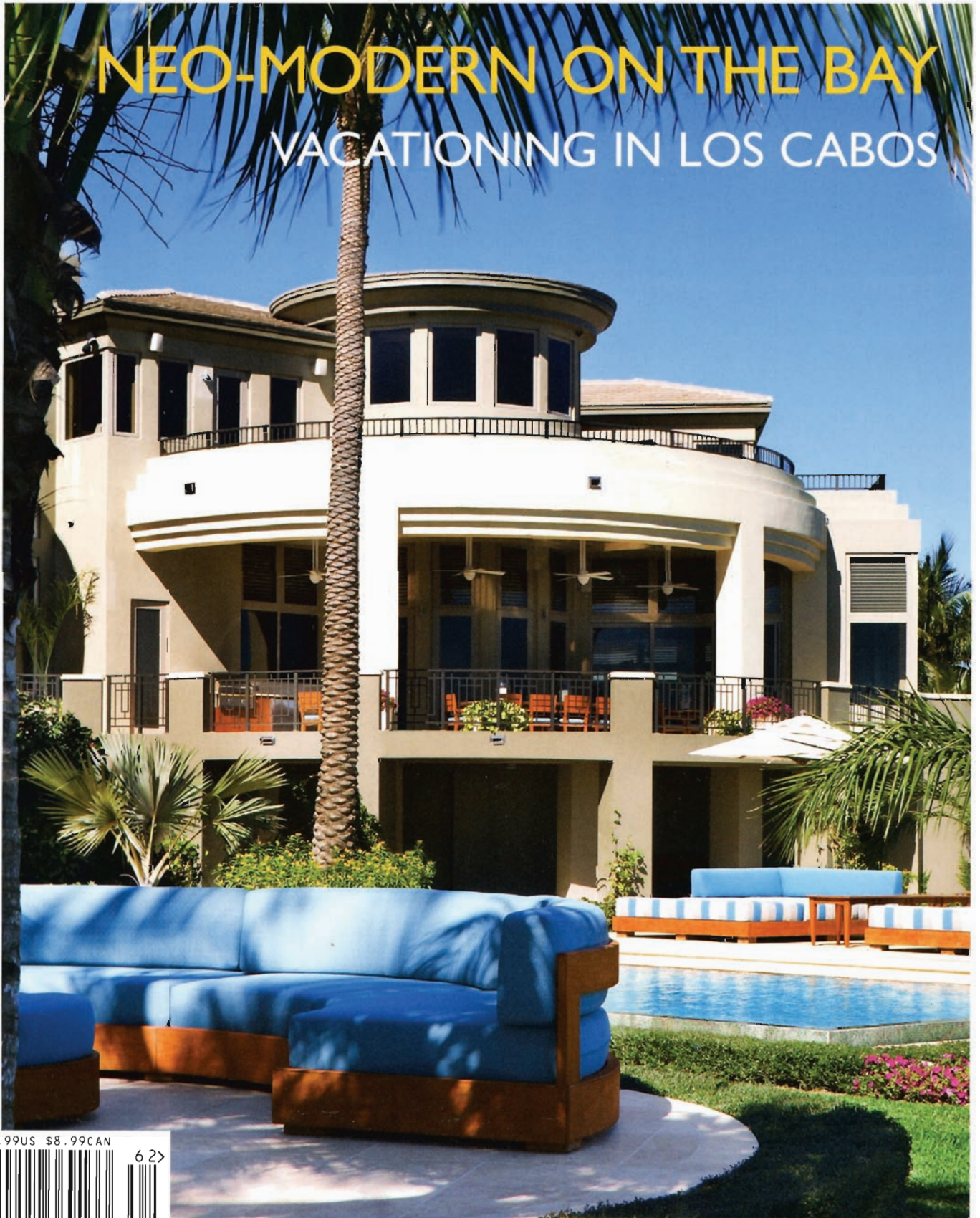


FLORIDA DESIGN

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NEO-MODERN ON THE BAY VACATIONING IN LOS CABOS



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A bronze horse and rider by French artist Pierre Bonnard pops against bright-green walls in the stairhall leading to the master suite. Spanish-style, wrought-iron gates enclose the area. In the living room, right, an ornate, antique French fireplace dramatizes the space.





