





Starting Fresh

Whatever you seek this new year—cultural enrichment, better organization, maybe just more *quality time with family and friends—we hope* you'll find inspiration and encouragement in this issue filled with fresh ideas and stories that exude the warmth and vitality of the South.

Inspired Interiors

Designer Jan Ware, whose gorgeous dining room is featured on our cover, really knows how to mix key splurges with repurposed pieces for a sensibility that feels entirely high end yet also approachable (page 55). You'll also want to stop in a suburban Atlanta residence that exudes classic Southern grace and a fun take on a multipurpose room that includes areas for laundry, light desk work, and crafting (page 65). Or for a boost of interior innovation, sit a spell with the designers behind Logan Killen (page 41), a New Orleans—based team that thrives on the unexpected.

A Heart for Art

The Southern artists showcased in this issue are some of my favorite yet. As soon as Assistant Editor Elizabeth Bonner introduced me to Susan Gordon, I fell head over heels for her pottery glazed in lustrous bright colors and edged in gold (page 17). Cotton & Quill, known for playful textile designs in vibrant palettes, shared their recently launched clothing line with me (top) and then outfitted our Material Matters project in an old favorite (page 39). And if the nostalgia and graphic impact of Old Try's letterpress art (page 123) is not enough to love, the paper is made from cotton linters, a sweet nod to owner Micah Whitson's Alabama home county.

Help for Hostesses

We all have times when company drops in unexpectedly. Or when life throws us a few curve balls and, despite careful advance planning, we still find ourselves scrambling to be as fabulous a hostess as we'd like to be. With that in mind, we've introduced a new column for 2017 called Simply Delicious (page 105). Each issue will bring you a recipe aimed at making entertaining nearly effortless while helping you still seem entirely put-together—no matter how chaotic life may really be.

Kathleen Whaley

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here's nothing like vibrant fabric patterns to give a fresh punch of color and interest to a guest bedroom. In this space, Cotton & Quill's Menagerie fabric—a fanciful blend of toile and Chinoiserie—imparts the casual elegance of a tropical resort. Images of flora and fauna dance across a kelly-green backdrop, where birds in colorful cages, monkeys swinging from tangerine lanterns, and pineapples growing in clamshells add to the whimsical scene.

For this custom-constructed treatment, Caterina Meadows of Pate-Meadows Designs took her cues from Menagerie's exotic flair. She assembled a crown-inspired valance featuring coral-trimmed shapes reminiscent of ginger jars and added floor-length panels. Each piece displays salmon-striped zebras and fauna-filled étagères in all their tropical glory. Thoughtful touches like the detailed knob finials at each pleat enhance the eye-catching appeal.

To complement the curtains, Caterina transformed an inexpensive white duvet cover and shams into bedding fit for a luxurious beachside suite. She trimmed the plain white set with the same bias banding used on the drapes. With the addition of a coordinated bed skirt and pillow, this winsome retreat is ready for its first reservation.

Visit cottonquill.com and patemeadows.com for more information.

