

## A CLASSIC STATEMENT

*Arches, Pediments, Columns And Other Elements Enhance A Timeless Design*

INTERIOR DESIGN Sandy Welsh and Rick Veller, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
 ARCHITECTURE Garcia Brenner Stromberg Architecture, Boca Raton, FL  
 TEXT Roberta H. Freeman-Journey  
 PHOTOGRAPHY Gregory O. Ross, West Palm Beach, FL

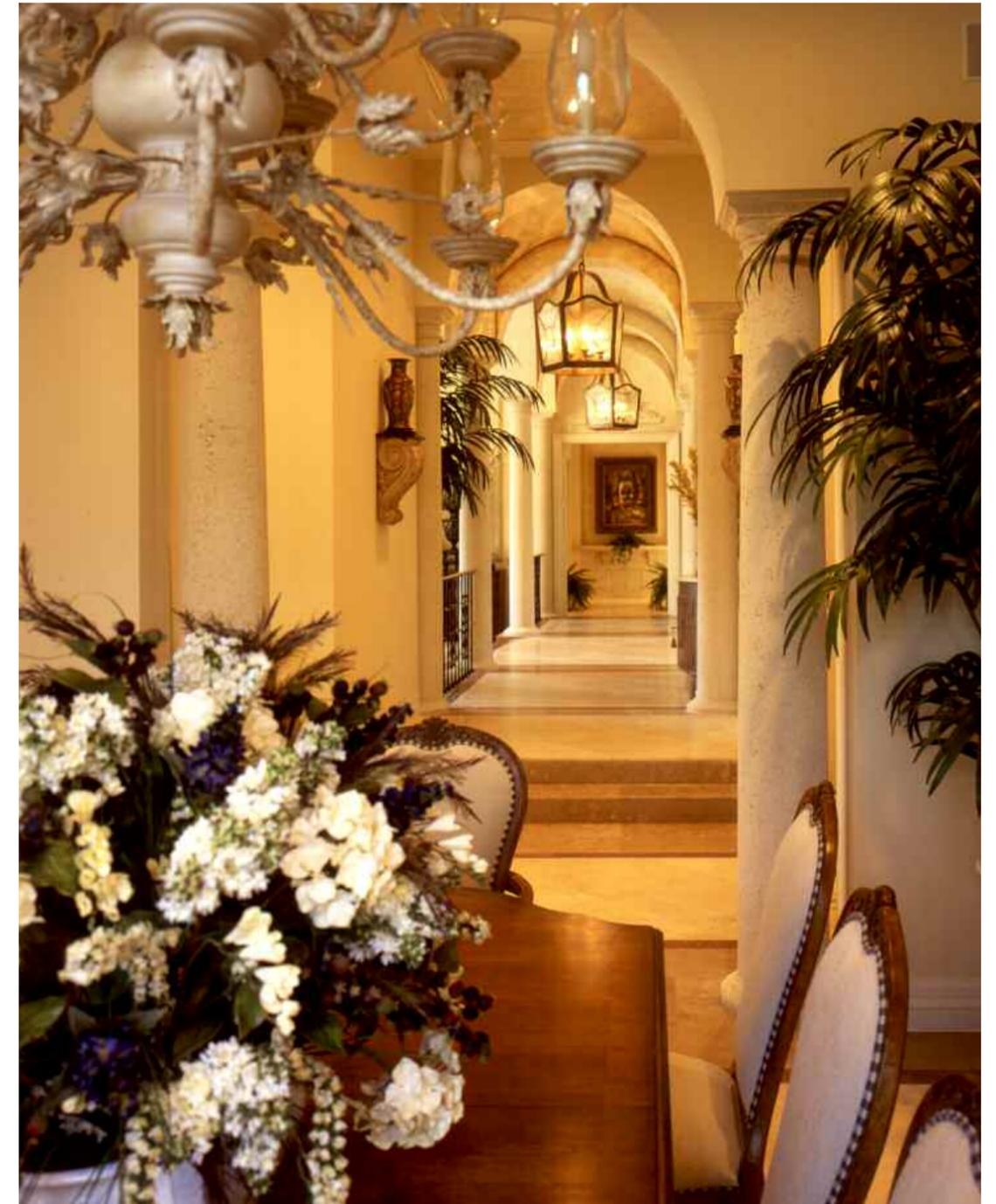
**S**andy Welsh and Rick Veller heed one rule of thumb when designing a home: focus on impact. Having worked together for the past 10 years, they know which floor plans and architectural details make the greatest impressions. Before the two begin any project, “we review the traffic flow and interior elements to ensure they highlight the living areas,” Welsh says.