EXPRESSING AN ARTIST'S VISION

The Daring Palette And Patterns Of This Distinctive Vero Beach Home
Capture The Colorful Character Of Its Owners

INTERIOR DESIGN Marigil M. Walsh and Kalna L. Miller, Astorino, Palm Beach and Naples, FL; Pittsburgh, PA

BUILDER John Huryn, AAC Builders, Inc., Vero Beach, FL

TEXT Joan McIver

PHOTOGRAPHY Kim Sargent, Palm Beach Gardens, FL



"We'd had a neutral home and now wanted something different, more colorful," owner Robert Legler says. His wife, Anita, agrees. "Color is in the world around us, in everything we see, so it only seemed natural to have it in the home."

WHEN ARTIST ANITA LEGLER and husband Robert imagined the interior of their winter Vero Beach home, they saw a palette of warm green, orange-red, deep yellow, blues, pinks and purples — as dramatic as a Florida sunset and as dynamic as Anita's contemporary paintings.

"We'd had a neutral home and now wanted something different, more colorful," Robert says. Anita agrees. "Color is in the world around us, in everything we see," she says. "So it only seemed natural to have it in the home."

To realize their vision, the Leglers enlisted designer and friend Marigil Walsh, who had worked with the couple on six previous design projects. "Together, we chose a daring palette that complemented my artwork," Anita says. "Our selections were also influenced by some of the items in our collection, which fit with the exterior's Spanish-Colonial architecture."

Builder John Huryn, who constructed the Leglers' previous Vero Beach home, arranged the placement of the doors and windows to allow ample display space for Anita's artwork. "Lighting was a very important issue," Huryn said. "Getting it in the right spots for the artwork was a challenge."

Color, Spanish styling and lighting come together well in the stairhall to the master suite, where a sculpted horse and rider placed atop a black pedestal strikes a dramatic pose against bright-green walls. Wrought-iron gates reference a Spanish motif.

In the living room, striking colors and patterns create an eye-catching canvas of design. The coral walls pop against dark wood beams and flooring. Tall windows dressed in orange, red and yellow plaid silk taffeta capture the vibrant nature of the home. Anita added even more punch by



ABOVE: Dark wood-framed windows and Anita's colorful paintings pop off the turquoise walls in the dining room. Orange, red and yellow plaid chair fabric melds with the scheme.

FACING: More artwork by Anita commands attention in the living room. To the right, antique chairs gather about a game table. Through the doorway, the dining room comes into view.

choosing a purple sofa. "It was a risky choice," she says. "But it works because it's a very clear and pretty hue."

The living room's furnishings form an eclectic tapestry of antique, global and contemporary styles. Near the antique stone fireplace, two antique armchairs take a walk on the wild side covered in zebra-striped fabric. Other traditional armchairs wear red, gold and purple-striped cushions, while Spanish-style chairs, a chandelier and occasional tables present another vernacular. An Indonesian cocktail table and other worldly pieces add interest.

Beyond the living room and through the foyer lies the dining room. Here, a collection of Anita's paintings pops against the room's turquoise walls. To keep the focus on the artwork, Walsh chose a simple, round wood table and chairs covered in low-key orange, red and yellow plaid silk fabric. On the chandelier, cream silk shades with orange fringe tie in to the scheme.

Vibrant color prevails again in the family room, where bright-yellow walls surround a cozy arrangement of orange





LEFT: With its spirited tones of yellow, orange and denim blue, the family room's design mirrors a similar room in the owners' former California home. The furnishings are plump, comfortable and covered in cotton fabrics.

