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SETTING SAIL

A Florida bath gracefully balances beachy style and elegance—with a few concealed surprises.

Writer Jody Garlock Photographer Emily J. Followill



A platform for the tub allows better views of the ocean while bathing. Designer Matthew Quinn had the homeowner sit on a box during the design stage to determine the best height for the platform.



ATLANTA-BASED DESIGNER MATTHEW QUINN ONLY HAD TO LOOK OUT THE WINDOW TO FIND INSPIRATION.

There he saw blue water and billowy clouds, which inspired not only the calming colors, but also the quiet mood in the Vero Beach, Florida, home he designed for a retired couple. In the wife's bath, stone slabs of Azul Calcite with veins in blue and white recall the waves crashing over the sand while horizontal-striped wallpaper mimics the horizon line. Quinn strategically placed the freestanding tub so a bather looks straight out onto the water. "I wanted it to seem like you were heading out in a boat," Quinn says. The sleek tub, one of Quinn's own designs, was also inspired by the lines of a boat.

That's not to imply the bathroom is overly beachy, though. The seafaring nods are strategically subtle and sophisticated so they still allow the room to strike an elegant note that reflects the homeowner's personal style. Cut-crystal light fixtures and touches of polished nickel (such as the vanity's furniturelike feet) add the hint of glamour she desired. "The whole house has an elegant look," Quinn says. "You're on the beach, but this is not what you think of as a true beach house."

Subtlety extends beyond the ocean-inspired surfaces and accents. A visually softening circular motif that Quinn carried throughout the house—cohesive repetition he calls "golden threading"—appears in small ways, such as knobs, sconces, and the curved silhouette of the tub. The blue-and-white tile floor he designed incorporates, in an abstract way, the homeowner's initials. "It's not something someone would walk into the room and recognize," Quinn says. "It's more like an inside secret between the two of us. I love when things connect directly to the homeowner. It makes a space more meaningful."



ABOVE Crystal sconces and a trifold mirror with graceful curves step up the style of the marble-topped makeup vanity. Slabs of marble repeat in the shower beyond. **OPPOSITE TOP** The sink area's large framed mirror incorporates a recessed medicine cabinet in the center. **OPPOSITE BOTTOM** The tub platform's calcite meets up with statuary marble in the shower, creating an intriguing juxtaposition.

Another secret: Thick crown molding hides the heating and air-conditioning vents as well as a remote-operated blackout shade near the tub so those utilitarian features don't interrupt the bathroom's easy flow and overall elegant atmosphere. For Quinn, it's such attention to detail that makes a room stand out from the ordinary, and although bathrooms are utilitarian, he believes they deserve the extra attention. "A master bath is a retreat, a sanctuary," he says. "In this particular case, where it's only her bath, it's really a luxury."

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“I love when things connect directly to the homeowner. It makes a space more meaningful.”

Matthew Quinn, designer



This bath appears in Matthew Quinn's book *Quintessential Kitchens and Spaces, Volume 2* (Parrish Press, 2019). Quinn is principal of Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio and founder of the Matthew Quinn Collection, a luxury kitchen, bath, and hardware company.

Drapery panels in soft blush and cream bring your eyes down from the high ceiling to this showhouse bathroom's sculptural tub. An abstract painting and an organically shaped side table lend unexpected decorative appeal.



FASHION

forward

Abstract art, soft fabric,
and mirrored surfaces
offer unexpected glamour
in a showhouse bath.

Writers Krissa Rossbund and Renee Freemon Mulvihill

Photographer Emily J. Followill

Field Editor Lisa Mowry

us.kohler.com. **Countertops**—Arizona Tile; *arizonatile.com*. **Main and shower floor tiles**—Facings of America; *facingsofamerica.com*. **Shower wall tile**—Craftsman Court Ceramics; *craftsmancourt.com*. **Shower fixtures, tub filler**—Speakman; *speakman.com*. **Tub**—Sunrise Specialty; *sunrisespecialty.com*. **Sconces by sinks**—Hudson Valley Lighting; *hudsonvalleylighting.hvlgroup.com*. **Overhead light fixture**—Visual Comfort through Circa Lighting; *circalighting.com*. **Curtain fabric**—Stout Brothers Co. Inc.; *estout.com*. **Curtain fabrication**—Dressed to Kill Custom Drapery, Scottsdale, Arizona; 480/429-7777. **Towel hooks and rings**—Restoration Hardware; *rh.com*. **Mirrors above vanities**—Matège Custom Framing; *matageframing.com*.