ABOVE: A groin-vaulted ceiling and a mahogany center table distinguish the foyer of Gary and Linda Krat’s home. Beyond, arched windows and doors take in a view of the patio and pool area.

LEFT: Ivory, gold and midnight-blue hues reign in the living room/bar area. Designers Sandy Welsh and Rick Veller’s blend of traditional furnishings imbues the space with a classic presence.



*Leaded-glass lanterns light up the gallery, which extends from the dining room to the master suite. Three different kinds of marble comprise the flooring.*



Among Welsh and Veller’s list of accomplishments are residential models for custom builders, including this home in the Vintage Oaks section of The Polo Club Boca Raton. Its striking interior caught the eye of Gary and Linda Krat who already owned a home in the community. The Krats are involved in thoroughbred horse racing, and train their horses in Florida and New York. In addition, they keep a yacht in the Caribbean.

The moment the couple crossed the threshold of this home, “we fell in love with its wonderful attention to detail,” Linda recalls. “There was not a room in which we didn’t see something unique.”

Architecturally, the interior is a study in classicism. A columned, groin-vaulted ceiling in the foyer heralds the living room, where arches, pediments and columns shape the design. Arched windows and doors, elegantly

draped in cream silk, line the room, affording a view of the patio and pool area.

In the center, an area rug in regal tones of ivory, gold and midnight blue anchors a curved sofa and two different pairs of armchairs. Gary was so taken by the area rug’s colors that he now uses them for the “silks” of his horses. “They are gorgeous together,” he says.

Ivory silk sweeps across the sofa, while navy-blue

damask adorns gold-leaf armchairs. Louis XV-style armchairs covered in an ivory-and-blue animal print complete the seating. The sofa faces a fireplace topped

ABOVE LEFT: A pediment with beveled mirrors crowns the fireplace — the focal point of the living room. Fabrics from Stroheim & Romann and Lee Jofa enliven the armchairs.



with a pediment, which is inset with beveled mirrors for added depth. “Because of the room’s scale and the height of the ceilings, we focused on proportion by using elements that complemented the space,” Veller says.

Behind the sofa is the bar area — an architectural statement in its own right. White columns rest on each corner of the granite-topped, dark maple cabinetry — the two in the front rising to meet another Neoclassic-style pediment. Rolled-back chairs pull up to the bar. “The bar area is eye level with seated guests in the living room, so it’s easy to converse,” Linda says.

A gallery off the living room leads to the formal dining room. Here, an iron-and-wood chandelier with hurricane globes glows softly above a cherry-veneered table.

For informal occasions, however, the Krats gather in the kitchen and family room. In the kitchen, the granite-topped island is a gourmet cook’s dream. “I love preparing meals at the island, where everything is accessible,” Linda says.

The family room blends the casual look of woven textures with sophisticated fabrics. A sisal area rug with a tapestry border draws together twin sofas in navy-blue chenille and rattan lounge chairs covered in a zebra-paisley print.

Gary’s favorite spot is the library, which he uses as his personal office. Crackle-finished walls imbue the room with a sense of warmth, while traditional furnishings underscore the feel.

The mood lightens in the master suite, where luxurious silks drape a



ABOVE LEFT & LEFT: Brunswick & Fils’ zebra-paisley fabric covers the barstools in the kitchen and the cushions and pillows in the family room. “We were impressed by the designers’ use of strong color,” Linda says.