ABOVE: Boldly etched in red, black and white, the kitchen is as functional as it is dramatic. "Anita wanted the cabinets painted like early American kitchens. We wanted them to look like furniture," says designer Marigil Walsh.



lounge chairs, a yellow, orange and red plaid sofa, and an orange-and-yellow checkered lounge chair. For the upholstery, Walsh chose cotton across the board to keep the varied fabrics from looking too heavy.

The family room gives way to the kitchen, where Walsh kicked up the contrast of color. An island painted a vivid red sizzles against the black-and-white checked tile flooring, black

granite countertops and cabinetry. Whimsical accessories, such as lamps with grass-skirted Hawaiian ladies and a collection of ceramic roosters, enhance the room's colorful, artistic appeal. "It's bold," Walsh says. "But it goes with Anita's personality and the home's theatrical style."

The design shifts to quieter tones of pale yellow, blue and pink in the master bedroom and sitting area. A dark-wood bed in the master bed-



Colors soften to pale yellow, blue and pink in the master bedroom, where French doors open to a sunny terrace. In the sitting area, plump lounge chairs gather near a fireplace.

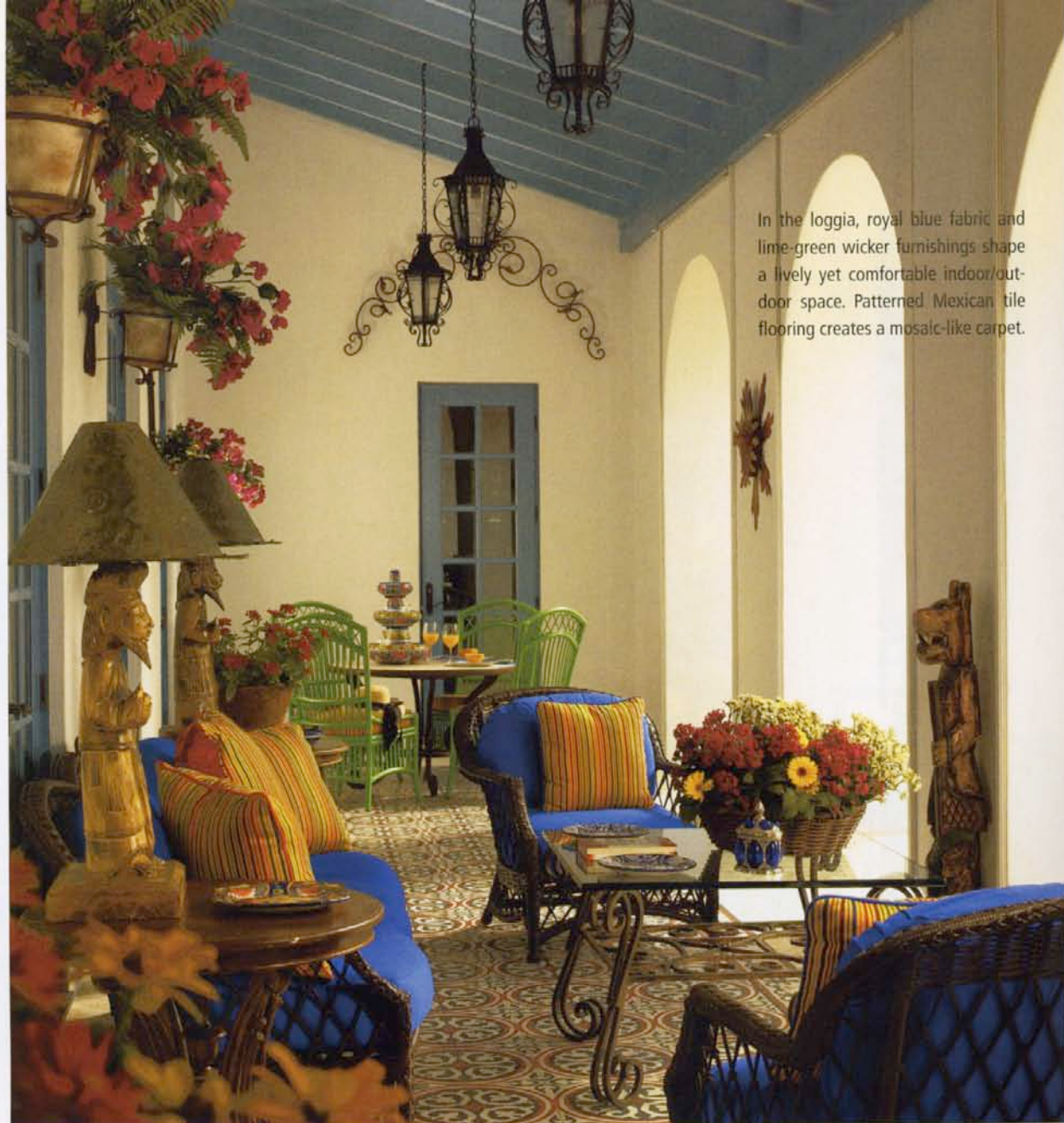
room offers a complementary contrast to the yellow bed coverings and walls.

