

tropical punch



**DESIGNER DALE TRICE IMBUES A
ROSEMARY BEACH VACATION
HOME WITH ONE-OF-A-KIND FINDS**

STORY BY MEG SPARWATH

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOMMY CROW

The living room's two rattan sofas are covered in a cream Dedar fabric and separated by an eye-catching black-lacquered table by J. Robert Scott through Jerry Pair, ADAC, (404) 261-6337. Rattan sofas, Bauer International Furniture. Subtle and interesting accents indicate the close proximity of the ocean, such as framed antique coral and shell engravings from Design on the Gulf, (866) 231-4844. Industrial light fixtures, Wyatt Childs, (770) 358-0501.



Clockwise, from top left: Trice painted the foyer wall eight different times before finding this pale aqua. Hand-hammered bronze console, Design on the Gulf. Lamp, J.F. Chen, Jerry Pair. ■ He continued the soft color palette in the master bath. Tub, Kohler. ■ The kitchen island and cabinets are made of dark coffee mahogany. Architectural elements above stove, Wyatt Childs. ■ In the guest room, a custom-made steel table is topped by an antique French architect's lamp. Side table, Andrew Crawford Ironworks, (404) 351-8324. Lamp, Wyatt Childs. ■ In the dining room, opposite, matte black-lacquered chairs surround a solid bronze table with a centerpiece of zinc spires. Chairs, J. Robert Scott through Jerry Pair. Bronze dolphin table, Design on the Gulf.



WINSTON AND MARTHA WILKINSON

didn't know it at the time, but the moment they walked into designer Dale Trice's shop in Seagrove Beach, Florida, was the start of a long and beautiful collaboration. The couple had recently purchased a vacation home with an ocean view in nearby Rosemary Beach, and though they had previously owned two homes on the Florida Panhandle, the Wilkinsons had yet to find a designer who was a perfect fit for them. Before long they discovered Trice's shop, Design on the Gulf, filled with a generous selection of home accessories, including antiques, upholstery and lighting. Instantly drawn in, they purchased a table, which Trice hand-delivered to their home. It was then that the couple asked him to consider doing the interior design.

The Wilkinsons have not looked back. Trice has since designed their Charlotte, N.C., home and more recently their Cincinnati abode. For the Rosemary Beach house, which has a reverse design plan consisting of the master bedroom and two other bedrooms downstairs and the kitchen, living and dining areas upstairs, Trice worked hand-in-hand with Winston and Martha on every aspect of the interior. "They are fascinating people. Very intelligent and attuned to every detail," says Trice.

Unique antiques and furnishings punctuate the space in perfect quantities. Trice found many antiques at Wyatt Childs in Atlanta, such as the gears from old machinery that hang above the stove in the kitchen. "We like antiques and architectural elements," explains Martha. It isn't just the accessories that command attention in the home. Industrial light fixtures—four pendant lights that



once hung in Paris' Baccarat Museum—now grace the high ceilings in the living room, while large vintage French educational posters of sea life adorn the walls in the living and dining rooms, both tasteful nods to the nearby shore.

The visual feast continues on the second floor, where wall-to-wall windows afford views that seem to go on forever, and high ceilings and neutral fabrics make the open rooms even more spacious and airy. Two seating areas with rattan sofas and fluffy cushions serve as an open invitation to relax. "This house has what I call an 'urban contemporary' style," says Martha. "It is very different from our primary home ... but it feels just like home."

She and Winston were drawn to Rosemary Beach's architectural style,

which is an amalgam of the West Indies and the American South, specifically Charleston, New Orleans and St. Augustine. They love the town center, which is an easy walk from anywhere in the community and features the town hall, post office and quaint shops and restaurants—all good places to visit with the many friends they've made in the area. And when they're not socializing in the town square or walking their three spaniels (two cocker and one clumber) on the beach, they can be found relaxing in the comfort of their seaside home.

DESIGN DETAILS

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