

fantasy island



For a family with five kids, Charleston decorator Angie Hranowsky fashions a wildly hip vacation home on South Carolina's Kiawah Island where traditional style meets peak '80s chic—and everything is kissed with bold, sunny color.

In the dining room of a South Carolina beach house, Charleston-based designer Angie Hranowsky paired her client's 1920s wallpaper panels with curtains in a modern abstract print, Porter Teleo's Silk Scarf. Antique dining chairs are upholstered in a Kelly Wearstler fabric for Groundworks. The dining table is vintage McGuire, and the chandelier was found at Antiques of South Windermere.





This place is a lot funkier than your usual South Carolina beach house. Where are all the seashells and palm prints?

ANGIE HRANOWSKY: By the time my client hired me, she had already sent the stereotypical beach furniture that came with the house to Habitat for Humanity and was ready to start fresh. Her name is Christina Cochran; she is cool and creative, loves lots of bold colors, and, like me, is a bit of a risk-taker. She wanted to create a vibrant vacation home for her husband, Rob, and their five children. She had seen my work in a magazine and called me one day to say, “I love your style. I want you to do this house.” It was built in the early 1990s as a showhouse. We both loved the neo-classical architecture and the scale of the rooms, but it felt traditional and heavy. It needed an update.

M.K. QUINLAN: What inspired that jaw-dropping dining room?

Christina found those really exquisite wallpaper panels through a dealer friend in Pennsylvania, where she lives full-time. They were hand-painted in the 1920s and came from a steel magnate’s estate. They don’t quite stretch from floor to ceiling, so we installed beautiful chair rails and crown moldings to make them fit.



Hranowsky brightened the living room’s dark wood moldings by painting them in Farrow & Ball’s Skimming Stone. A Jack Youngerman silk-screen adds a pop of orange and purple. The 1980s slipper chairs in their original Brunswick & Fils fabric were found at a consignment store in nearby Charleston. Sofa, Verellen. **OPPOSITE:** The foyer is covered in a leaf-print wallpaper from Osborne & Little.



ABOVE: Roman shades and curtains in Porter Teleo's Tangled lend a graphic note to the breakfast room. The chairs are vintage Paul McCobb, and the Ingo Maurer chandelier can be personalized by clipping mementos to its many arms. **OPPOSITE:** Purple rules in the study, where the walls and ceiling are painted in Benjamin Moore's Amethyst Shadow. The Christopher Spitzmuller lamp has a custom purple shade. Rug, West Elm. Sofa, Restoration Hardware. Antique armchairs in a Lee Jofa linen. Woven shades, the Shade Store.

Those hot pink curtains would have scared a lot of clients—and designers! Was it difficult to pull the trigger on that combination?

Whenever I design a room, I'm always looking to find that special something that's original and interesting. When I came across Porter Teleo's Silk Scarf fabric, something just clicked. I loved the idea of pairing an old-fashioned, antique wallpaper with a contemporary, painterly fabric. Both the wallpaper and the silk have touches of coral in them. A sun-kissed palette—corals, pinks, and yellows—works so well at the beach in this part of the country.

The bedrooms are especially colorful. Even the carpets have shades of coral and pink!

I'd already chosen a light peach palette for one of the daughters' rooms when I came across that fabulous Raoul Textiles print with shades of peach, yellow, blue, and fuchsia. I used it to cover a little Victorian chair Christina had owned for years, then picked out colors in it for other elements in the room, from the raspberry bedspread to the marine-blue side table. Another bedroom is shaped like an octagon. I thought it would be fun to blur the lines with a colorful patterned wallpaper. The master bedroom was designed last. It needed a more tranquil palette. I discovered that 1980s leather marshmallow chaise and worked from there. The curtains are in a neutral linen, but they're lined with a coral silk that peeks out.





OPPOSITE: The kitchen was designed by the homeowner, Christina Cochran. She eliminated much of the room's upper cabinetry, then installed Caesarstone countertops and a pendant light from the Urban Electric Co. Norman Cherner counter stools, Design Within Reach. **ABOVE:** Four of the Cochran kids—from left, Faith, Hugh, Will, and Olivia—take a dip in the home's lap pool along with Archie, the family's dog. Gazebo in Benjamin Moore's Super White. Chaises, Frontgate.

The living room feels a bit 1980s. Was that intentional?

I definitely didn't set out to design an '80s-inspired room, but I couldn't resist those vintage slipper chairs! Before Christina and I met, I passed a consignment store that had four slipper chairs in a pale peach silk linen right outside. I took pictures, sent them to her, and said, "I don't know exactly what we're doing yet, but these are very cool and a steal." I hunted down the fabric and discovered it was Brunswick & Fils. But rather than have the chairs re-covered, we ended up using all four of them with the original fabric, even though it had been faded by the sun over the years. Christina didn't mind. "It's a vacation house," she told me. "I've got five kids running all over the place, and a dog." And even in this condition, the chairs look great.

Fabulous vintage finds like those really make this interior feel special. Is that typically how you roll?

I think I am known for that. Drop me off at a good flea market, and I'm as happy as a clam. When it comes to furniture and accessories, I've always loved the hunt. Every time I travel—whether it's to New York City, Los Angeles, Miami, or even Paris—I am constantly going to all of the shops and having things shipped back. I think vintage furniture helps a project feel original and fresh. I like to incorporate pieces that convey a sense of having been collected from different locations and over a period of time. It results in a house that's so much more interesting and inviting.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Hranowsky offset the home's bright palette with softer hues in the master bedroom; the room's vintage furniture includes a chaise from Ash and swivel chairs in a Raoul Textiles fabric; the bedspread is of a Larsen fabric; pillows, Eskayel. In a daughter's bedroom, Astek's peach-toned grass cloth creates a warm backdrop for the Anglo Indian-style headboard, the throw pillows and vintage chair in Raoul Textiles' Pondicherry print, and a custom nightstand lacquered in Pratt & Lambert's Regatta Blue. A vintage armchair is upholstered in a fabric from John Robshaw Textiles.



To soften the edges of an octagonal bedroom, Hranowsky chose a bold Élitis wallpaper. Against the patterned backdrop, a white canopy bed by Room & Board is a striking focal point. FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE RESOURCES