Across from the bed, twin lounge chairs and a matching ottoman in light-blue floral fabric gather around the fireplace — the perfect setting for reading by the fire.

Even outside, Walsh kept things bright and colorful. Tucked beneath a beamed ceiling with a view of the pool, a casual arrangement of

chairs and tables colored in lime green and royal blue create spaces to eat or relax. "Everyone makes a beeline for it," Anita says. "It's just a nice place to be."

Artistic vision and the daring use of color build an interior drama that captures the personality of its owners. "This is not a safe house," Anita says. "When we did it, we broke all the rules. But it was wonderful to see it all come together."



In the loggia, royal blue fabric and lime-green wicker furnishings shape a lively yet comfortable indoor/outdoor space. Patterned Mexican tile flooring creates a mosaic-like carpet.

SOURCES

Stairhall/Master Suite

Horse sculpture, pedestal and area rug - Owners' Collection

Living Room

Sofa - TCS Designs, Hickory, NC

Armless game chairs - AG*R Rééditions,

The Elysée Collection, Chapel Hill, NC

Sofa, armless game chair and red chair fabrics - Osborne & Little, Stamford, CT

Fuchsia and gold accent pillows - Lee Jofa, Bethpage, NY

Zebra armchairs - Mark Evers Antiques and Fine Arts, Pittsburgh, PA

Cocktail table - Hip and Humble Home, New York, NY

Desk in corner - Sherrill Furniture Co., Hickory, NC

Chandelier - Minka Lavery, Lighting Gallery, Greensburg, PA

Green lampshade fixture - Custom designed by Astorino, Palm Beach and Naples, FL; Pittsburgh, PA

Fabric - JAB, Stroheim & Romann, Philadelphia, PA

Lampshade fabricated by Sally Shades, Pittsburgh, PA

Lamp ironwork fabricated by Nowalk Lighting, Pittsburgh, PA

Floor lamps - Arte de Mexico, Burbank, CA

Window treatment - Custom designed by Astorino, Palm Beach and Naples, FL; Pittsburgh, PA

Fabrics - Creation Baumann, Rockville Centre, NY, and Warehouse Fabrics, Inc., Winfield, AL

Zebra trim - Houllés, Silver Lacy Associates, Thornton, PA

Window treatment fabricated by Gary Bowers Designs, Pittsburgh, PA

Area rug - Stark Carpet Corp., D&D Building, New York, NY

Dining Room

Table - Hickory Chair, Hickory, NC

Chairs - Taracea. Ebano-Soberon, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Fabric - Jim Thompson, Atlanta, GA

