

PARADISE IN THE TROPICS

A BLEND OF BREATHTAKING OCEAN VIEWS, TURQUOISE WATER AND MILKY WHITE ALABASTER SAND ARE ALL FOUND HERE ON GREAT GUANA CAY — ONE OF THE BAHAMAS' MOST GRACIOUS AND PICTURESQUE PRIZE POSSESSIONS

INTERIOR DESIGN MARY FOLEY AND MICHAEL COX, FOLEY & COX, NEW YORK, NY
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Built to withstand hurricanes, this Bahamian-style home is encased with weatherproof windows and cedar-shake siding that enhance its character with each passing year. With no cars permitted on the island, the golf cart shed is a necessary asset.

A bronze cast sculpture by Hanneke Beaumont — an artist well known for her strong and motionless figures — captures attention at every turn in the living room. Here, a chunky woven area rug from Carpet Boutique pulls sandy hues into the room, while Norbar’s sheer draperies open gracefully to radiate the space with sunshine.



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At last, a retreat that brings happiness to the soul. An organically inspired home resides here in Baker’s Bay Golf and Ocean Club — an all-inclusive resort with every amenity imaginable. Here, imagination becomes reality with a 6,500-square-foot home perched high upon a dune overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. After falling in love with this destination while on vacation, the homeowners soon coined it their own paradise getaway. The couple appointed designers Mary Foley and Michael Cox — the team responsible for the remarkable results they achieved in their other homes. A collaborative effort, the architectural structure of the home veers away from the typical milieu of the tropics. “The exterior is an evolution that reflects the historical past of the traditional Bahamian-style home,” Cox says. But, the most imperative aspect of the project was to fashion an outdoor-indoor environment with a clean and modern interior. “We wanted a beach-style theme that was comfortable and easy to maintain,” the wife says. Bright whites are tempered with impressionable colors throughout the home. The living room is fresh and full of fun with a wide spectrum of textures and styles. “We intentionally

ABOVE: The foyer is an elaborate demonstration of eclectic style with artist Huang Yan’s Chinese porcelain statue atop a white lacquer and walnut console table from Gustavo Olivieri. Above, a photograph by Luis Gispert commands interest with a portrayal of eccentricity at its best.



ARTWORK TAKES ON A RAKISH APPROACH IN THE DINING ROOM, WHERE JOHN BALDESSARI'S OBJECT (WITH FLAW) — COMPRISED OF MULTIPLE IRREGULAR AND ASYMMETRICAL COMPOSITIONS — PROVIDES THE CREATIVE FOCAL POINT.

varied the compositions using dark woods, teak, iron and brushed nickel all to coordinate together," Foley says. Sumptuous woven white slipcovers from Perennials swathe the sofas beautifully, while an interesting wooden antique java bench from Noir doubles as a cocktail table. With the use of more texture and color, a secondary seating area is juxtaposed with vivacious blue patent leather chairs designed by Milo Baughman — a throwback to the 60s. Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's glass-top cocktail table and a wicker chair by Kenneth Cobonpue sit in perfect complement to all the retro pieces. Coral stone flooring canvases the space with fluidity and creates a sleek look for the fireplace. A chunky woven area rug of braided natural fibers pulls sandy hues into the room, while sheer linen drapes open gracefully to radiate the space with sunshine.

Intrigue unfolds in the dining room with a plan that incorporates distinct furnishings and signature wall art. "We chose interesting pieces that would not compete with the outside view," Cox says. A polished brass base cast in the form of a tree branch provides support to the dining

RIGHT: A clever approach for contrast is revealed in the kitchen as Calligaris' swivel counter stools with ebony stained seats provide a striking balance to Snaidero's glossy white cabinetry.



A sense of excitement emerges as vibrant hues splash across the family room. Here, a vivid collaged serigraph by artist Robert Peterson dots the wall above a soft white sofa from Lee Industries. The classic daybed designed by Molen Baddarc offers the perfect spot to enjoy the ocean breeze.



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table crafted from a single slab of acacia wood. The table's dark shade offsets the lighter tone of Gio Ponti's wicker chairs from Cassina. Shimmering overhead, the Jean-Christophe Dablemont chandelier — a personal favorite of the homeowners — captivates the eye as white hand-carved fish appear to swim toward the ocean. "It was an impromptu purchase while on a shopping trip in Paris," Foley says.

Splendid in its portrayal of modernism, the kitchen's crisp appearance demonstrates the sought after low-maintenance space. "There was a definitive process behind the design as it was based on the open space that conveys exceptional transition between the dining room and living room," the design duo says. A plethora of white wraps the walls with glossy cabinetry and white-glass door fronts. The lustrous island topped with blizzard white Caesarstone quartz centers the streamlined space in complementary contrast to the muted matte finish on the walls.

ABOVE: A Lillian August canopy bed from Hickory White provides sheer island-style comfort in the guest room, where doors slide open to the private deck.



ABOVE: In the master bath, walls of mirror create an optical illusion to reflect the ocean views beyond. A spa is born with a connected outdoor shower for the ultimate in luxury.

Soft textures and vibrant colors create a backdrop for comfortable gatherings in the upstairs family room. “It’s like an independent living space for our adult children,” the wife says. Touches of blue bounce off the soft white walls, while a Lee Industries sofa forms a social grouping with a striped slipper chair and square cocktail ottomans upholstered in a braided Lampakanai Philippine weave by Ralph Lauren.

While warm woods wrap the guest room, a traditional color palette for a seaside setting is reinterpreted with bold strokes of blue in the master bedroom. “We wanted to use clean colors as the outside view is vivid,” Cox says. A navy blue upholstered bed frame partners with crisp cool bedding to precipitate an aura of relaxation. Once again, the space, including the master bath, is graced with breathtaking views of the seascape.

On upper and lower levels, the outside is an extension of the inside as glass doors open onto covered patios that provide ample space for entertaining. “Every room brings the outdoors in,” the wife says. “And we love it.”

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In case the tropical allure of the island is not hypnotic enough, the green and blue swirls of artist Sandeep Mukherjee's abstract foster a spellbinding effect above Bernhardt's upholstered bed in the master suite. Here, the crisp blue and white stripes of a Madeline Weinrib area rug from ABC Carpet & Home add to the mesmerizing scene.

