

INTERIOR DESIGNER Alene Workman, Alene Workman
Interior Design, Hollywood, FL
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PHOTOGRAPHY Kim Sargent, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

A PLACE TO CALL HOME

Art Deco Details, Stained Glass Favorites And One Owner's Exquisite
Collection Of Art Combine In A Palm Beach Home Of His Own

Like gems for the eye, homeowner Lawrence Schlusel's glass vases sparkle proudly in custom niches while artist Hunt Slonem's *Bayou Casino* and Larry River's *Lady in Red* grace a 20-foot wall of ebony cabinetry that extends from the foyer through the living room.

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ORIGINALLY FROM THE DETROIT AREA with a large traditional home on a lake, homeowner Lawrence Schlussel became a developer/entrepreneur when he moved to Florida's Palm Beach and tapped into the building boom. Though he kept a condominium in Snowmass Village near Aspen, Colo., he didn't really have a home of his own.

Perhaps dealing in all that upscale real estate helped him to decide that one of several properties he owned in a new, five-floor boutique residence in Palm Beach might become his home. Enter award-winning interior designer Alene Workman armed with her detailed plans and color scheme for the 3,800-square-foot space. With views of both the Atlantic Ocean and the Intercoastal Waterway, she was excited to begin the design transformation.

ABOVE: Though Schlussel's preference is Art Deco, he takes pride in his eclectic collection of furniture, including an early American chair sitting in a shelved niche in the foyer. In the living room, right, a classic sofa and matching lounge chair are perfect for any period, while Quatrain's masculine cocktail table can't get too serious with the custom-designed, round occasional table.

"The homeowner is a bon vivant," interior designer Alene Workman says. "He is a man of many interests and superb taste." From ballet, to art, to his most treasured pieces, the condominium's interior scheme reflects his diversity.



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"Eyes up!" Coved ceilings vie for attention in the dining room, where even the colors change with the light. Robert Longo's *Tillman* dances along one wall, while the owner's elegant silver figurines hold torches high. Art Glass Environments' stained glass panels and mahogany faux pilasters reach skyward.

"I always come away having learned from a client," Workman says. "Lawrence has a wonderful collection of acquisitions, many he hadn't seen in years. It was a voyage of discovery for both of us."

And Schlusel came prepared too. "It was like he had been refining his tastes just for this project for years," Workman says. There were binders with photographs of furnishings Schlusel admired. He knew he loved dark wood; stained glass was a favorite from Tiffany to Lalique; and he was fascinated by Art Deco details. In addition, he had his own collection of art and glass that he was aching to bring out of storage.

As for Workman, the canvas was nearly bare. With the new building's drywall not yet hung, the designer leapt at the opportunity to move several entry walls to expand the view toward the ocean and to shape room after room with intricate ceiling coffers.

"Art Deco appears in many details like the square-edged flutes atop the foyer pillars and the designs on the stained glass panels, but we didn't want any 1930s movie house look," she says. Instead, Deco references

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THE CLIENT, ACCORDING TO WORKMAN, KNOWS WHAT HE WANTS. "I HAVE ALWAYS LOVED THE ART DECO PERIOD ... THE ROUNDED CORNERS, THE ATTENTION TO DETAIL," SCHLUSSEL SAYS. "NOW, I'VE GOT IT."



are made in the opulent jasper, onyx and marble geometry of the foyer floor. An element of surprise and thrill of color is cast in artist Hunt Slonem's *Bayou Casino*, the painted parrot aviary on the dark wall of the entry.

In keeping with the dark woods as a foil for stunningly brilliant art and glass, Schlüssel wanted a masculine and sophisticated backdrop. Hues of brown, burgundy and ivory fit the bill. Beneath one of his favorite period posters for Rico's in the living room, an ivory cotton-velvet sofa and lounge chair blend subtly into the neutral wall, while rich, checkered velvet covers curvy wood-framed chairs. Just outside, the 20-foot-wide balcony extends the length of the condo allowing the ocean's aqua to add a surge of color.

ABOVE: From woven walls to the sleek basin, the diminutive powder room has a lot to say. Behind the elegant faucet's neck, the onyx backsplash glows with a cached light.

