

# PRIVATE AIR

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## LUXURY HOMES

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**THE HARRISON**  
SAN FRANCISCO'S ULTIMATE  
RESIDENCE EXPERIENCE

**HARRY WINSTON'S**  
AVENUE CLASSIC  
CHERRY BLOSSOM

**INVESTMENT  
ALTERNATIVE:**  
THE TOP 5 BEST PLACES  
TO BUY PROPERTY OVERSEAS

**DESIGNER  
PAMELA HUGHES'**  
**SIGNATURE STYLE**  
CREATES A NOTEWORTHY, FAMILY  
RETREAT ON GASPARILLA ISLAND

# TRADING UP TO TRANQUIL

Pamela Hughes' Signature Style  
Creates a Noteworthy, Family Retreat  
on Gasparilla Island

By: Gina Samarotto

It takes no time at all to discover the charm of Boca Grande, an idyllic residential community nestled on Gasparilla Island in southwest Florida. Surrounded by turquoise water and bathed in balmy breezes, Boca Grande is known as a tropical gem where privacy is closely guarded and time seems to stand still under the swaying palms. It's also known as the home of one of designer Pamela Hughes' most spectacular transformations.

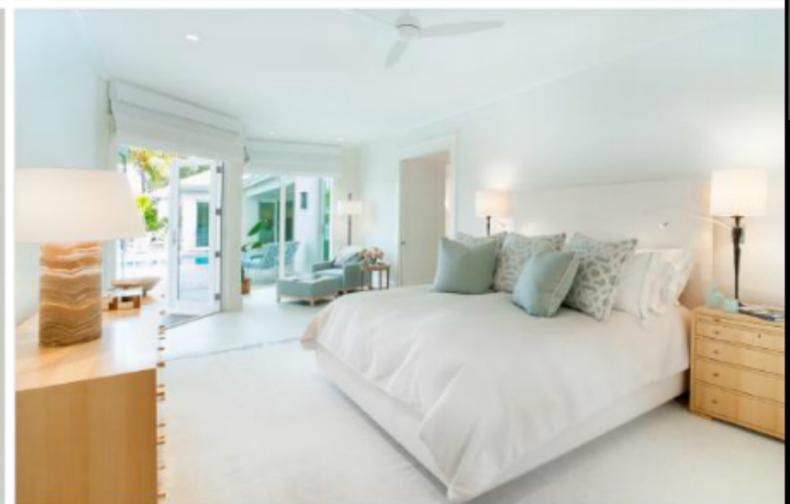
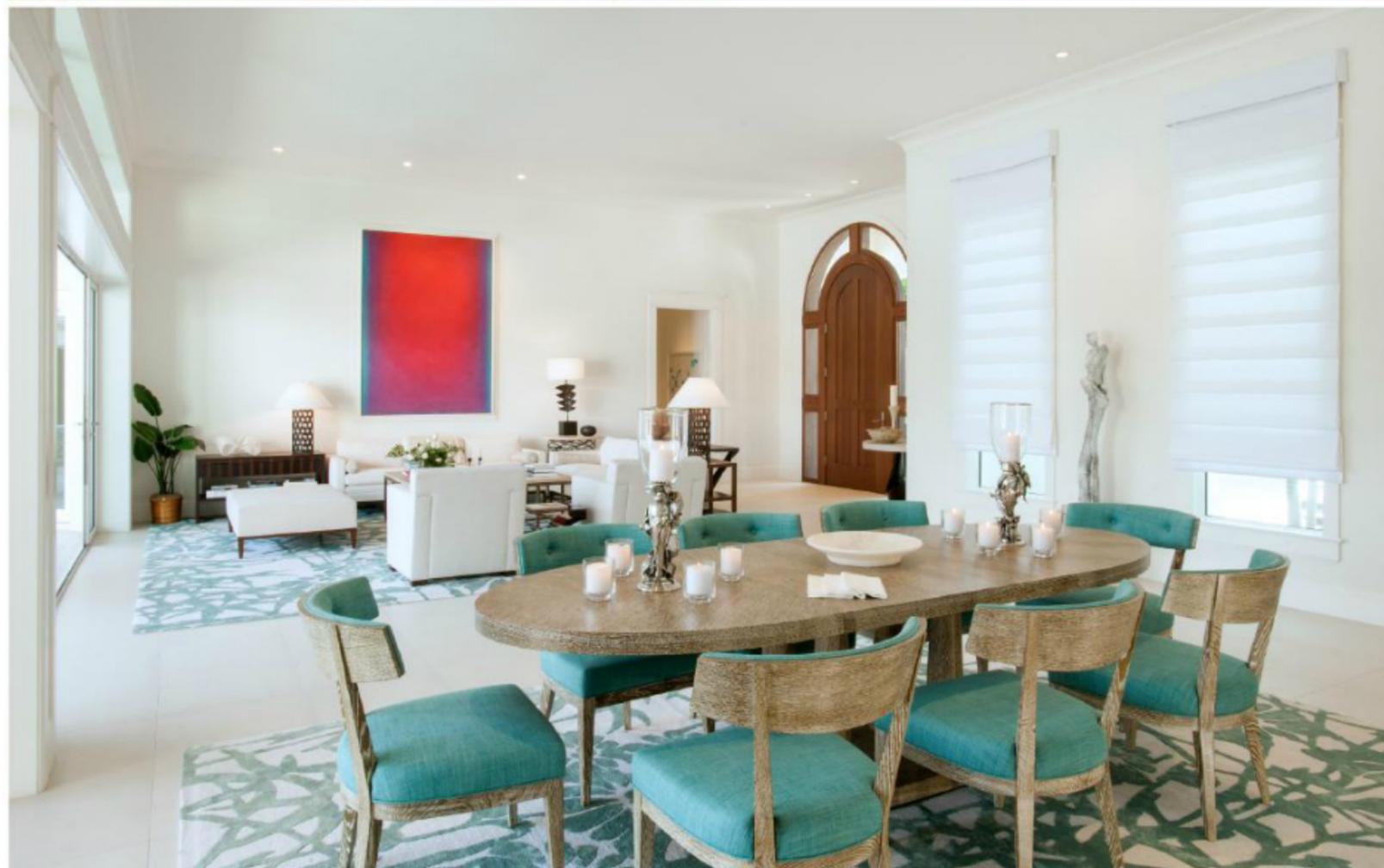
"Boca Grande is a casually elegant, amazing place," says Hughes, who along with Sarasota-based architect Rick Oswald was tasked with transforming the home and its original, somewhat constricting floor plan into the openly spacious, bright and modern retreat it is today. "The owners of this home were wonderful to work with, and have fabulous taste" Hughes explains. "We knew we wanted to take advantage of the amazing views that surround the home. We knew we wanted spaces that flowed seamlessly not only from one to the





