

Rhapsody In Blue

BY STACIA
FRIEDMAN

Nine-panel custom artwork by Rothlynn Fine Art over the Bernhardt sofa balances the 14-foot ceilings by pulling the eye upward.



COOL HUES CREATE A TRANQUIL SANCTUARY FOR A REMODEL IN BOCA RATON'S BROKEN SOUND CLUB

The design scheme for this serene Broken Sound Club home started with a single color: teal blue.

"The new owners wanted their home to be filled with the color of the ocean," says interior designer Jill Jones of Brown's Interior Design in Boca Raton. "They didn't want the usual beige or gray. The final result is not your typical Florida home."

The new owners also didn't want your typical designer.

"When we bought the house in May 2013, I interviewed decorators whose names I had received through word-of-mouth," says the client. "Then, looking at a magazine, I saw an ad for Brown's and decided to expand my search. Within five minutes, I knew Jill and I would work well together. Jill helped me envision the big picture. She encouraged me to be a little bolder."

This was a long-distance collaboration, with the clients in New York and Jones in Boca Raton managing the entire project, from construction to decorative details.

"My previous experience working with a designer was haphazard," says the client. "But Jill was always accessible. I would've been overwhelmed without her, but she made everything so easy."

For Jones, a large-scale project like this was nothing new. An interior designer in Boca Raton since 1986 and a member of Brown's design team for 15 years, Jones has a long working relationship with local contractors and has developed a system to help clients achieve their goals.

"I start by giving them homework, asking them to look through magazines and dog-ear pages of colors and design ideas that appeal to them," she says. "Then we discuss their lifestyle and preferences, how they plan to use the house. From that, I provide a floorplan showing the placement of furniture for every room. Finally, I put together a presentation of upholstered pieces, tables, fabrics, room by room. Then we do lighting, rugs and ceiling fans. Artwork comes last, after furniture has been delivered."

Built in 1984, the 4,000-square-foot house with 14-foot ceilings had a lot going for it: an expansive sunken living

(Above) Cut-velvet Century Furniture fireside chairs and a cobalt leather bench by Bernhardt provide bright pops of color in the living room.

(Right) A dramatic contemporary chandelier and polished marble flooring bring elegance to the foyer.





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— Jill Jones, interior designer, Brown's Interior Design

room with a view of the pool and a lake, as well as an open floorplan with three bedrooms, an office and five bathrooms. Every room had a great view, except the kitchen.

“The kitchen is the heart of the home,” Jones says. “I suggested taking down the wall between the kitchen and the family room, opening up the space and offering a view of the lake.”

The polished marble floors were in excellent shape, but the two steps leading to the living room presented a potential hazard, Jones says: “The steps were the same color as the floor, and someone could not see them and trip. We inserted contrasting tiles in a café au lait tone.”

The entire house was updated, including all the bathrooms. New hardwood floors were installed in the master bedroom and accented with area rugs.

The client originally wanted to remove the floor-to-ceiling fireplace in the living room until Jones explained its uniqueness.

“It’s made of coquina stone, which came from the coral reefs off the coast of Florida and is no longer available,” she says. “We removed the fireplace’s wooden mantel and mesh fire screen and added birch logs for eye appeal. The new owners are not using it as a working fireplace.”

The original owner had decorated the home in a traditional style with heavy furniture. The new owner didn’t want traditional, but she also didn’t want to go too contemporary.

“We call the look ‘soft contemporary,’” Jones says.

She suggested Century Furniture chairs for the liv-

(Above) The kitchen, which had previously been enclosed, now offers stunning views of the swimming pool and lake.

(Left) Modified wingback chairs in a gold-toned, animal-print velvet add sophistication to this dining set by Century Furniture.



The family room reflects the dark wood of the kitchen, to which it now opens, and displays a neutral palette of soft blues and linen tones.



Tones of cobalt and turquoise continue in the master bedroom in the cushions, bedside lamps and bench.

(Below) Linen tones, dark wood and neutral carpeting create serenity in the guest bedroom.

ing room with cocktail tables by Swain and sofas and a leather bench by Bernhardt. In the dining room, modified wingback chairs upholstered in a lively, animal-print velvet add a touch of glamour to a dark wood table and chairs by Century Furniture. Jones balanced the high ceilings with eye-catching light fixtures; custom art by Rothlynn Fine Art; and custom window treatments, including motorized shades. She punched up the blue and cream color scheme with shots of lime and yellow.

The blue theme follows into the family room but with softer-hued sofas, paisley throw pillows and a chocolate leather swivel chair. These subdued colors are echoed in the geometric area rug. Dark wood coordi-



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nates with the refinished kitchen cabinets, which can be seen from the family room.

“The kitchen cabinets had been maple,” Jones says. “We installed new cabinet doors in a darker color and Shaker style.”

In the master bedroom, the original floor-to-ceiling wood shutters were repainted bright white. Here, pops of color are found in the throw pillows and leather settee. The guest bedroom is a study in neutrals and linen tones. But it’s the poolside patio that really comes alive with splashes of turquoise and cream upholstery on dark wicker lounges, reflecting the water and sky.

Renovation of the property took six months, and the interior design was completed within a year.

“When I walked through the front door, everything was in its place,” says the homeowner. “I had wanted a big reveal like on TV, and I got it. It all worked! For someone decorating long distance, it was a dream.”

Although the project is complete, the client continues to rely on Jones for decorative advice, she says: “I value her opinion, and, every time I go to Brown’s, I feel like I am with friends.”

Recently, while paging through a magazine, the homeowner recognized a photo of her living room in an ad for Brown’s Interior Design, announcing the firm’s 40th anniversary.

“I was so excited, I called them up,” she says. “I love my house.” ☉



Designer Jill Jones helped her client bring the blue of the sky and ocean into her home, including the geometric print and turquoise cushions of the poolside seating area.