

**win**  
A TRIP TO THE  
**RITZ!**  
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**REAL-ESTATE HOT LIST** | **51** TOP  
SHOULD YOU BUY NOW? SUMMER  
TABLES

# FLORIDA

TRAVEL+LIFE  
YOUR GUIDE TO THE GOOD LIFE

# key west

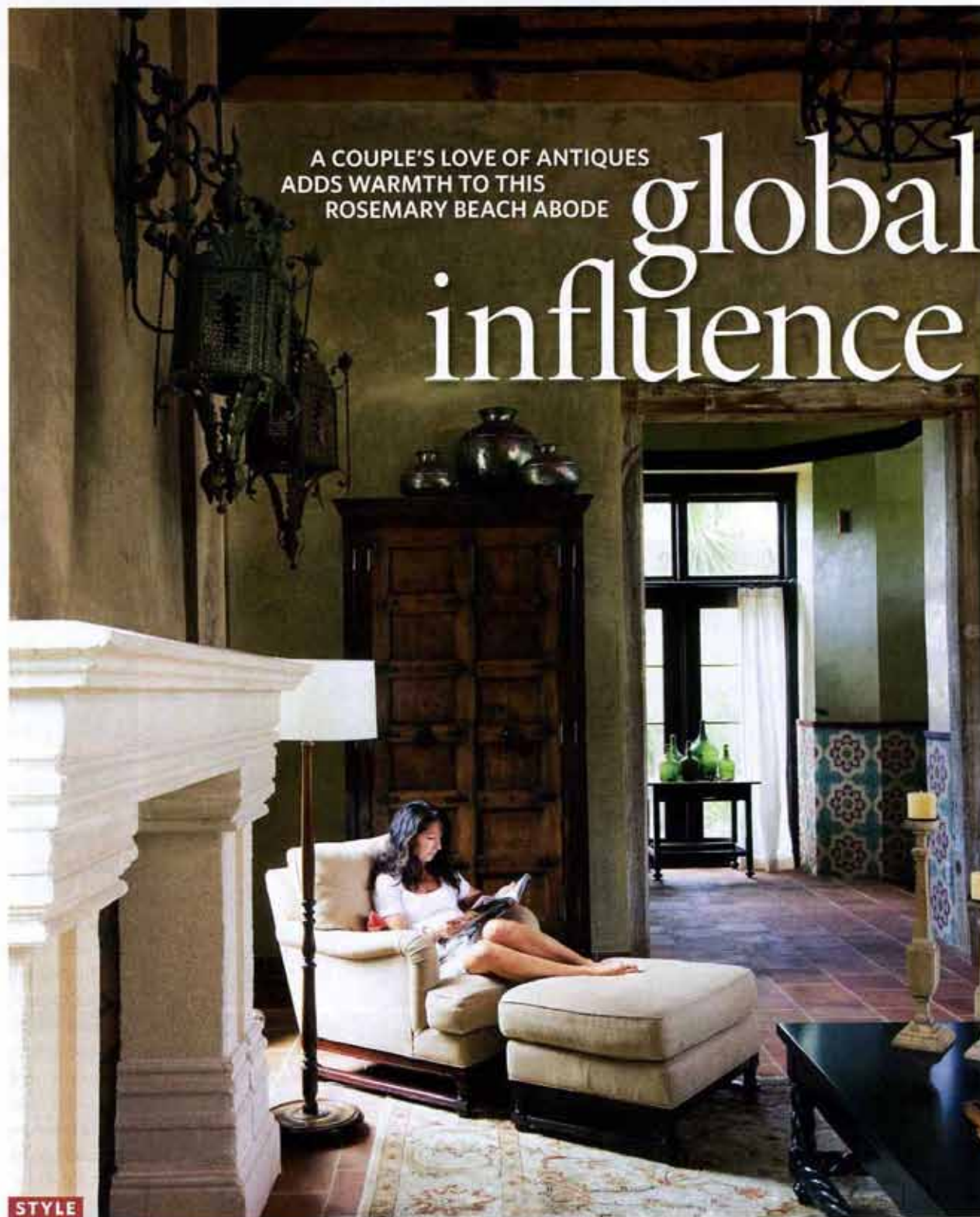
## LIKE A LOCAL

island eats, sunset spots & one  
very secret martini bar

**PLUS**  
THE COASTAL ROAD  
TRIP WE LOOOVED!



vintage shops + southern charm + design star



A COUPLE'S LOVE OF ANTIQUES  
ADDS WARMTH TO THIS  
ROSEMARY BEACH ABODE

## global influence

### STYLE

**T**he palette of Jon and Clair LaPlante's home in North Florida's Rosemary Beach pairs effortlessly with its surrounding wetlands and pine forest. Prior to its construction, Jon requested a "rambling building" from local architect Darrell Russell of Looney Ricks Kiss (LRK). "The result

is a European mix of Moroccan and Italian design intended to look like a house that might have started out as a barn but has grown and evolved over many generations," says Jon, who happens to work as a contractor and developer.

The "barn" adaptation comes through prominently in the >>

>> living room, where 24-foot ceilings feature cypress beams and a painted red stain between them. To balance the height of the ceilings, designer Paige Schnell of Tracery Interiors, also in Rosemary Beach, chose large-scale furnishings and accessories, such as the two living-room chandeliers. Moroccan fixtures above the fireplace are a focal point against the earth-toned, three-coat concrete stucco finish of the walls. The latter was achieved through a burnishing technique using a steel trowel, the goal of which is to make the walls look aged.

The couple handed Schnell only one must-have for the house: a beloved armoire (now in the living room) that ended up setting the tone for the antique thematic. Soon, collectibles from all over the world filled the space. "The house is full of furnishings and accessories from Turkey, Afghanistan, China