

VERANDA

MAY-JUNE 2020

Paradise

AT HOME

**SOULFUL
RETREATS
WITH COOL
SEASIDE STYLE**

+

WICKER
Our Eternal
Obsession



MAY
+
JUNE
2020

THE V LIST

BUNNY MELLON-
INSPIRED RUGS,
SHIMMERING
SHELL JEWELRY,
ACANTHUS MANIA
& MORE!

HOTEL CALIFORNIA

◆◆◆
Pink and sage stripes on
Santa Barbara Designs's
new decadent double-
canopy umbrella channel
the sun-drenched glamour
of a legendary
landmark.

Summer REVIVALS

◆◆◆
COMING IN HOT:
UNFORGETTABLE
LOOKS FROM ERAS
PAST SURGE, POISED
FOR EPIC ENCORES

Photographed at Owlwood Estate
in Los Angeles. See The Sourcebook
(pg. 114) for additional credits.



Sufrin (left) and Sheftel's scalloped umbrella canopies are crafted of 100-percent solution-dyed acrylic and are finished with braid trim.

Continued from previous page

THE FIND • A striped pool umbrella inspired by the Beverly Hills Hotel

MEET THE MAKERS • Los Angeles natives James Sheftel and Mark Sufrin of Santa Barbara Designs, which began building its American umbrella empire in 1981. "Everything, right down to the hardware, is made in this country," says Sheftel.

THE BACKSTORY • "We both grew up close to the hotel, and it was always this very glamorous landmark—an icon built more than 100 years ago. The pink-and-green palette brings an instant connection, one that we hope urges people to relax a little, to channel a sense of fun."

MAKE IT YOURS • **Double Decker Beverly Hills umbrella**, to the trade; santabarbara designs.com. —*Ellen McGauley*

The V List



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ISLAND PARADISE

Word to the wild: Bright, flowering tropicals are lighting up leafy motifs and sandy naturals with fierce, fresh gusto.



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1. Passifolia dinner plate (\$240) and round platter (\$2,000); hermes.com. 2. Floral Kingdom fabric, to the trade; sharris.com. 3 and 4. Moorea and Bora Bora fabrics, to the trade; jimthompsonfabrics.com. 5. Dolce & Gabbana Spring 2020 tropical print dress; dolcegabbana.com. 6. Bali Jute skirt fringe, to the trade; samuelandsons.com. 7. Bahia Banana Leaf earrings in recycled 20-karat rose gold, \$14,500; nakarmstrong.com. 8. Verano wallpaper, \$148 per roll; serenaandlily.com. 9. Martyn Lawrence Bullard Tropicale sconce, \$490; hvjgroup.com. 10. Silvia Furmanovich Marquetry Leaf bracelet in 18-karat gold, \$14,000; Bergdorf Goodman, 212-753-7300. 11. Coco wallpaper, to the trade; thevenon1908.com. 12. Atelier Houria Tazi Tropic placemat and napkin, \$230 per set; modaoperandi.com. 13. Mercedes Salazar North Island candleholder, \$176; theluxurycollectionstore.com.

THE BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL, SUFRIN AND SHEFTEL; TROPICAL PRINT DRESS: GETTY IMAGES; UMBRELLA DETAIL AND PORTRAIT: DAVID TSNY; MOOREA FABRIC, FLORAL KINGDOM FABRIC, BORA BORA FABRIC, SKIRT FRINGE, AND VERANO WALLPAPER, PAMELA COOK; PACEMAI, NAKARMSTRONG, AND COCO WALL PAPER, BRIAN WOOD/COCK

CONCH



The terrace's lofty arches, pink stucco, and cool concrete tiles borrow from British Colonial traditions, now woven into the local vernacular.

OPPOSITE: An intimate den offers refuge from the sun while retaining hints of the tropics, like a natural wallcovering crafted of dried water hyacinth (Phillip Jeffries). Art series, Henri Matisse

PALACE

Along a deepwater pass in Naples, Florida, across from a warren of tangly mangroves, **Celerie Kemble** doubles down on the magic of Old Florida.



INTERIOR DESIGN BY **CELERIE KEMBLE**
ARCHITECTURE BY **HALPER ARCHITECTS, LLC**
LANDSCAPE DESIGN BY **KOBY KIRWIN**
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **DOUGLAS FRIEDMAN**
PRODUCED BY **RACHAEL BURROW**
WRITTEN BY **MIMI READ**



NATURAL CANING

Kemble relaxes the vibe of the formal dining room with **mahogany-framed woven panels**, rooting the space in raw, native beauty.

CELERIE KEMBLE IS A DEEP-DYED FLORIDIAN.

The celebrated Manhattan decorator grew up in a whimsically appointed former church in Palm Beach that's been in her family for generations (her mother is designer Mimi McMakin). Over the years, she's worked on and otherwise gotten to know a great many Florida houses. Still, when a Connecticut husband and wife brought her on board to decorate their stunning new home situated on the waterfront in Naples, Florida, she realized she hadn't quite seen it all.

