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COASTAL SOPHISTICATION

BLENDING PRACTICALITY IN A FLORIDA-INSPIRED DESIGN



Foyer & Hall: The entryway has an architectural niche wall featuring dried palm fronds that bring texture and movement to the space, complemented by a console table from Made Goods below. Hallway openings and headers are framed with wood cladding and richly finished to accentuate the architectural detail. Schwenk dresses up this hallway with a chevron floor pattern and upscale lighting with the hand-worked, bronze-finished pendants.

Dining Room: Schwenk enhances the ceiling in the dining space overlooking the lake with a floating cloud element clad in a European medium white oak which matches the flooring from Real Wood Floors. A delicate Hubbardton Forge chandelier — that Schwenk describes as glowing — hangs over the table from Old Biscayne Designs. The host's chairs are accented with an indigo fabric, while all the chairs have wooden arm caps for refinement, from Fairfield Chair Company.



As full-time residents of this lakesfront property, the homeowner's satisfaction is a top priority for the entire team, which includes Interior Designer Barbara Schwenk of Jinx McDonald Interior Designs, President Shane Klepko of Harwick Homes, and Residential Designer Robert Mongillo of JMDG Architecture | Planning + Interiors. "The homeowners wanted a practical yet beautiful interior design," shares Schwenk. "So I designed a style we call Coastal Sophistication, which is transitional with a nod to Florida." This style embraces a serene palette of blues and grays and wooden details. "We incorporate touches of shell, rope, and woven textures when we accessorize," Schwenk explains.

After a significant fill-in elevated the grade, the lot became a perfect fit for the clients. This optimization affords the design of an expansive 7,501-square-foot estate-style home perfectly tailored to their needs. The design incorporates outdoor living spaces, a pool, a dog run, and an outdoor shower. "Strategically repositioning the home on the site allowed for the creation of a courtyard, which greatly enhances the property's curb appeal," shares Klepko.

Architecture and interior design merge in the foyer, with architectural niches becoming artistic interior focal points. Mongillo's exterior facade features a grand main entry, incorporating coastal elements such as Bahama shutters, open trusses, stucco lap siding, and a cupola reminiscent of a lighthouse on the lake. "Centerlines are deliberately used to enhance the floor plan," Mongillo explains. "These lines intersect in the great room, creating a dynamic space that we accentuate with an open truss design." The interior design is marked by meticulous attention to architectural features. »

Schwenk expertly creates a coastal vibe without bright white cabinetry, calling on warm gray, Sea Serpent blue, and whisky barrel brown finishes. For these clients, customization involved raising the counter height to 39 inches and installing a 60-inch Galley Workstation sink. The sink's accessories allow for meal preparation entirely within the sink, keeping countertops mess-free.

'Coastal Sophistication' dives deep into the study, showing off in a monochromatic scheme with this saturated blue hue on everything from the cabinetry to the ceiling to the shutters. To build this detail-rich study, the color-matching and installation were an intense choreography of the various trades that Klepko orchestrated with relentless dedication, and the outcome is flawless. »

Great Room: "This ombre area rug has the look of a wave crashing on the beach, and you can see the sand peeking through the blue water," Schwenk says, describing the ambiance created by the serene colors and coastal feel of the rug from International Design Source. Two American Leather swivel recliners face the media wall, and a short drapery rod was chosen to not clutter the clean architecture of the cased window, soffit, and truss ceiling.



Kitchen: Schwenk thoughtfully places the rich Sea Serpent blue throughout for a balanced look. The rest of the cabinetry is in a gray hue called Cadet, and a warm brown hue, Mojave Desert, is used on the island and hood trim. "The exquisite island countertop features a captivating movement of colors that complement the space with touches of blue, gray, and brown," shares Schwenk, detailing the Manhattan quartzite.

Laundry Room: The homeowner receives unique cabinet knobs as a fun family tradition; Schwenk places them in this part of the home where they will be frequently seen and enjoyed. Playfulness is also added to this laundry room — and dog zone — with to-the-ceiling hexagonal mosaic wall tile from Abbey Carpet & Floor. To balance the dynamic wall tile, the floor is a solid titanium gray tile, but even this subtle material captures Schwenk's attention, laid in a herringbone pattern.