Console - Disenos Los Rios, San Ysidro, CA

Mirror - Miller-Topia Designers, Hulmeville, PA

Chandelier - Crystorama Lighting Group, Westbury, NY

Console lamp - Mark Evers Antiques and Fine Arts, Pittsburgh, PA

Area rug - Stark Carpet Corp., D&D Building, New York, NY

Family Room

Sofa, orange lounge chairs and ottoman - TCS Designs, Hickory, NC

Draperies - Custom designed by Astorino, Palm Beach and Naples, FL; Pittsburgh, PA

Draperies fabricated by Gary Bowers Designs, Pittsburgh, PA

Occasional table - Theodore Alexander, Sherrill Furniture, Hickory, NC

Table lamp - Frederick Cooper Lamps, Chicago, IL

Floor lamp - The Uttermost Co., Rocky Mount, VA

Area rug field - Unique Carpets, Ltd., Riverside, CA

BEYOND THE POOL AND SPANISH-STYLE PATIO, BENCHES AND A FOUNTAIN SURROUNDED BY TILEWORK OFFER A SCENIC RESPITE.



Area rug trim - Glant Textiles, Hines & Co.,
D&D Building, New York, NY

Area rug fabricated by William A. Fischer
Carpet Co., Pittsburgh, PA

Kitchen

Cabinetry and island - The Cabinetree,
Vero Beach, FL

Tile backsplash behind stove - D'Mundo Tile,
Inc., Palm Desert, CA

Appliances and hood - Florida Builders

Appliances, Pompano Beach, FL

Barstools - Delvis International, Bridgeport, CT

Cushion fabric - JAB, Stroheim & Romann,
Philadelphia, PA

Cornice fabric - Westgate Fabrics, Grand Prairie, TX

Fabricated by Gary Bowers Designs, Pittsburgh, PA

Flooring - Florida Floor Fashions, Wabasso, FL

Master Bedroom/Sitting Area

Bed - Drexel Heritage, International Home
Furnishings Center, High Point, NC

Lounge chairs and ottoman - Pearson Co.,

Designers Buying Group, Inc., Jupiter, FL

Bedskirt fabricated by Victor's Custom Quilting,
Hialeah, FL

Armchair - Artistic Frame Co., New York, NY

Cushion fabric - Fonthill, Ltd., Greensboro, NC

Draper fabric - Duraloe Techstyle and

Suburban Fabrics, Bayshore, NY

Fabricated by Gary Bowers Designs, Pittsburgh, PA

Carpet - Design Materials, Inc., Kansas City, KS

Loggia

Wicker sofa and chairs - Laneventure, Conover, NC

Cushion fabric - Scalamantré, Ohio Design

Center, Beachwood, OH

Green chairs - Maine Cottage Furniture, Inc.,

Portland, ME

Dining table - Pietrarte, Los Angeles, CA

Lantern fixtures - Arte de Mexico, Burbank, CA

Tile Flooring - D'Mundo Tile, Palm Desert, CA

Patio and Pool Area

Pool contractor - Crystal Pools, Vero Beach, FL

Benches - Smith & Hawkin, Ltd., Novato, CA

Accent pillow fabric - Scalamantré,

Ohio Design Center, Beachwood, OH

Fabricated by Lindsay Porter, Pittsburgh, PA

Fountain and tile surround - Custom designed by

D'Mundo Tile, Palm Desert, CA

Fabricated by AAC Builders, Inc., Vero Beach, FL

Throughout

Builder - AAC Builders, Inc., Vero Beach, FL

Fireplaces, ceiling beams and windows -

Custom designed by Merrill, Pastor & Colgan

Architects, Vero Beach, FL

All fabricated by AAC Builders, Inc.,

Vero Beach, FL

Ironwork - Custom designed and fabricated by

Cantera Doors, Bonita Springs, FL

Painting - AAC Builders, Inc., Vero Beach, FL

Florals and greenery - Becker Landscaping and

Irrigation, Hobe Sound, FL

Artwork - Owners' Collection

Wood flooring - Designer's Touch Flooring,

Vero Beach, FL ♦