Florida Classic Home

Tropical living in traditional style

winter/spring 2006



SEASIDE SERENITY
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in a Key Biscayne
waterfront condo

THE ULTIMATE CLASSICISM

Details of a Gulfstream home designed by members of the Institute of Classical Architecture

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Essential classic seating and fabrics for your Florida home

Dramatic Elegance

Luxury shines through in this traditionally appointed Fisher Island residence

he paradise of Fisher Island is a haven for those who want both privacy and elegance with a touch of drama in their residences. To achieve that in this particular residence, interior designer Dawn Causa, with The Home of Fine Decorators of Hallandale Beach, went for a European design with an eclectic mix of traditional and antique furnishings and a neutral color scheme of off-white, taupe and chocolate brown. Causa used classical baseboards, casings and crown moldings in a crisp off-white to

accentuate the subtle neutral walls. Touches of gold provide elegant accents throughout the home, such as in the wood and marble staircase, with its custom ironwork accented in antique gold, which leads to the bedrooms of the home. The foyer table was especially designed for this space, with silver leaf accented with an antique gold glaze and an antique tinted mirror inlaid on the top of the table. "We also used gold in the living room," Causa said. "The fireplace features a very large custom wood mantle and imparadora brown marble with







The dining room features distinctive klismos chairs covered in raffia, offset by an elegant bronze and crystal elongated chandelier.

gold veining and above the fireplace is a custom mirror with gold leaf. The console table in the living room has a 24-karat golf leaf base and a chocolate-brown marble top."

Chocolate brown is one of the continuing themes throughout the home. Flooring, such as that in the foyer, features a wende wood border, providing a deep black-brown wood accent against the Calcutta gold marble. This same wood is used in the library area as part of the octagonal flooring. The custom cabinetry is lacquered in three shades of taupe, to add dimension to the storage areas of the library, while the walls are faux-finished in a two-tone glaze.

The dining room features skirted silk host and hostess chairs contrasted by the distinctive klismos chairs covered in raffia. The elongated crystal and bronze chandelier offers a beautiful and elegant touch to the formal entertainment space. From the dining room, a butler's pantry leads to the spacious kitchen, which has a full bar area as well as a snack bar area for informal eating.

The family room is also the media center of the home. An off-white, custom-built media center provides space for the large television as well as for display. Enhancing this storage area are doors with cane accents. A large sisal rug continues the informal theme







LEFT The wood and marble staircase features custom ironwork. The foyer table at the foot of the stairs was custom made for the space. OPPOSITE The living room fireplace is made from imparadora brown marble with gold veining. The mirror on the wall above it is custommade using gold leaf.

of the family room, while a chenille-covered sofa, accented with animal-print pillows, provides seating for relaxing and entertaining.

The custom banquette in the breakfast area, coupled with three more casual chairs, offers seating for six around the wood table. A large molding detail adds architectural interest to this space, providing different levels of texture and dimension. French doors from the breakfast area, family room and living room open to the lanai and pool area of the home. An elevator provides easy access to the second floor of the home.

The bedrooms are upstairs, including the master suite, which has been designed in soft blue tones, with off-white moldings as crisp accents. "In order to enjoy the view from the bed, we floated the bed in the room, rather than having it against a wall," Causa says. "So when you walk into the room, you see this incredible bed of suede and behind it are transparent draperies that give you a subtle division from other areas of the room. The nightstands are in black, and they re also floated beside the table. This design element makes this room both romantic and quite beautiful."







A chair-and-a-half and ottoman and a frame chair provide seating, while the chinoiserie armoire provides storage and an entertainment area in the master suite. The master bathroom features high and her walk-in closets and a midnight kitchen for the couple. "I find the master bedroom area to be very tranquil and very soothing," said Causa. "We also kept the same color scheme as the rest of the home, including using the dark brown wende wood as part of the small vestibule into the bath and closets."

Each of the three guest suites has been decorated in a different style, but in keeping with the color palette throughout the home. One of the bedrooms is octagonal, and fea-

tures a classical wood carved headboard and footboard. Causa added a Moroccan touch through the cornices and side panels in the room, and a wood armoire with a woven caning. The second guest bedroom features a chocolate brown accent wall and brown carpeting, with light colored bedding as a contrast, while the third guest bedroom has a warm color palette of butterscotch walls, and features a high wood and leather headboard and footboard. "The nightstands are round and totally mirrored," said Causa. "It's a look that can move from contemporary to a more traditional décor and look wonderful. It brings some elegance into this room." And that's the overall idea throughout this home.