next but from the indoors out. And we knew we wanted the finished home to be welcoming and tranquil, with enough space for everyone to enjoy and with a style that reflected that of the owners themselves". And true to her word, Hughes created a home that did just that – and more.

In the living areas of the home, white walls and sleek tile meet to create spaces that are stark yet welcoming; the perfect foil from which to showcase the client's collection of vibrantly colored artwork. The crisp, white surfaces also give beautiful reflection to the natural light flowing in from the pocketing glass walls separating the home's interiors from the lanai areas just beyond. In the kitchen, Calacatta marble is layered atop a dark wood center island and gleaming, lacquered cabinetry. In the living area, a wood wrapped wall defines the space, it's lower portion featuring a modern fireplace clad in stone. And throughout the spaces, meticulously placed, bespoke rugs warm the cool, white floors beneath them while Scandinavian-inspired wood framed furnishings dressed in





elegant fabrics provide both form and function. The peaceful simplicity of the home's aesthetic is underscored by Hughes' restrained treatment of the spaces; white rooms dressed in shades of soft turquoise and cool green punctuated with attention commanding pops of red and orange. Collectively the home is both soothing and dynamic, a study in relaxation and style.

The casual luxury found throughout the interiors of the home is prevalent in the outdoor spaces as well. Italian tile crafted to resemble pale wood planking surrounds the sharply geometric pool, modernly minimalist containers hold greenery and simple white patio chairs and chaises adorned with cool water colored cushions invite guests to linger for just a while longer.

"This home fits both its location and its family well," Hughes says. "It's stylish and elegant but it's also a very livable, comfortable haven". Indeed, the retreat Hughes created is a sophisticated, ideal spot for a family to enjoy the charm of Boca Grande, the beauty of Gasparilla Island, and of course - each other. ➤



Pamela Hughes is president and owner of Hughes Design Associates, one of the premier interior design firms in the US, with offices in Florida and Washington, DC/VA. Pamela and her firm work throughout North America and the Caribbean creating luxury residences of incomparable style and beauty.