

# DESIGN TALK

Some of South Florida's best and brightest designers and decorators share tips and trends to help you tailor your home to express your own incomparable style.

## That's My Cue

When you're telling a color story, artwork is a great prologue. Art is so personal and important that it's not uncommon for designers to take color cues from their clients' existing collections. "I often preview a client's art before we start," says Mitchell Brown of **David Mitchell Brown**, who placed an edgy photograph just outside the entrance to the living room of this chic penthouse. "I pulled the red and blue from the art and used them in my design. Then, I threw in some yellow to complete the primary color scheme." Brown does offer this caveat: "If the colors are exactly the same, it's too matchy-matchy." Instead, opt for variations of a color to achieve a "layered" look. *David Mitchell Brown, 209 Phipps Plaza, Palm Beach; 561.309.4839*

Living room design by David Mitchell Brown



Living room design by Avanzato Design

## It's Not All White

When we think of contemporary design, we often envision an ocean of white. But Vincenzo Avanzato, who founded his eponymous firm **Avanzato Design** in 1999, doesn't see it that way. "Color and contemporary can be synonymous," he says, adding that it's OK to be daring with color, just as long as the bold hues don't overpower the linear silhouettes. The palette for the room shown here was inspired by his client's interesting, colorful necklaces. Steering away from patterns, he used solid splashes of color like indigo and wisteria to add excitement without minimizing the modern elements in the room. *Avanzato Design, 3692 SW 24th St., Miami; 305.774.1078; avanzatodesign.com*

Vincenzo Avanzato



Master bedroom design by Yarn Design Associates

## Make Your Bed

When it comes to selecting bedroom furniture, consider going the custom route. "It can be nearly impossible to find a tall-enough headboard or a wide-enough nightstand on a showroom floor," says Leanne Yarn, founder and principal of **Yarn Design Associates**, who frequently customizes furniture to her clients' individual requirements and aesthetics. For this master bedroom, she custom-designed a bed frame using dark walnut, then upholstered its body and ceiling-high headboard with suede for a softer feel. She also added a pullout tray to the nightstand so that her client could set a laptop on it when needed. *Yarn Design Associates, 2901 Clint Moore Road, #214, Boca Raton; 561.757.8577; yarndesignassociates.com*

Leanne Yarn