

# HOME & GARDEN

Photo courtesy of  
Decker Ross Interiors

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BOS IMAGES

*This comfy boxed-back chaise with its panoramic view offers a respite nook for reading and quiet reflection, or maybe even a nap.*

# MID-CENTURY MODERN MEETS PLUSH PASTELS

By Shawn Tanney Richards  
Photography by Bos Images



*This grand living room has expansive water views and a variety of sophisticated seating anchored by a richly classic abstract dimensional area rug of pastel and neutral hues. An alluring, clean line bench seat sofa with ash wood detail parallels a pair of natural iron framed modern armchairs, while two ottomans at a perpendicular direction complete the floating group. A custom faux fur throw, cut dimensional chenille, and avant-garde pillows add layers of texture to the design. The oversized antique brass chandelier, constructed of steel pipe joints emulating nebulous branches holding crackle glass globes, casts unfiltered light upward to give the appearance of a floating sculpture hovering over the seating area.*

**T**his plush island penthouse provides panoramic water views of Intracoastal sunrises and beachside sunsets. The artistically inspired interior reflects the work of Jen Kravchuk, senior designer at award-winning Decker Ross Interiors in Clearwater. Jen was elated to receive a call from a client she has worked with for many years who has impeccable taste, a discerning, artistic eye and the desire for a comfortable yet sophisticated high-quality design. At the time, Jen did not realize this waterfront penthouse would turn out to be her personal favorite design project of her thirteen-year career.

“It’s not often that I encounter a client who trusts me enough to allow me the creative freedom to develop such a plush, classic, elegant vision with few limitations,” she said. “It’s truly a designer’s dream.” ▶



*In the entry hall, a bronze sculpture titled Butterflies for Brains is perched atop a brass and marble pedestal base in front of framed lucite textural art. This entry vignette overlooks a gallery wall of abstract pastel paintings. Exquisite artistic touches abound throughout this mid-century modern penthouse.*



*The penthouse's art studio décor and its beach and sunset views inspire the painter in residence. The Dune Credenza featuring the art of acclaimed painter Carol Benson-Cobb is constructed of an ash veneered case in dark taupe frame on a welded steel base. The subtle dune image can be seen across the face of the drawers and doors as the focal point of this studio space.*

A mid-century modern luxurious design aesthetic with a soft pastel color palette was decided upon as the design direction. Blush pink, soft teal and neutrals, such as taupe and sand tones to be reflective of the panoramic beach and sky views, were used throughout. Adept at mixing materials and finishes to create an optimal design aesthetic, the designer incorporated organic elements, such as wood, agate, brass, steel and glass in the furnishings, lighting and accessories. Her innovative designs also feature a variety of geometric shapes and quite a bit of textural contrast. In addition to leather, the rich elegant fabrics include chenille, shimmering linens, cut dimensional velvets, and faux fur to delight the eye and add visual interest in the rooms of this exquisite penthouse.

With elevated ceilings and rooms as expansive as the views, oversized lighting fixtures were used to maintain balance and



*The dining room's sleek slope armchairs are paired with a clean line modern wooden table for comfortable dining in the light and airy dining room. Metallic brushed brass and gold touches offer rich accent elements to the design and are reflected in the slightly tapered brushed brass legs of the table, the vertical piping surrounding the clear acrylic lighting cylinders of the chandelier and the exquisite stacked pair of abstract paintings on the adjacent wall. The simplistic beauty continues with the centerpiece of white orchids and succulents in an oblong textured metallic vessel.*

scale. Jen selected individual fixtures that blended nicely with each other for design cohesion. The open concept meant that each space needed its own individual identity, while tying into a seamless overall design.

The art studio's views of the sand, surf and sunsets provide inspiration for the homeowner, who is a painter. There, as with the rest of this opulent island penthouse, the designer's attention to detail, artistic sensibilities and use of elegant, yet functional, high quality, comfortable furnishings creates a timeless interior that reflects the owner's taste and lifestyle. ■■■

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Decker Ross Interiors, an award-winning design firm led by Suzan Decker Ross of the American Society of Interior Designers, is located at 1445 Court St. in Clearwater, (727) 442-9996, or visit DeckerRoss.com.*