

# cover

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MIRMOLA

## A RUG REVERIE



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# Customised colour

The eighth Palm Beach edition of Kips Bay Decorator Show House saw twenty-three designers reimagine a spacious home with innovative style. Keith Flanagan paid a visit

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You couldn't miss the imaginative spirit running throughout the eighth edition of Kips Bay Decorator Show House, Palm Beach. This year's three-week run expertly reimaged a single-family brick home built in 1937, set in the Providencia Park neighbourhood of West Palm Beach along the 43-mile Intracoastal Waterway. The home's 7,700 square feet (including five bedrooms, seven bathrooms, and ample outdoor space) was transformed by twenty-three designers and architects.

Throughout the home, designers dabbled in asymmetrical rugs, custom floor coverings in conversation with patterned wallpapers, and plenty of colourful surfaces to boot. Perhaps the most imaginative space came by way of Miami's Moniomi Design, a material-rich games room (complete with a marble ping pong 'dining' table) that featured a playful cowhide rug, part of the studio's just-launched collaboration with

01 Wellness lounge by Indigo Pruitt Design Studio

02 Games room by Moniomi Design

03 Hallway by Nikki Levy Interiors

04 Living room by Marshall Watson & Reid Deane Ganes

Kyle Bunting. Moniomi's co-founder Monica Santayana says of the deeply decadent browns and tans used throughout the patchwork pattern: 'We designed the rug considering every detail that we had put into our overall design, and carefully curated the colours to enhance our palette throughout, creating the perfect backdrop for all of our pieces.'

Committed to customisation, New York's Marshall Watson & Reid Deane Ganes gave Palm Beach's golden age plenty of room to breathe with a modern twist in a spacious living room. A tightly woven sisal rug (from the Royal Migacz collection by Patterson Flynn Martin) was the neutral canvas for Judy Mulligan, a faux painter who created a gentle, Art Deco-esque pattern of squares that interplayed with an abstract palm wallpaper from Iksel and a hand-stencilled grasscloth ceiling. 'Hand painting rugs is a very special, individual way to treat a plain sisal rug,' says studio vice president Kate Reid. 'It would make any room sing and stand out, as it is incredibly custom and can be tailored to the individual space and client.'

The conversation between surfaces was also on display in a floor-level hallway by Florida's Nikki Levy Interiors. Floral motifs flourish across ceilings and walls, most prominently in a custom runner (from the just-launched Whimsical by Nikki Levy collection with RuggleUp) where plush pinks, purples, and burgundies bloom across the floor in oversized florals with cut-out edges. 'This versatility and personalisation is what I think



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appeals to homeowners, as they lean towards more personalised and expressive interior designs in the coming year,' says Nikki of her design.

Radiant use of colour also found favour in an inspired wellness lounge designed by South Carolina's Indigo Pruitt Design Studio, where the rug—along with the overall palette—brings sensory colours like lavender and sage to the fold, all in amorphous shapes and piles.

Floor coverings often tend towards natural fibres at the Palm Beach showhouse, evermore apparent in a guest suite designed by South Carolina's B-Berry Interiors. Here, an intricate abaca rug (*Grand Parquet* by Patterson Flynn) anchored the room with a hand-coiled pattern to complement earthy hues within an olive-and-cream wallcovering. 'The Greek Key pattern surrounding the classic parquet pattern is quintessential Palm Beach to me,' says Betsy Berry, noting the floor covering as a longtime favourite. 'Such a grounding piece, that almost any room could be built upon.'

Other rooms of note included these examples: a 'gentleman's retreat' designed by Massachusetts's Mally Skok, who doubled down on pattern by placing a striped kilim rug by Vaughan Designs as a subtle anchor for hand-painted fabrics and wallcoverings; a wool and silk rug by Isberian Rugs in a circular-shaped space by Chicago's Shako Interiors, with dimensional texture; and a custom and freeform piece by Sacco Carpet, with wobbly edges mirroring the soft curvature of the ceiling in a French-inspired bathroom by Florida's Laure Nell Interiors.

Free to imagine interiors without any restrictions beyond the physical space, the designers and architects behind the interiors nevertheless proved that Palm Beach can handle a playful twist this year, all in good fun.

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