FACING: Ceiling coffers faux painted with a tin effect enhance the library’s time-honored feel, while a wing chair and tufted desk chair maintain the room’s traditional ambiance. A spiral stairway leads to a mezzanine.





canopy bed. Ottomans covered in midnight-blue silk rest at the foot of the bed.

The sitting area affords space for both relaxation and work. "It is so peaceful and a great place to enjoy the outdoor view," Linda says.

An old-fashioned tub with brass hardware adds a touch of nostalgia to the master bath, while a garden stool and an Oriental étagère add to the space's charm.

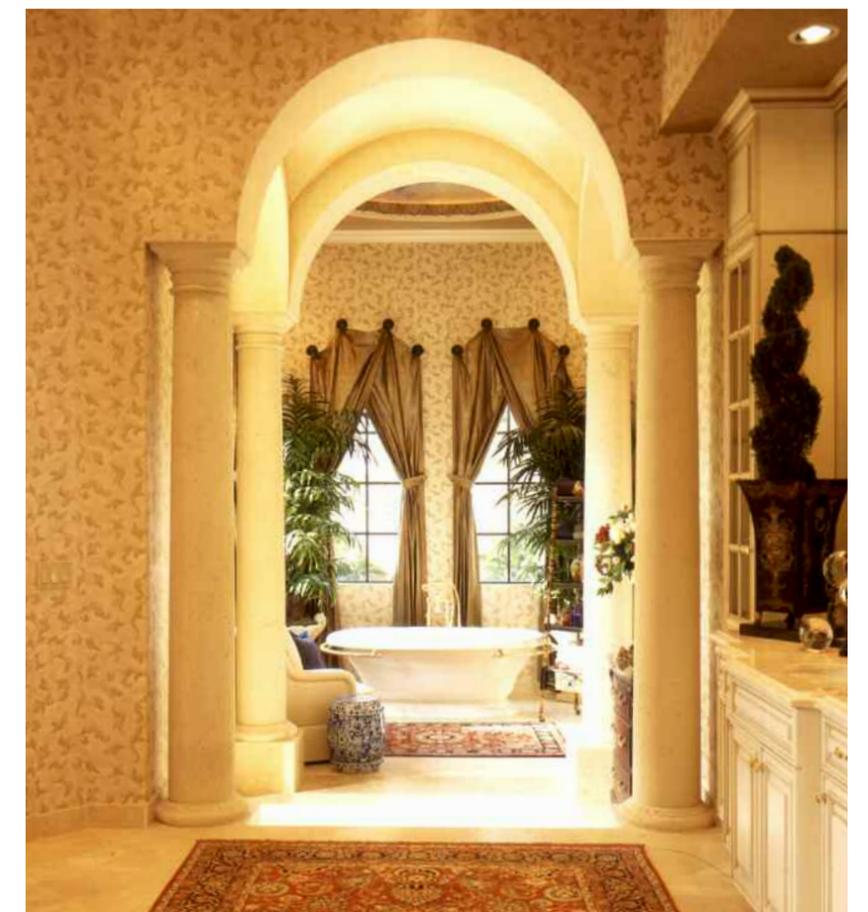
With its detailed architectural elements, this elegant home truly makes a classic statement.



ABOVE: Lounge chairs in the master suite sitting area provide comfortable seating in which to relax and enjoy the view. Marge Carson's ostrich-skin desk pairs with a chair covered in Lee Jofa's blue-and-gold terrazzo weave.

RIGHT: A columned archway introduces the master bath, where a vintage-style tub from Kohler is the centerpiece. Bronze silk tiebacks soften the paned windows and complement the patterned wall covering from Variations. Oriental area rugs add a dose of vivid color.

LEFT: Welsh and Veller carried the color scheme of the living room into the master suite, where fabrics from Ann Gish drape the canopy bed. Charmeuse ivory silk lined with midnight-blue silk forms the cornice treatment and tiebacks around the posts. Quilted ivory silk wraps the bed.