"It really is fascinating to have what is basically a traditional house where the main rooms feel like grand entrances to the outdoors," Kemble says. "There are enormous glass pocket doors. The walls

retract. You can sit on the sofa and watch schools of dolphins swim by. You're close enough to see their fins!"

The house's architect, Jon Halper, wielded this sort of arresting magic throughout. Both the exterior and interior feel classic, yet they're really all about views of Gordon Pass, the main deepwater route from the Naples marina to the Gulf of Mexico, and the nature preserve beyond it. With its enormous porch pavilion and smooth stucco colonnades with arches trimmed in white, it's a riff on British Colonial style as seen in places like Barbados but jazzed up with a certain dream logic. Every part of the house engages the water, the light, and the



DISAPPEARING WALLS


The sunroom becomes a refined waterfront lounge thanks to retractable glass and a shallow pool with floating stepping pads en route to the terrace.

Slipper chair and pillow fabric, Penny Morrison and de Le Cúona; English 1930s side tables, Lee Stanton Antiques

OPPOSITE: A Marseilles Opera House backdrop (Obsolete, Inc.) becomes large-scale artwork in the dining room. Jamaican mahogany chairs, The Raj Company

EVERY PART OF THE HOUSE
ENGAGES THE WATER, THE LIGHT,
AND THE OUTDOORS SIMULTANEOUSLY,
TWISTING THEM TOGETHER
IN CLEVER, HIGHLY ORIGINAL WAYS.





A TROPICAL TAPESTRY
Beneath a canopy of coconut palms, an emerald privacy screen of areca, traveler's, fishtail, and cat palms flourishes.

A knife-edge pool sits flush with a coral stone deck. Chaise longues, Celerie Kemble for Lane Venture. Umbrella, Santa Barbara Designs.

INSET: Chairs, Serena & Lily. Cushion fabric, Perennials



outdoors simultaneously, twisting them together in clever, highly original ways.

Minimalist knife-edge pools and fountains by landscape architect Koby Kirwin are so carefully integrated with the architecture and hew so close to the house that they might as well be *in* the house; you can pretty much wade out of the family room. Because of a television on the open-air porch, it's possible to get a tan while watching Netflix. The formal dining room has a bar at the end of it with a window that opens to the outside as in your basic Caribbean shack. A seated guest—surrounded by a pair of remarkable caned and ebonized mahogany wall panels and two Marseilles stage backdrops—can have a glass of wine with someone in a dripping bathing suit standing outside in a puddle.

When the wife decided she wanted a pink exterior—a brilliant move, as the color plays down the architecture's imposing qualities and dials up its charm—Kemble chose the shade. "It's the color of a conch shell," she says, adding that die-hard Floridians who stand their ground in spite of hurricanes are known as "conchs." Inside and out, she chose every tile, every



SEASHELL PINK
 The home's sanguine, sun-washed shade was designed to mimic the soft tint on the interior of a conch shell.

In the master bedroom, opaque, striped fabric panels (Kerry Joyce) cloak a forged iron bed (Jerry Pair). The bed's upholstery fabric is by Soane Britain. Bedding, Gattle's



ABOVE: Interlocking white oak tile (Jamie Beckwith) brings the variations of natural wood to the crisp white kitchen.

RIGHT: Local treasures idle in the bar, among them, a carved wooden alligator, sea fan, and varnished turtle shell.

OPPOSITE: The guest room is painted Sweet Dreams by Benjamin Moore. Upholstery fabric, Rogers & Goffigon. Bedding, Pioneer Linens



VERDIGRIS COPPER

The aged, elemental finish gives a **custom palm guest bed** an authentic weathered patina.



finish, and all of the more exuberant details, from the playful fan-burst railing on the exterior to the puzzle-like wood floor of the kitchen. “Where things get neutral, we used a lot of detail and a lot of texture,” she says.

Her palette of white, pink, flax, navy, and the pale blue-green of sea glass is anchored with dark woods. The mix of furnishings and materials is high-spirited and glamorous. In the open-air sunroom, a refined 20th-century-inspired sofa is upholstered in a subtle indoor/outdoor stripe and carries quiet sophistication;

tribal-print indigo fabrics and vintage teak ensure the room’s link to the outdoors is organic and authentic. Kemble let the homeowners’ vintage art collection supply most of the color. “I’m a lover of wallpaper, but here the walls were kept matte white and plastery. It’s all about the way the room opens to the outside.”

Speaking of rooms opening up, the bewitchingly romantic master bedroom, with its glass door that disappears entirely, is another instance where she kept things serene, sophisticated, and simple. There’s a black iron four-poster as fine as a line

drawing, creamy white linens, and a plaster chandelier suspended by a brass chain.

A “conch” herself, as well as a pro at the top of her game, Kemble suffused the house with chic personality and engaging intimacy while staying out of the way of the main event: the Naples waterfront.

“The house is free-flowing and friendly. It’s made for entertaining, swimming, drinking, and cooking—all the things you want to do,” she says. “But the real stage set is the water, sky, and changing light. You’re always the audience watching a spectacular drama unfolding.” ♦