

PALM BEACH COTTAGES & GARDENS

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Best Of Season!



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MEET THE DESIGNER

Lisa Kanning

by Orli Ben-Dor



Show Stopper | In a master bedroom (LEFT) at the Red Cross Show House, various textures are used from the floor to ceiling. Old is mixed with new as exemplified in modern pendant lamps accented with carved Indian ceiling medallions. **The Designer** | Lisa Kanning (BELOW LEFT) says her favorite part of a project is dreaming up the initial design concept, sometimes breaking “rules” by letting pure creativity run free. **Fine Print** | Vibrant fish prints (BELOW RIGHT) pop against a natural wallcovering in a house on the Intracoastal. **Modern Weave** | For a model unit by Coscan Homes (BOTTOM), Kanning chose contemporary pieces with soft edges. See Resources.



What do you love about Palm Beach? The picture-perfect quality is what drew me here. The weather was a big factor in moving here from Colorado, although I didn't take into consideration the hurricanes! I also find the design much more interesting, with so many more styles to work with than in the mountains. **Do you have a favorite place around Palm Beach?** I love riding my bicycle along the Intracoastal. It's my time to organize my thoughts and enjoy being by the water. **Where did you study?** The Colorado Institute of Art, but I've found that experience is what counts in this business. I've been in design for 10 years, but feel it's a continual learning experience—there's always more to learn. **Describe your home:** I recently moved to a historical Mediterranean home in El Cid with my office in the cottage out back. It's more space than I've ever had or needed, but as I work long hours most days, I love the luxury of escaping the office briefly by popping into the house or going out to the pool. **What are your favorite materials?** I love to use a variety of textures in a room—grass cloths, silks, linens. Using a mix of them on the walls, ceilings and behind bookcases creates interest in a subtle way. **Who has had a profound impact on your work?** I have a very creative group of designer friends, and I think we all feed off of each other. **When is your most creative time of day?** After hours, when the phone stops ringing. A glass of wine always helps the creative juices flow, as well. **What was your greatest extravagance?** So far it has been a yacht cruise through the Greek Isles last summer with friends. It was such a great way to travel that we have agreed to try to do a yacht trip every year, only with a bigger boat each time! **What was your greatest bargain?** I'm not so good with bargains. I'm the type who buys because it's a bargain and then regrets it. **What's something you can never have too much of?** Travel. It's so important to me as a designer to keep me inspired. **What's your favorite color?** I usually use color as an accent, so I like them all in small doses. **What would you do if you weren't a designer?** Although I studied psychology for many years before design, I don't think that would have lasted. Food has always been one of my passions, so I suppose I'd be a restaurateur. I find it an extension of design to plan menus. The texture, color and taste become the design elements for each plate. See Resources.

