

PALM BEACH MEETS KEY WEST

Spacious, airy interiors mix with a soft palette and tropical prints for a sophisticated island experience.



Design by Celerie Kemble, Kemble Interiors, Inc., New York, NY, and Palm Beach, FL
Exterior and Interior Architecture by David Spence, Windigo Architecture LLC, Morristown, NJ
Builder James Paisley
Text by Nichole L. Reber
Photography by Daniel Newcomb, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Builder James Paisley's methods and materials construct the vision of architect David Spence, such as the slatted balustrades on the Romeo and Juliet balconies that allow breezes to easily enter the home.

PRESTIGE CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT, LLC.



Though Palm Beach seems wedded to the Mediterranean Revival style that famed architect Addison Mizner brought to its shores nearly 100 years ago, one young family opted for something different for their primary residence — calling upon architect David Spence and designer Celerie Kemble to bring a little bit of Key West into the midst of Palm Beach.

The home's lot is designed around dual courtyards, where one encapsulates the 4,838-square-foot main house, pool and al fresco dining area. The hip metallic roofs of Spence's design temper the home's lemon-yellow stucco and white trim, bear gables, exposed rafters, overhangs, and covered terraces and mullioned windows — all of which are typical of the Key West style. ▶

ABOVE: Designer Celerie Kemble prefers to work with period pieces and original artwork whenever possible. In the entry hall to the living room, she incorporated a vintage cabinet and a floral painting by Katherine Zuill.

RIGHT: In the dining room, Spence's application of a coffered effect on the ceiling grants vertical expansion. Chairs with cushions covered in Scalamandrè fabric surround a large Hickory Chair table from Judith Norman.





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“PALM BEACH HAS AN ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE,” SPENCE SAYS. “ARCOM APPLAUDED THE HOME’S DESIGN BECAUSE OF ITS NOD TOWARDS PALM BEACH’S ORIGINS AS A SMALL BEACH COMMUNITY.”

Indoors, Spence and Kemble designed a home with the ability to function as a machine for a busy family of five while still maintaining a stately appearance. To this end, a classic pastel color scheme and natural materials were employed, such as jatoba and limestone flooring, and finely woven grasscloth wall covering.

In the dining room, the walls take center stage with a soft powdery-blue hue that anchors a crane and sea grape pattern. A coral chandelier made of poured resin and tall, painted-brass Casablanca lily lamps on the custom-designed buffet emphasize the home’s tropical location. The tropics continue into the ▶

ABOVE: Flowered drapery fabric from Pierre Frey lines the living room and accents the soft lime hue of the Brunschwig & Fils-covered sofa. A vintage black lacquer cocktail table with a mirrored top creates an antique feel.

RIGHT: Jatoba flooring inlaid with cream-colored marble covers the entrance hall floors, while walls are clad in Maya Romanoff’s grasscloth. Another painting from Zuill, illuminated by wall lamps from Visual Comfort, adds color.





living room, where curtains pop with large-scale tulips, poppies and zinnias. A sofa bears springlike hues of green, cream and pink pastel stripes.

Nearby, the kitchen, and adjoining breakfast area create the heart of the home. Completely custom designed by Spence, the bright and airy kitchen features stark-white cabinetry and high-vaulted, tongue-and-groove ceilings with exposed beams, which prompted the architect to implement a beadboard wall in the breakfast area to carry through the interior architectural elements. Kemble extended the vegetal hues with an avocado tabletop and buttery yellow chairs.

Spence, who won over the city's architectural review committee with his Palm Beach meets Key West style, says, "Arcom applauded the home's design because of its nod towards Palm Beach's origins as a small beach community." **f**

LEFT: Vintage chairs from Donovan & Gray Antiques surround the breakfast area's table, which features a lava stone top by Catherine Lagot. A painted-metal lemon chandelier adds whimsy.

BELOW: Sanderson's spring-green wall covering complements the kitchen's white cabinetry designed by Spence. "The wall covering is the character piece of the kitchen," Kemble says.



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