Architecture: Dillon Kyle, Dillon Kyle Architects
Interior Design: Marie Flanigan and Melanie Hamel, Marie Flanigan Interiors
Home Builder: Kurt Lobpries, Builders West, Inc.



DAZZLING PERSONALITY

MARIE FLANIGAN INTERIORS ENVISIONS A HOUSTON RESIDENCE AT ONCE UNIVERSALLY APPEALING AND DEEPLY INDIVIDUAL.

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The London dining scene, breezy beaches and an art collection representing the American greats: While these niche influences may seem divergent, with the right vision, they became keystones in a cohesive Houston family estate steeped in character. Through creative approaches and close collaboration, interior designers Marie Flanigan and Melanie Hamel and architect Dillon Kyle weaved these deeply personal references into an abode enriched in moments of drama while maintaining a sense of unity and comfort.

Working with the architect, the clients first decided on a Georgian-inspired home, which Kyle and general contractor Kurt Lobpries kept fresh by emphasizing clean lines and ample natural light. “The glass and the light connect all the rooms in a way that makes the house feel more modern,” the architect says. In the family area and breakfast room, he took cues from the Georgian era by introducing large double-hung windows, then stretched them to the floor so that no shadows fall below the sill. “Using the double-hung windows like a modern curtain wall changes the way you experience the outdoors and the light in the room,” he explains. “It doesn’t feel like there’s a barrier.”

In the adjacent kitchen, the interior designers and architect worked together closely on a custom brass hood mounted to the ceiling, framed by beams that align precisely with the room’s windows and draw the eye to the landscape beyond. A large quartzite island incorporates a cooktop, prep zone with sink, and space for family to gather, with durable stainless-steel cabinetry placed on the chef’s side and additional storage hidden behind wall paneling. This hub quickly became a focal point of the residence and a gathering place to entertain guests during dinner parties.

Hosting was a priority that guided each of the elegant public areas, including the curvaceous gilded dining room. Clad in a gold wallpaper inspired by the owners’ favorite London restaurants, including Isabel Mayfair, the setting was further customized with burgundy draperies and velvet-covered chairs. “We didn’t want to be too literal with interpretation of these details, so we were trying to find ways to blend the existing architecture of the house with the couple’s interesting ideas,” Flanigan shares.

The lounge wears a Phillip Jeffries weave with Benjamin Moore’s Blue Spruce saturating the ceiling. An Il Pezzo Mancante chandelier and Urban Archaeology sconces add sculptural lighting. Kravet chairs surround the custom mahjong table, while an E.J. Victor sofa, Hickory White chair and Lawson-Fenning coffee table form a seating area.

Previous page: Inspired by the owners’ favorite restaurants, a gilded de Gournay paper sets an opulent tone in the elliptical dining room. Designer Marie Flanigan commissioned a lacquered oval table and chairs, which sit upon a Retorra rug, crowned by an Artemest chandelier.

After a meal, the clients often retire to the lounge, aptly dubbed "the cozy room." Wrapped in fabric on the walls, a dark blue color coating the ceiling, it's outfitted with plush seating and a custom mahjong table—a request of the wife. Sculptural lighting adds an artful dimension with sconces that resemble origami and a chandelier evocative of script. "We wanted to lean into having fresh shapes, clean lines, everything high quality—while ensuring the home felt youthful," Flanigan describes. This space, too, transports visitors to another world, opening onto a private patio inspired by beachy summers, framed in latticework and layered with coastal tiles, breezy textiles and wicker seating.

Throughout the house, a curated collection of canonical American artists unfolds, from an Ed Ruscha painting in the lounge to a Hunt Slonem work in the breakfast room joined by a series of pieces by Frank Stella. While some owners keep key artworks in their public spaces, the wife's blush-hued office provides the perfect backdrop for Andy Warhol's *Flowers* paintings. Crowned in a floral Murano-glass chandelier and tweed-covered vaulted ceiling evocative of a Chanel jacket, the area ensures a sense of everyday romance. A journey through this room and the primary suite to the wife's bathtub reveals another floral motif, emblazoned on a royal-blue wallpaper panel. The elliptical tub, which was dutifully measured to ensure a bottle of champagne could rest on its deck, alludes to the dining room's ovular silhouette also seen in the blue-tiled shower. "There's a language that follows your way around, and a lot of the details stayed consistent, which made this a successful project," Flanigan says.

That subtle unifying language and meticulous attention to detail formed an inimitable retreat authentic to the owners. "Each client allows us a chance to become a new designer," Flanigan reflects. "I think this home is particularly unique because of each of the distinctive spaces and special elements that we infused throughout, allowing the couple to truly see themselves in the house."

The kitchen's Infinity Grey quartzite island anchors the space beneath a custom brass vent hood. Armac Martin pulls embellish the cabinetry, and the oven is by Wolf.

Above: Walls coated Benjamin Moore's White Dove harmonize with white oak flooring in the kitchen and breakfast room. Bar stools from Lee Industries are seated at the island, which hosts a Waterworks faucet.

Opposite: Lined in windows and swathed in a Phillip Jeffries wallcovering, the airy breakfast room is home to a sculpture by Jesús Moroles. A Skram chandelier suspends above the custom oval dining table and Lee Industries chairs.

Above: A cloud of blush envelops the wife's office, painted Benjamin Moore's Charmeuse on the walls and trim. Carlisle & Co.'s Tailored Tweed covers the ceiling. Lee Industries lounge chairs join a custom ottoman in a Pierre Frey fabric.

Opposite: Floral themes continue in Artemest's Striulli Vetri d'Arte chandelier and Andy Warhol's *Flowers*. Atop a rug from Madison Lily, a Lee Industries sofa rests beside an Arteriors side table and Visual Comfort & Co. floor and table lamps.







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—MARIE FLANIGAN

Above, left to right: The wife’s elliptical shower is clad in a Krave tile surround. The flooring, from Marble Systems, is a honed Snow White Bianco Dolomiti. An ovular silhouette carries through to the tub, which is backdropped by a de Gournay wallcovering. The chandelier is Visual Comfort & Co., and the plumbing fixtures are from Samuel Heath.

Opposite: In the primary bedroom, Flanigan conceived a headboard that would connect two beds, each dressed in a Mark Alexander fabric and flanked by sconces from Visual Comfort & Co. A Vaughan chandelier hangs overhead.

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Above: Latticework defines the patio outside the lounge, featuring armchairs and coffee tables from Pottery Barn. Accent pillows in Oka covers further play off the leafy aesthetic.

Opposite: Teak sofas, lounge chairs and a cast-aluminum coffee table from RH offer seating next to the outdoor fireplace. The concrete side tables are from Pottery Barn.