Traditional wall paneling gives the primary bedroom a classic look, while the cupola in the primary bathroom is a standout feature. The cupola surprises with its infusion of natural light and architectural detail, while the outdoor shower, steps away, offers its own unexpected zen-like retreat. These distinctive elements make this estate-style home exceptional.

Stepping into the back, the absence of a sliding door enhances the practicality that was a cornerstone of the client's request. Every amenity, from the outdoor lounge and dining area to the negative-edge pool, offers breathtaking, unobstructed views of the serene lake, connecting the homeowners to the natural beauty that surrounds them. ■



Primary Bedroom: This bedroom fuses coastal and traditional designs yet surprises with delightful departures from these styles. With its unexpected unique-width channeling, the Bernhardt headboard and the Woodbridge Furniture nightstands are standout pieces with lucite hardware and gray leather. The wall color complements the Signoria Firenze bedding. Attention to texture plays a role in the fabrics, adding complexity without diluting the spectrum of sea foam hues.

Outdoor Shower: "The outdoor shower became a zen oasis," shares Schwenk. In this serene space, Schwenk embraces the simple Asian aesthetic as black river rock meets field tile on the floor, creating a harmonious yin and yang. The strong focal point comes from the vertical wave pattern on the matte black wall tile from Design Works. Below, black lava rocks cradle live foliage, bringing life to the tranquil outdoor shower, while iron louvers offer privacy.

Primary Bathroom: The team agrees that the cupola's placement is perfect both on the exterior and as a focal point in this primary bathroom. The wall behind the tub, which features a framed and back-lit Cristallo quartzite, is a stunning feature and another example of architectural significance within the overall interior design of this home. The field tile is a neutral backdrop for the rich, well-appointed vanities.





Powder Room: Vertical Blue Moon quartzite adds an organic touch to the powder room and contrasts beautifully with the geometric wood veneer wallpaper from Philip Jeffries. Two Kelly Wearstler pendants from Circa Lighting add to the sleek ambiance. The vanity itself features a feather-brushed glaze in a smoky hue that perfectly complements the Briolette vessel sink from Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery. As a final touch, Schwenk selects glacier glass hardware for the vanity drawers, tying together the room's elegant aesthetic.

Study: "This picture does it justice! The study looks this rich in person!" Klepko delights. Achieving this level of sophistication and mood was a delicate coordination of expert design and trades. Schwenk toyed with making the ceiling a different color, but painting it the same as the walls allowed the medium-tone wood beams to play a unique role as the lighter element against the saturated hue.

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Vip Suite & En Suite: Schwenk emphasizes the lakeside color scheme with Sherwin-Williams Sea Salt paint and vibrant teal and spring green on the pillows that top the Braxton Culler bed. Bamboo details on the custom Vanguard nightstands are a coastal feature, with a deeper finish for greater sophistication. The en suite has a coastal feel with a natural oak cabinet, which Schwenk enhances with textures like the river rock shower floor and lively jade-green shower accent tile.





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Front Elevation: The grand entrance enhances the stately architecture, where an oversized lantern chandelier from Naples Lamp Shop hangs from the open roof trusses. Klepko highlights the Andersen Windows & Doors — sourced through Florida Wood Window and Door — as a high-end feature of the home. The Bahama shutters and the lower-and-glass front door are rich coastal accents, and bronze-hued brackets, trusses, and garage doors accent the inviting warm gray body color. Additionally, the mix of tin and concrete roofing materials embodies the essence of coastal architecture.

Rear Elevation: By elevating the site, the team was able to create a tiered yard, allowing the fire pit to be located at a lower level so that it does not obstruct the view of the lake from the dining room or outdoor kitchen. With a negative edge, this curved pool features fire pedestals, charmingly nicknamed candleholders, that appear to float on the water. The motorized roll-down shutters and motorized screens from Castle Services of Southwest Florida offer storm protection, security, and convenience. Maximizing the views from inside the home was an architectural goal that was amply achieved.

