LED-lit shelves and seating. It's just another example of how Rob incorporated custom details that impart a sense of history while accommodating the family's needs.

"Rob is incredible. I am happy to sing his praises. We worked with him for several years on this design and he was with us through COVID. We had a baby during the process, but he was just so wonderful and flexible with our schedules and everything going on in our lives. We kept saying we don't want anything that kids can destroy, so he picked out great performance fabrics. It is all working really well. We feel blessed and fortunate to be able to have our dream home so early in the life of our family," she shares.

The serene main bedroom brings the outdoors in with the Thibaut Traveler's Palm draperies. Large bedside mirrors expand the view and showcase the pendant clusters. The clean-lined dining room features coastal-themed oil paintings.





In the bright kitchen, pretty patterned tile adds some interest and the darker island brings in some contrast to the mostly white space. An upstairs landing with a reading nook is perfect for a young family. Nods to a coastal decor are repeated in the guest bath.



CHEVAL CHIC



Builder:

BRUCE COLE, COLE HOMES

Interior Design:

RIKHIL AMIN, SMRS DESIGN

Architect:

DEBORAH ZIEL, D.L. ZIEL DESIGNS

Photography:

KRISTEN ELIZABETH STUDIO

A RECENT PARADE OF HOMES MERIT AWARD WINNER, *CHEVAL NOIR*, NESTLED IN THE HEART OF WINTER PARK'S VIAS, IS THE EPITOME OF ELEGANCE AND A DREAM COME TRUE FOR UNDER-30 DESIGNER RIKHIL AMIN. HE WELCOMED US IN TO TAKE A TOUR AND DISCOVER WHY THE PROJECT WAS SO SPECIAL.

"THE HOME WAS BASED ON A MODERN TAKE ON A FRENCH CHATEAU.

It explains the very geometric landscaping outside and all the stonework. My design education comes from the hospitality world. We studied a lot of the five-star Parisian hotels to get the aesthetic correct. In terms of layout, we leaned into how we live as well. We did not know if we would end up selling it like we normally do or living here. We chose to live here for a little bit," Rikhil explains.

It's no wonder the library is a favorite room with lush furnishings and statement-making lacquer cabinetry with brass accents. The massive foyer features a stunning curved staircase and Alison Berger chandelier ending with marble casing. Elegant, yet comfortable, furnishings fill the main living area punctuated with a black marble fireplace surround.





Entering through double-deep black-iron doors, the double-height foyer is illuminated by a 550-pound sculptural Alison Berger chandelier that took 10 hours to install. The checked floor pays homage to the past, but instead of traditional black and white, the porcelain tiles are more subtle in two tones of gray. The curved staircase is clad in oak and Venetian plaster so it's very durable and dramatic. The risers are porcelain with black oak stairs illuminated with LED lights. Curated art throughout including the black horse (translated in French: *cheval noir*) painting.

To the left is a beautifully appointed office, but to the right is a favorite room of the designer as well as visitors. "This was an important space to us — we call it the library. We collect things from all over the world and display them here along with other things that are important to us. All the custom high-lacquer cabinetry, actually automotive paint, is accented with handset polished brass. Even though it has an air of formality, it's still very livable. It's one of my favorite rooms, especially in the evening. We didn't want anything harsh in here and the polyhedral chandelier in a 1950s Murano style emits an amber glow," he says.

The library also features herringbone oak floors and a sleek fireplace in the library with integrated Bowers and Wilkins surround sound speakers. "We partnered with Generation Royal on the customized pillow line which we launched in conjunction with the home's debut," he explains.

Heading into the main living space, you pass an intricate wood wall with a hidden door leading into the home's server room. "It came from the idea of a French armoire. Everything had to be created and scaled onsite to make sure it fit perfectly. It makes a great feature wall," he adds.

Marble trims the wide opening to the area for a clean, sharp separation, and keen





attention to detail is observed everywhere the eye lands. “Everything was done bespoke in Orlando, which was nice because we got to see everything as it was created. This was my fourth design-build, but this one fell into a style I really love with the French light and European design. We were able to adapt that to the way we live — where the air of formality is eschewed for practical spaces,” Rikhil continues.

Of course, no proper French estate would be complete without a Parisian-style elevator with brass cage. The main powder room with black marble, artistic sconces and tile accents in 24k gold give off a luxurious and chic vibe. Rikhil credits Artisan Kitchen & Bath Gallery in Winter Park for making everything come to life. “They have been a godsend.



A wall of custom cabinetry for storage includes a coffee bar and wine column in the dining room. The home's exterior is inspired by the colors and lines of Haussmann architecture with stone façade and herringbone brick driveway. An open kitchen, perfect for entertaining, features custom lacquer cabinetry with hand-inserted polished steel accents and a Waterstone Wheel Pulldown Faucet. The main floor office has herringbone oak floors and a polyhedral chandelier with a sleek, modern desk.





Anything that sounded crazy, I was met with *we'll make it happen for you,*" he says.

This was also true for the other bathrooms and kitchens — yes two. The main bath includes a Kallista soaking tub with rose petal texture on the exterior, extra-deep separated vanities, custom-made lit mirrors suspended in front of windows, shower with porcelain panels with veining matched up and aligned, Kohler DTV digital shower collection with touch-of-a-button technology, and Kohler smart toilet.

A 100-year-old oak anchors the backyard with a firepit, large waterfall wall, oversize pool with French lap pool, and arching fountains and large lanai offering separate spaces for different types of outdoor living. A rare, for Winter Park, four-car attached garage and spacious mudroom add to the amenities of this modern abode that pays homage to history while reflecting today's livability.



A guest bedroom is furnished with a custom upholstered bed and inset wallpaper design for an exquisite take on layered design. The expansive lanai with bar, kitchen and comfortable seating is perfect for football parties and more.



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