## SOURCES

### Living Room/Bar Area/Foyer

Sofa, armchairs, chest and occasional table between Louis XV-style armchairs - Century Furniture, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Blue armchair fabric - Stroheim & Romann, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Print armchair fabric - Lee Jofa/Mark Biller & Associates, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Cocktail table - Accessories International,

### Houston, TX

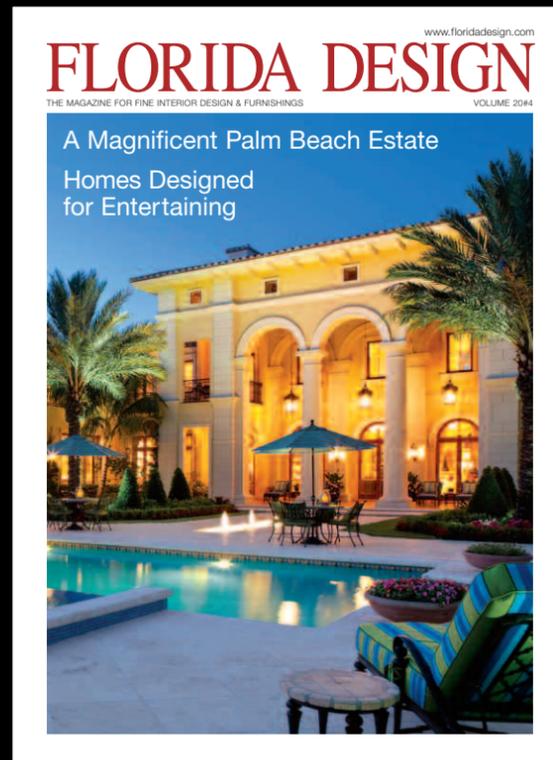
Occasional tables - Remi, San Diego, CA  
Center table in foyer - Artifacts International, San Diego, CA  
Bar chairs - Swaim, High Point, NC  
Fabrics - Lee Jofa/Mark Biller & Associates, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Mirrors - Custom Environments, Boca Raton, FL  
Area rug - Wendy Clark Designs, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL

### Dining Room/Gallery

Table and chairs - Century Furniture, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Fabric - Lee Jofa/Mark Biller & Associates, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Chandelier and lanterns - Originals 22, Camarillo, CA  
Painting - John Richard, Greenwood, MS  
Kitchen  
Barstools - Taylor King, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL

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Countertops - Finnish Granite Group, Inc., Boynton Beach, FL

### Family Room

Sofas - Taylor King, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Chairs - Ficks Reed, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Fabric - Brunshwig & Fils, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Lamp - John Richard, Greenwood, MS

### Library

Desk - Century Furniture, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Chair - Taylor King, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Wing chair - Sam Moore Furniture Industries, Inc., Bedford, VA  
Drapery fabric - Kasmir Fabrics, Dallas, TX

Area rug - Masland, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL

### Master Suite

Bed - Artifacts International, San Diego, CA  
Bed covering, bedskirt canopy and ottoman fabrics - Ann Gish, Newbury Park, CA

Ottomans - Custom designed by Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL

Bedside chests - Marge Carson, Rosemead, CA

Lamps - John Richard, Greenwood, MS

### Master Suite Sitting Area

Desk and chair - Marge Carson, Rosemead, CA  
Fabric - Lee Jofa/Mark Biller & Associates, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Lounge chairs and ottoman - Taylor King, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Occasional tables - Remi, San Diego, CA  
Window treatment fabric - Ann Gish, Newbury Park, CA

### Master Bath

Tub - The Kohler Co., Kohler, WI  
Wall covering - Variations, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL  
Drapery fabric - F & M Sales, Inc., Aventura, FL  
Area rugs - Masland, Carls Furniture, Boca Raton, FL

### Throughout

Builder/developer - Vintage Properties, Delray Beach, FL

Living room, family room and library cabinetry - Wood King Cabinet & Millwork, Inc., Boynton Beach, FL  
Kitchen and bath cabinetry - Kitchen Art, Coral Springs, FL

Flooring - Casale Marble, Delray Beach, FL