



MICKY HURLEY

In general, the design must reflect not only the owners and their life experiences, but also the context, nature and geographic location. Oftentimes, overlooking these simple details is precisely what makes a space feel overly decorated.

OLD MIAMI MAGIC

INTERIOR DESIGNER MICKY HURLEY KEEPS THINGS SIMPLE — AND SIMPLY LOVELY — IN A PIED-À-TERRE BY THE SEA

INTERIOR DESIGN BY MICKY HURLEY, MICKY HURLEY INTERIORS, ART, ANTIQUES, NEW YORK, NY
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Micky Hurley's interior designs often ignite bursts of color, dazzle with voluptuous antiques, and create a swelling harmonic of contemporary art and exotic treasure. Bold, sure and as unafraid of wielding color, as might be Gauguin in a paint store, Micky Hurley's South American/American aesthetic seems made for one with a taste for elegance.

All of that is fitting for a man whose grandmother was a baroness, who dined with Pavarotti and Baryshnikov, who has aperitifs with Chilean Presidents, and who takes his wife and children on luxurious sailing voyages to the world's most elegant destinations. But there is another side to Hurley. This is the man who loves to come to a renovated 1,200-square-foot condo overlooking Biscayne Bay — a 1963 building with astonishing views — a warm nexus of tranquility.

RIGHT: With two sofas, one, a white slip-covered Bunny Williams nail-head piece covered in simple white cotton with grosgrain ribbon detail in navy blue, and purchased from Christie's, a vintage sofa styled in a yellow Lee Jofa linen slipcover, Hurley sets a comfortable motif. A paisley from Ralph Lauren covers the bespoke tufted swivel chair that faces the water view.

AS SEEN IN
MIAMI EDITION
FLORIDA DESIGN



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LEFT: Atop purposefully mismatched side tables, one of teak, the other in white painted metal, Hurley has placed stunning “spatter lamps” from Bunny Williams in blue and white. A dramatic photo of the royal palace in Stockholm taken by a friend, Massimo Listri, blends its blues with fabrics from Africa and India.

BELOW LEFT: Interior designer Mickey Hurley keeps the casual attitude by combining found pieces, beach chairs, antiques from Christie’s, and within his palette of blue and white, the occasional burst of sunshine and butter-yellow. The large-scale yellow artwork above the living area’s serving table is a print by artist Sam Francis.



With Hurley’s many interior design assignments in the Palm Beach and Key Biscayne areas, this residence is a centrally located getaway where he and his wife can rejuvenate and unwind. “Laid back, with low maintenance... this is a place where we can walk with sandy feet,” he says.

The palette is what distinguishes this setting. Blues and whites in every conceivable combination: stripes, paisleys, geometrical swirls dance throughout the apartment in a way that is at once calming and thrilling. “I like to use blue and white when I decorate beach homes,” Hurley says. Though it depends on the project, he admits he loves the juxtaposition of white and sea blue, finding it “refreshing and timeless.”

The living area dazzles in the classic hues. Shiplap walls overlooking Biscayne Bay suggest the intimacy of a Bahamian cottage. The drama in bold geometry and exotic patterns lend to the sensation of “getting away for pure relaxation.”



THE FEEL OF “OLD MIAMI” IS PALPABLE FROM THE BALCONY, WHERE TOSCANA FLAX WICKER CHAIRS FROM JALAN JALAN FLANK OLY STUDIO’S “MERI” ACCENT TABLE TO SHAPE A SOCIAL GROUPING WITH A STUNNING PANORAMIC VIEW.

ABOVE A BAMBOO DIRECTOR’S CHAIR CACHED IN A HALL, HURLEY HAS COMMEMORATED A POLO MATCH PLAYED BY HIS MATERNAL GRANDFATHER, GUSTAVO, AS HE COMPETED IN ARGENTINA AND CHILE IN THE 1950S.



Seemingly captivated by intricate, recurring patterns, Hurley chose two handcrafted Bidri cocktail tables from Jalan Jalan. Carved from a single piece of wood, now painted white, they are the exotic anchors uniting the dramatic fabrics’ patterns. Yellow “flash points” seem tiny bursts of sunshine scattered in both art and floral arrangements throughout the rooms.

Bringing the outside in and inside out, beach chairs are scattered throughout the apartment and balcony. Unafraid to bring a little sand on their shoes into their getaway, Hurley wants visitors to feel relaxed and peaceful, entranced by the view. “The condo ended up feeling like a cozy Bahamian cottage,” Hurley says. That



Demonstrating fabric “know-how” and the way the eye perceives, a less-than-large master bedroom can accommodate a number of furnishings. Hurley directs the eye to “look up” with Ralph Lauren’s striped headboard that visually expands the private space.

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exotica flows through to the master bedroom, where fabric choices range from Matouk bed linens, and on the headboard, no-nonsense stripes from Ralph Lauren, to African indigo textiles. Hurley had lumbar pillows created from such faraway textiles; then combined them with Roberta Roller Rabbit accent pillows. Though a natural weave base covers the bedroom floor, throws and patterned fabrics seem artistically scattered both there and as tapestry on the bed. “Like Delft porcelain and Chinese faience, the exquisite contrast between blue and white is mesmerizing,” the designer says. That juxtaposition between “Bahamian cottage” and the suggestion of faraway treasure carried on a 17th-century trading ship bring a kind of luster to pure relaxation.



A BOOK, A GLASS OF WINE, OR SIMPLY A CROISSANT AT BREAKFAST IS MEANT TO BE ENJOYED CURLED UP ON THE CASUAL BANQUETTE OVERLOOKING THE SEA. "SPACE WELL USED DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HUGE," HURLEY SAYS.

In a charming nook just off the kitchen, Hurley combines custom bookcases from Woodshop Miami with an antique bench covered in pale blue velvet. Vertical shiplap reappears to enhance the ambiance of the beachside cottage's simplicity. Rich in indigo, the tablecloth from India pairs with other bursts of color including a humble flask of Florida gold to quench the thirst.

As a designer with international clientele, who was himself born into a South American world of impeccable taste, it is clear Micky Hurley could have shaped a private getaway with any furnishing or style he chose. But the warmth and embrace of this beautifully, but simply furnished pied-à-terre creates "Old Miami" magic on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. **M**