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TROPICAL DIALOGUE

Gulf Coast sophistication makes a splash at a beach residence in Marco Island

DESIGN BY KIRA KRÜMM PHOTOGRAPHY BY RANDALL PERRY TEXT BY LUIS R. RIGUAL



Every aspect of Kira Krümm's work — from inspiration to installation — is as meticulous as it is inspiring. The designer is so attuned to her process that there is no better spokesperson for her method than Krümm herself. Case in point: "I approach designs artistically and conceptually, considering balance and composition when making selections," she says. "This home reflects the balance of ethereal, coastal elements and urban sophistication with a strong focus on duality between soft, textured, organic elements, and hard, clean-lined architectural materials." We could add our two cents, but why mess with perfection?

In this case, the residence that benefited from Krümm's astute eye is a luxury condominium near Naples on the state's west coast (the designer's usual stomping grounds). Fusing the clients' directive ("vacation retreat all the way") with the home's geography (idyllic Marco Island where "pause" is not just a word,

but a way of life), Krümm devised the ultimate pied-à-terre.

The requisite tropical references are inescapable, but their tone is sophisticated. Bamboo, hemp, linen and woven leathers were incorporated into the overall scheme to add depth and visual interest. Illustrating said approach is the grass cloth (from Phillip Jeffries) within custom designed panels on the living room's ceiling, and which we later discover was used to tie all the spaces together. Art throughout the residence puts forth ocean themes (from sunsets to seashells). In the living room, a custom designed firebox framed by rugged Jerusalem ivory creates a striking focal point. In terms of furniture, the articulations nod to coastal sentiments with soft textures and light colors.

"I approach an interior as I would a painting, creating a composition by incorporating various elements," adds Krümm. "Conceiving an idea and watching it materialize is magical." □



Above: Designer Kira Krümm.
Right: The indoor/outdoor family room alludes to the residence's sophisticated tropical style. Sectional and coffee table by Kravet. Painting by JoAnn Sanborn.
Opposite: The focal point of the living room is a firebox (not fireplace as there is no vent) framed with Jerusalem ivory. Art (most of which was culled from The Studio Gallery in Naples) throughout the apartment nods to beach themes. The grasscloth in the panels of the ceiling is from Phillip Jeffries. Cocktail table from the Per Se metal and glass collection from Artistica. Custom curio chests by Old Biscayne Designs.