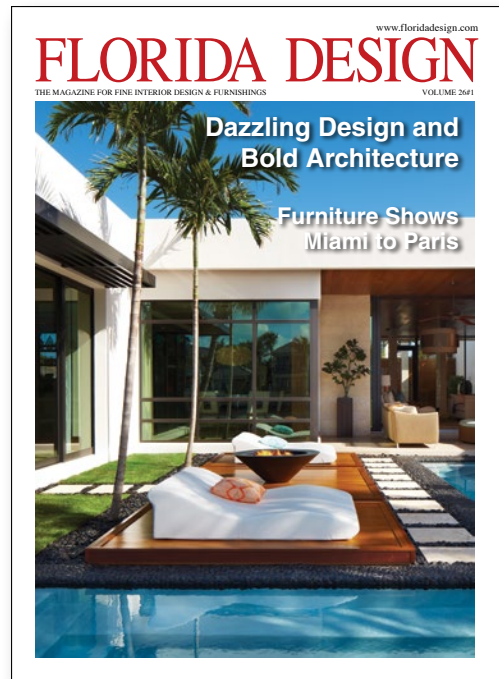
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Well grounded by a custom woven-wool burgundy and brown carpet, the rest of the master bedroom floats in ivory as slashes of dark, rich wood line the wall to add drama. A leather contemporary chair updates the owner's vintage secretary, while man-sized bedside tables by Eric Brand expand the room.

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Nearby, custom-stained and textured-glass panels screen the dining room and diffuse light in vibrant splashes. Drawing the eyes upward, cove ceiling treatments continue the subtle illumination with perimeter lighting, where an exquisite chandelier cascades crystal beading from a stain-less canopy above a macassar ebony dining table. Here, svelte, embossed ivory-velvet chairs stand out against a cabernet-toned, stria-textured wall covering by Art People.

They may be small, but excellent design makes even powder rooms interesting. Here, Workman created the organic look of a mahogany braided wall and added the delicate crystal-shaded scone. And with the stainless high-tech sink and faucet, the look is as much Manhattan as it is Palm Beach.

Lulled by the soft whisper of waves, the master suite is as quiet as an island — the perfect place for a few of the owner's treasures. Among them is an 1898 inlaid secretary once belonging to his mother and, atop it, a set of Art Deco-era Erte bronze dancers. Workman created the tightly shirred-fabric flutes on the headboard wall and, as a personal touch, she also custom designed small drawers in the two benches at the foot of the bed to accommodate Schlusel's collection of shoe-horns.

Clearly working for a client with eclectic tastes, Workman was able to incorporate many of these elements effortlessly into her designs. "I am most interested in creating interiors that personify my client's life," she says. And according to Schlusel, she did just that. "It's a lovely place to come home to," he says.

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SOURCES

Foyer

Entry doors, columns, pilasters, wall treatments and niche - Custom designed and fabricated by Alene Workman Interior Design, Inc., Hollywood, FL
Table base - Glendale Woodworking, Glendale, NY
Glass tabletop - Builders & Decorators Glass Co., Fort Lauderdale, FL
Glass panel - Art Glass Environments, Delray Beach,

FL

Door hardware - Farrey's Wholesale Hardware Co., Inc., North Miami, FL, and Forms & Surfaces, Inc., Carpinteria, CA
Flooring - Casale Marble Imports, Delray Beach, FL
Living Room
Sofa, lounge chair, ottoman, wood-framed chairs and occasional table - Custom designed by Alene Workman Interior Design, Inc., Hollywood, FL
Sofa, lounge chair and ottoman fabric - Hinson, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Wood-framed chair fabric - Glant, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Fringe accent pillow fabric - J. Robert Scott, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Cocktail table - Quatrain, J. Nelson, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Console - Jeup, Inc., J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Mirror - Wendell Castle, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Table lamp - Donghia Showrooms, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Drapery fabric - Coraggio Textiles, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Window treatments fabricated by Sutton Drapery, North Miami, FL
Area rug - Tai Ping Carpets America/Edward Fields, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Dining Room

Table - Evanson, D&D Building, New York, NY
Dining chairs - Westwood Interiors, Inc., Los Angeles, CA
Fabric - Osborne & Little, Stamford, CT
Candleholders - Carriage House, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Chandelier - Boyd Lighting, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Powder Room

Vanity and wall treatment - Custom designed by Alene Workman Interior Design, Inc., Hollywood, FL
Sink and faucet - Farrey's Wholesale Hardware Co., Inc., North Miami, FL
Sconces - Baldinger Architectural Lighting, Inc., Astoria, NY
Master Bedroom

Bed and lounge chair - Custom designed by Alene Workman Interior Design, Inc., Hollywood, FL
Bed fabric - Dedar, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Pillow fabric - Pierre Frey, Donghia Showrooms, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL, Great Plains, Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL, and Larsen, Cowtan & Tout/ Nessen Showrooms, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Bedside tables - Eric Brand Furniture, Burlingame, CA
Benches - Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Cushion fabric - Hinson, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Table lamp - Entourage L.A., Santa Monica, CA
Upholstered wall fabric - Silk Loom, Inc., Lutz, FL; fabricated by Sutton Drapery, North Miami, FL
Carpeting - Rodeo Carpet Mills, Stark Carpet Corp., Los Angeles, CA
Throughout

Artwork - Elaine Baker Gallery, Boca Raton, FL
Wall covering - Art People Wallcovering, Inc., New York, NY
Electrical contractor - Castillo Electric, Royal Palm Beach, FL ♦

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