

NAPLES EDITION

# FLORIDA DESIGN

## *Autumn In Paradise*

Spectacular Residences  
in Old Naples,  
Marco Island & Sanibel



VOLUME 8 NUMBER 1

\$9.99US \$9.99CAN

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03.01.24

**CULTURE BASH**  
A Dive Into the Gulf  
Coast's Art Scene

INTERIOR DESIGN BETH WALKER-FENTON & JANINE BLUME,  
JINX MCDONALD INTERIOR DESIGNS, NAPLES, FL  
TEXT KERRY SHORR  
PHOTOGRAPHY AMBER FREDERIKSEN, BONITA SPRINGS, FL



# WORTH THE WAIT

A MARCO ISLAND RENOVATION GIVES A MARYLAND COUPLE THE SLICE OF FLORIDA PARADISE THEY'VE ENVISIONED FOR YEARS



ABOVE: A view into the open living and dining area reveals heavy use of the color blue and multiple natural textures. The patterns on the pillows nod to the residence's gulfside location and solidify its coastal look. The eye automatically travels up to the wood beams with lights on the ceiling.



*DIANE SMITH STILL REMEMBERS WHEN* she first laid eyes on the sprawling, beachfront condo in Marco Island that she and her husband David now call home. While scouting the tranquil barrier island for a winter retreat, she revisited the unit twice on the same day. "I could imagine my family being comfortable there," she reminisces. "There was room to breathe and move, and the views were spectacular."

Once the 3,000-square-foot residence was theirs, the Maryland couple decided to live in it as it was before making any renovation decisions. After two years, they knew exactly what worked about the apartment and what didn't, and their search for decor help led them to Beth Walker-Fenton and Janine Blume of Jinx McDonald Interior Designs in Naples.

"They told us they liked the coastal feel, which is one of the reasons I think they liked our company," says Walker-Fenton. "Coastal is something we do exceptionally well."

punchy patterns in blue enliven the living room. To the right, a custom bar is backed by a blue mosaic backsplash. An electric fireplace further establishes the residence's cozy beach house vibe



above: A custom stainless-steel hood takes center stage in the open kitchen, which is dominated by quartz. At right, a pair of columns-camouflage plumbing stacks that couldn't be removed during the renovation.

below: Teak furniture on one of the residence's terraces make it an ideal perch for reading, beach-gazing, or cocktails at sunset.



The Smiths agreed. They liked the designers' confidence and were certain they could complete the project and meet their expectations despite a tight deadline. "Our building has very strict policies," says Diane, "so noisy construction that involves jackhammering and knocking down walls can only be done during the off-season [in the summer months]."

While Diane and David first envisioned the place as their snowbird retreat, midway through the process they changed their minds and decided to make it their primary residence. This meant a complete overhaul of the floor plans to enhance the flow and functionality of each space. One of the design team's first challenges was converting the octagonal foyer into a linear hallway. This required squaring off walls in the laundry room, guest and master baths, and in a storage closet. In the primary bedroom, the walk-in closet was enlarged by borrowing space from the original primary bath, which was transformed into an idyllic sanctum of hygiene and relaxation marked

by stunningly veined white marble. One of the pleasant surprises of the renovation was the addition of a small study for David, which resulted when a partition wall was added in the laundry room. Transforming the boxy kitchen into the heart of the home required days of demolition. Walls came down so the aquamarine vantages of the Gulf could be savored, and a stylish blend of mixed finishes and top-of-the-line appliances came in. In the end, all the dust and noise was worth it.

As far as the design vibe goes, the aforementioned coastal influences are impossible to miss with a palette that leans to blue throughout the entire residence and warm textures like wood, raffia, and sisal here and there. In the open kitchen, Silestone countertops and a quartz backsplash provide an organic touch. In the dining room sits an 11-foot, double-pedestal table for 10 that had to be craned in through the glass doors. "That was a production," says Diane, "but being able to have my whole family sit together during meals was high on my wish list." Sustainable touches like Legno Bastone wide-plank flooring and wood crossbeams unify the expansive spaces.

With the renovation behind them, the Smiths now get to enjoy the Florida home they had always envisioned—usually from their favorite west-facing terrace at sunset. "People here do love to watch the sun go down, and now so do we," says Diane. "We truly own a slice of paradise."

**FLOW:** Hung in a series of nine panels, quarter-inch slabs of marble in the primary bath emulate "an endless vein." The space houses a freestanding Juliet tub, a waterfall shower system, and a knee wall separating the shower from the vanity.



#### SOURCES

##### LIVING AREA

Sofa - Miles Talbott, [themtcompany.com](http://themtcompany.com)  
 Wicker club chairs - Lexington Home Brands, [lexington.com](http://lexington.com)  
 Cocktail table - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA  
 Side table - Woodbridge Furniture, High Point, NC  
 Table lamps - Arteriors Home, [arteriorshome.com](http://arteriorshome.com)  
 Drapery fabric - Stout Textiles, Colmar, PA  
 Fireplace designed by Jinx McDonald Interior Designs, Naples, FL, and fabricated by Pinnacle Cabinets, Fort Myers, FL, and Set in Stone, North Naples, FL

##### DINING AREA

Table - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA

In the primary bedroom, recessed lighting was installed for extra illumination. "The bedroom is my retreat at night," says homeowner Diane Smith. "It's perfectly quiet."



Side chairs - Universal, High Point, NC  
Heat chairs - Taylor King, High Point, NC  
Burrer - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA  
Pendant lighting - Currey & Company, High Point, NC

**KITCHEN**  
Cabinetry and island designed by Jinx McDonald Interior Designs, Naples, FL, and fabricated by Pinnacle Cabinets, Fort Myers, FL  
Island Set in Stone, North Naples, FL  
Backsplash - Cambria, Set in Stone, North Naples, FL  
Hood - Modern-Aire, North Hollywood, CA

**TERRACE**  
Seating and ottoman - Braxton Culler, braxtonculler.com  
Side chair - Palecek, High Point, NC

Area rug - Authenticity Home, Naples, FL  
**PRIMARY BATHROOM**  
Cabinetry - Pinnacle Cabinets, Fort Myers, FL  
Tub - MTI Baths, mtibaths.com  
Stools - Frontgate, frontgate.com  
Porcelain slab wall covering - Laminam, laminam.com  
**PRIMARY BEDROOM**  
Bed - Miles Talbott, themitcompany.com  
Bedside chest and dresser - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA  
Lamps - Port 68, port68.com  
Bench - Cox Manufacturing, coxmf.com  
Seating - Sherrill Upholstery, sherrillfurniture.com

Ottoman - Century Furniture, Hickory, NC  
Side table - Century Furniture, Hickory, NC  
Drapery fabric - Stout Textiles, Colmar, PA  
Area rug - Authenticity Home, Naples, FL  
**THROUGHOUT**  
Builder - J Sweet Construction, Naples, FL  
Ceiling treatments designed by Jinx McDonald Interior Designs, Naples, FL  
Window treatments & custom bedding - Cover Up Designs, Naples, FL  
Painting - Renaissance Décor, Naples, FL  
Commissioned artwork - Marti Koehler Art, martikoehlerart.com