

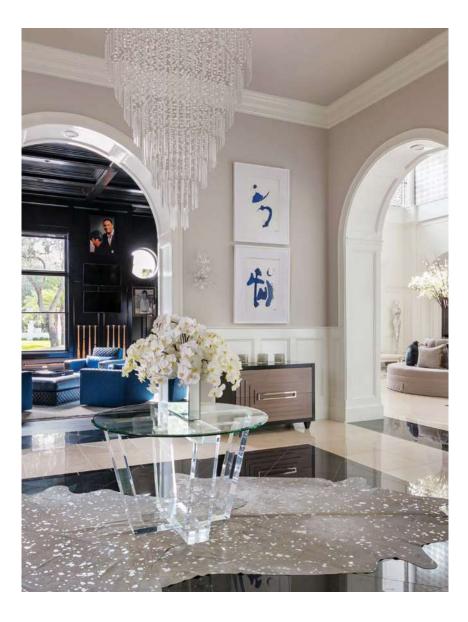
INTERIOR DESIGN DEE MARKSBERRY
AND JENNIFER MARKSBERRY,
GAGE-MARTIN INTERIORS,
TAMPA, FL
BUILDER RJL O'CONNELL, INC.,
TAMPA, FL
TEXT SAXON HENRY
PHOTOGRAPHY NICKOLAS SARGENT,
WEST PALM BEACH, FL

ABOVE: Barefoot elegance reigns supreme as MLB Hall of Famer Roberto Alomar, his wife Kim, and their daughters Robyn and Lourdes enjoy life in their newly redesigned 18,700-square-foot home in Tampa, Fla.

LEFT: The entry's lacquered
"Glacier" white millwork reflects
off the Crema Marfil flooring
that gleams as light streams into
the statuesque space. A round
waiting bench by Tomlinson is
one of many circular shapes
coalescing with Chaddock's
sinuous chaises and Oly's metal
drum "Bruno" cocktail tables to
create a sense of balance.



Crystal cascades from Italamp's chandelier above Interlude Home's glass-topped "Stella" acrylic table that takes center stage in the reception area. Saddleman's hide area rug anchors the space in style.



HARMONIOUS IS HOW INTERIOR designers Dee and Jennifer Marksberry describe their collaboration with MLB Hall of Famer Roberto Alomar and his wife Kim. The inspiration for the transformation of a number of areas in the couple's Tampa home was obvious to the designers from the start. "Kim and Robbie are well-traveled and have a high sense of style," Jennifer says. Travel was also on the homeowners' minds when approaching the decor, particularly the lavish resorts they enjoy when they take excursions with their daughters, Robyn and Lourdes. "When we walk into our home, we want the same sumptuous feeling of comfort and luxury we experience when we're away," Kim says.

With this in mind, the foyer, the master suite, the kitchen and the family areas in this 18,700-square-foot residence were updated. Focusing on the couple's desire for opulence, the design duo chose high-quality materials to create a neutral interior scheme enlivened by pops of color.



An interplay of light and dark is woven throughout the design scheme to beautiful effect. The flooring in the foyer, for instance, is Crema Marfil with black granite lozenges, which served as inspiration for other elements in the space. "We expanded the black and white theme and made it crisper," Jennifer says. "We lacquered all the millwork in the entryway in 'Glacier' white to accentuate the architectural details and lacquered the doors in black for a striking contrast." The high-gloss finish on the millwork in the grandly scaled foyer, the designer notes, has a beautiful shimmer to it that illuminates the space.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, Roberto's study, which is filled with memorabilia from his lauded baseball career, is stunning in rich black and lush blues. The feats of the MLB Hall of Famer illustrated on every wall celebrate a 16-year career during which he contributed to winning seasons with the San Diego Padres, Toronto Blue Jays, Baltimore Orioles, Cleveland Indians, New York Mets, Chicago White Sox, and Arizona Diamondbacks. "Each piece of the memorabilia is so much more powerful on the black backdrop," Kim says. "He is very happy with the room because it gives him a place to enjoy drinks and cigars with his friends."

In the dining room, Tomlinson's armless banquettes play host to the custom table from Old Biscayne Designs. Fine Art Handcrafted Lighting's chandelier is brilliant in shimmering complement to candleholders from Global Views.

BELOW: Sleek, white-lacquered Neff cabinets from Studio Luxe Custom Cabinetry strategically shape the kitchen, where Calacatta Gold marble from Europa Stone styles the backspash and waterfall-edge island. Here, Jessica Charles counter stools clad in a vibrant Designer's Guild print add a splash of color to the space.





Everything continues the dance between light and dark that flows from the living room to the kitchen and the dining room, where an illustrious custom piece in the home is the 12-foot-long dining table. "Robbie and Kim wanted seating for 14 and asked us for something that addressed the palatial scale of the dining room. The table is a stunning combination that makes for a magical dining experience," Dee says about the piece stained in ebony and edged with blown-glass faceted mirrors. "We worked seamlessly with Dee and Jennifer to accomplish this," Kim says. "I'm a visual person and I could tell they understood what we wanted early on. From our first interactions, it was an instant connection."