and Morocco," says Schnell. Leather, natural linens and plentiful use of vibrant tiles skillfully blend with these global pieces, thus comprising the interior's easy-to-live-with textures and materials. The result is a rich earthiness, says Schnell, who integrated gold, red and ocher tinges into the palette. Other than the antiques, all of the fabrics are designer textiles purchased through Tracery Interiors, as are the furnishings.

The master bedroom takes its cue from the vivid colors found in nature, which surrounds the home. Thus, it's "all chocolate and white with accents of blue," says Schnell, who painted the master ceiling a dreamy and dark sea shade.

It's quite a nod to the designer's skills that such a beautifully integrated interior evolved from just one piece of furniture. "The LaPlantes didn't want their home to look like any other. All the antiques guaranteed that." *traceryinteriors.com* — SUSAN FRIEDMAN

A bamboo bed frame in the master; Claire LaPlante and pooch; a vivid boys' bathroom; the lovely LaPlantes.



DESIGNER PICKS

## where to shop in northwest florida

PAIGE SCHNELL OF TRACERY INTERIORS IN ROSEMARY BEACH SHARES SOME FAB DESIGN SHOPS.

**Seacrest's Bohlert Massey Interiors** is also a designer-owned biz with an emphasis on antiques and classic furniture as well as its own brand line of mirrors known as coastal trumeaus. *bohlertmassey.com*, 850.231.3940

At Ruskin Place in Seaside, **The Art of Simple** is the place to go for simply beautiful photography and to view the artwork of owners Michael and Laura Granberry. 850.231.6748

**Design on the Gulf** is a scenic Seagrove Beach destination with accessories, furnishings and its own line of custom rugs (Barrier Island in cotton or wool). Find gorgeous Italian Scagliola stone mantels here too. *designonthegulf.com*, 850.231.4844

**Pizitz Home & Cottage** in downtown Seaside has wonderful decor for beachy homes, from light linen-covered furniture to bedding. 850.231.2240