SETTING SAIL

Pages 84–87

Designer: Matthew Quinn, Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio, Atlanta and Nashville; 404/261-0111; info@designgalleria.net; designgalleria.net.

Cabinetry: Downsview Kitchens by Design Galleria Kitchen and Bath Studio, Atlanta and Nashville; 404/261-0111; designgalleria.net. **Lighting**—Circa Lighting; *circalighting.com*. **Sinks**—TOTO; *totousa.com*. **Faucets**—Samuel Heath; *samuel-heath.com*. **Hardware**—Matthew Quinn Collection; *matthewquinncollection.com*. **Bathtub** Intarcia—MTI Baths; *mtibaths.com*.

FASHION FORWARD

Pages 88–91

Interior designer: Janie Hirsch, J. Hirsch Interior Design, Berkeley Lake, Georgia; 404/395-3711; jhirschinteriors.com.

Wall and cabinetry paint Pavilion Gray No. 242—Farrow & Ball Ltd.; farrow-ball.com [P]. **Trim paint** Agreeable Gray SW 7029—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Drapery** Garden of Persia in Blush Conch, **band trim on drapery** Blythe Weave in Blush, **tape trim on drapery** Aranna Silk Braid in Blanc, **bench** Sofia Curule Bench, **bench fabric** Flanders Linen Basketweave in Truffle, **mirrored chest** Marche Biron Mirrored Side—F. Schumacher & Co.; fschumacher.com. **Drapery hardware**—Drape 98; *drape98.com*. **Countertop** Calacatta Gray, **floor tile perimeter** Lagos Azul, **floor tile center inset** custom Lagos Azul and Calacatta Gray—Walker Zanger; walkerzanger.com. **Bathtub** Elise—MTI Baths; *mtibaths.com*. **Bathtub**

fixtures Art Deco with Lever, **sink faucets** Art Deco with Lever—THG Paris; *thgparis.com*. **Throw blanket** Bella—V Rugs & Home; *vrugsandhome.com*. **Artwork behind bathtub** *She* by Holly Irwin, **artwork behind mirrored chest** *Let it Rain* by Nancy Blum, **shoes on chest** *Ice Heels* by Susan Freda—DK Gallery; *dkgallery.us*. **Table beside bathtub** Willow Side Table—Hwang Bishop; *shophwangbishop.com*. **Vanity cabinet** custom—Karpaty Cabinets Inc.; *karpatycabinets.com*. **Cabinetry hardware** 1¼-inch Glass Egg Knob with polished-nickel base—Matthew Quinn Collection; *matthewquinncollection.com*. **Sink** Glamour by Barbara Barry—Kallista; *kallista.com*. **Pair of mirrors** Wendy, **sconce** Tammi 5-Tier Sconce with Clear Crystals—Bradley USA; *bradleyusa.com*. **Shell vase on cabinetry** Nautilus, **silver tray, obelisk**—Parc Monceau; *parcmonceauatl.com*.

FINAL THOUGHT

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Kitchen design: Lisa Furey, Lisa Furey Interiors, Philadelphia and Bluffton, South Carolina; 610/389-5231; lisafureyinteriors.com. **General contracting:** Vala and Owens Custom Homes, 12 Celadon Dr., Beaufort, SC 29903; 843/592-2924; vocustomhomes.com.

Countertops—Garpa; *garpa.com*. **Backsplash tile** Jasmine Duquesa cement tile—Walker Zanger; walkerzanger.com.