Most reflective of the Alomar's sense of high style, the master suite invites resort-style relaxation at the day's end. Replacing the standard square fireplace with a linear one and

cladding the surround in white marble, the design team shaped a cozy sitting area. "All the wood flooring in the master bedroom is refinished in ebony," Dee says. "The surfaces on the cabinetry are white lacquer for a crisp contrast." And a personal favorite of Kim's because it has plenty of room for her collection of shoes and purses, the two-story master closet presents the ultimate "wow" factor.

With the home gleaming to its full potential, Kim continues to curate art for the interiors, tapping one Miami artist to bring added personality to its rooms. "Alejandra Estafania's art, including her portraits of us, makes the house feel complete to me," she says. "The compositions are finishing touches that top off the beautiful spaces Dee and Jennifer created."

### SOURCES

### **ENTRY SITTING AREA**

Circular waiting bench - Tomlinson Companies, Thomasville, NC

Fabric - Kirkby, Romo Fabrics, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Vase - Michael Aram, North Bergen, NJ

Side consoles - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA Glass candleholders - Global Views, Dallas, TX

Wall sconces - Fine Art Handcrafted Lighting, Miami, FL

Chaises - Chaddock, Morganton, NC

Print fabric - Jane Churchill, Cowtan and Tout, DCOTA,

Dania Beach, FL

Cocktail tables - Oly Studio, Reno, NV

Corner planters - Emissary Trading Co., Atlanta, GA

Wall covering on balcony - Harlequin, Nessen Group, Dania Beach, FL

Area Rug - Loloi, Inc., Grapevine, TX

STUDY

Club chairs and cocktail ottoman - Tomlinson Companies, Thomasville, NC

Fabric - Designer's Guild, Ammon Hickson, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Tray on ottoman - Made Goods, Baldwin Park, CA

Nesting accent tables - Owners' Collection

Display shelving and wall treatment - Custom designed by

Gage-Martin Interiors, Tampa, FL

Fabricated by Merino Family Construction, LLC, Tampa, FL

Area rug - Fabrica, Santa Ana, CA

## **RECEPTION AREA**

Center table - Interlude Home, Trumbull, CT Chandelier - Italamp, Lighting Reps, Coral Gables, FL

Vase with daisies - New Growth Designs, Greenville, NC

Cabinetry - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA

Artwork - Charles Harold Company, Tampa, FL Area rug - Saddlemans, Sante Fe, NM





## LIVING ROOM

Sectional sofa - Minotti, Miami, FL

Ottoman and bench - Tomlinson Companies,

Thomasville, NC

Ottoman fabric - Chaddock, Morganton, NC

Bench fabric - Romo Fabrics, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Cocktail tables - Christopher Guy, High Point, NC

Planter - Emissary Trading Co., Atlanta, GA Console - Plexi-Craft, New York, NY

Grand piano - Owners' Collection

Wall sconces - Fine Art Handcrafted Lighting, Miami, FL Chandelier - Italamp, Lighting Reps, Coral Gables, FL

Drapery fabric - Holland & Sherry, DCOTA,

Dania Beach, FL

Artwork - Charles Harold Company, Tampa, FL Area rug - Delos Rugs, Calhoun, GA Flooring - Through the Woods, Tampa, FL

KITCHEN

Cabinetry and island - Neff Cabinets, Studio Luxe Custom Cabinetry, Naples, FL

Countertops and backsplash - Europa Stone, Tampa, FL

Counter stools - Jessica Charles, High Point, NC Hood - Pro-Tools, Tampa, FL

Stove - Wolf, Sub-Zero Group, Madison, WI Flooring - Europa Stone, Tampa, FL

**DINING ROOM** 

Dining table - Old Biscayne Designs, Americus, GA

Banquettes and chairs - Tomlinson Companies, Thomasville, NC

Fabric - Holland & Sherry, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL Candleholders - Global Views, Dallas, TX

Chandelier - Fine Art Handcrafted Lighting, Miami, FL Drapery fabric - J.F. Fabrics, Tonawanda, Canada Area rug - Delos Rugs, Calhoun, GA

# MASTER SUITE

Bed and bedside chests - Old Biscayne Designs, Americas, GA

Light fixtures - Schonbek, Lighting Reps,

Club chairs - Tomlinson Companies, Thomasville, NC Fabric - JAB Fabrics, Jeffrey Michaels, Hollywood, FL

Fireplace - Mexxo, A-Plus Fireplaces, Port Richey, FL Fireplace wall treatment - Europa Stone, Tampa, FL Bar cabinetry - Neff Cabinets, Studio Luxe Custom Cabinetry, Naples, FL

Draperies - Romo Fabrics, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL Closet shelving - Southern Closet Systems, Tampa, FL

Closet stairway - Merino Family Construction, LLC,

Railing - Borter Glass, Inc., Tampa, FL Flooring - Through the Woods, Tampa, FL

THROUGHOUT Window treatments - Karen Lockwood Designs,

Tampa, FL