



## DANIEL LEAR

Lear Design Studio

*"Beyond Borders," page 48*

When Sarasota architect Daniel Lear set out to begin work on the West of Trail home that graces this edition's cover, he encountered some zoning issues that required him to alter his plans. "Essentially we had to create a residence that was comparable to the larger neighboring homes, but we had to do it with tighter dimensional limits," he says. Lear and his team persevered to deliver a home that offers a seamless indoor-outdoor experience. "People are really struck by the residence's openness," says Lear. "Thanks to the sliding glass walls chosen, the boundaries between interior and exterior all but disappear." [learstudio.com](http://learstudio.com)



## BRITTANY COCOZZA

Trinity Design

*"Gulf Appeal," page 64*

Conceptualized by designer Brittany Cocozza, the interiors of the Manasota Key home that leads this edition's features reflect a clean, modern, and everlasting aesthetic that's also memorable. "The owners embraced our out-of-the-box design concepts from day one," says Cocozza. "My design approach was centered on creating timeless, comfortable, refined, and highly functional spaces that aligned with the clients' overall vision. By incorporating classic materials, such as natural stone and warm woods, paired with bold lighting fixtures, we crafted one-of-a-kind interiors that feel both elevated and enduring." [trinitydesign.us](http://trinitydesign.us)



## EMILY MOSS

Emily Moss Designs

*"Sunny Disposition," page 74*

When a couple told designer Emily Moss that what they wanted for their winter home in Anna Maria Island was coastal transitional style, a look that would balance laid-back living with thoughtful sophistication, little did they know that said style is something Moss specializes in. "We saw eye to eye as far as the design of the house was concerned," says Moss. "The owners trusted us to lean fully into a layered, relaxed, and timeless language that would feel elevated and intentional." The end result? A light-filled island retreat layered with warmth, easy textures, and that much-desired coastal character. [emilymossdesigns.com](http://emilymossdesigns.com)



## CARRIE RILEY

Riley Interior Design

*"Island Calm," page 82*

Upon setting foot in a Siesta Key condo she was charged with designing from scratch, Carrie Riley immediately knew what her approach to the interiors would be. "The stunning water views are the focal point of the residence," she says. "We just had to create the interior canvas for the living spaces." That modest "just" doesn't do justice to what Riley accomplished. The finished 4,500-square-foot apartment now makes the most of its prime location with serene interiors that frame the vistas of the Gulf as if they're art. "We set out to achieve a sense of coastal tranquility," says Riley. "The space is open and airy, and there's a vibe that feels inviting and peaceful." [riley-id.com](http://riley-id.com)



## MICHELE KOKEN

MBK Design

*"Coastal Character," page 90*

To help them turn a modest beachfront property in Venice into their post-retirement home, a Midwestern couple turned to Michele Koken, an Indianapolis-based designer who had worked on their Indiana home years before and hired her early in the renovation process. In terms of design, the goal for the interiors was to strike a balance between coastal ease and refined comfort. For Koken, the project was about people and place. "These homeowners have collections with stories behind them, and that makes the home feel warm and welcoming," she says. "This is a refined coastal retreat designed for family, longevity, and a life well lived by the water." [mbkinteriordesign.com](http://mbkinteriordesign.com)



## BETH WALKER-FENTON & JANINE BLOOM

Jinx McDonald Interior Designs

*"Winter Reset," page 98*

Once they were hired to oversee the redesign of a couple's winter residence at Sarasota's Lakewood Ranch community, designers Beth Walker-Fenton and Janine Bloom went to work to develop an elegant island aesthetic inspired by British West Indies style. "We kept the exterior very light with the architectural details done in a rich, dark charcoal that we knew would create contrast," says Walker-Fenton. "The clients use their new residence as a seasonal retreat and a family gathering place, so creating spaces that are welcoming, comfortable, and a breeze to host in was our top priority from the very start." [jinxmcdonald.com](http://jinxmcdonald.com)