

Zen Spirit

PART OF A HORSE BARN IN WELLINGTON IS REBORN AS A WELLNESS-CENTRIC RETREAT WITH EQUESTRIAN ELAN

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An extraordinary renovation transformed an equestrian barn into a luxurious play lounge. Custom pecky cypress doors open onto a sublime retreat designed for wellness and social gatherings. Fiber art from Vita Boheme Studio defines the gaming area, and the kitchen echoes the organic vibe with wicker pendants and live-edge shelving.



ABOVE: The kitchen features two oversized islands clad in quartzite slabs from Stone Gallery. Outfitted with leather and walnut stools by Thomas Hayes Studio, both islands accommodate seating for six. A bespoke bleached white oak pool table designed by HW Interiors highlights the game area, and a sleek Hollis + Morris chandelier gives a contemporary edge to typical billiard lighting. The green living walls are by Miami Vertical Gardens.

HAILED AS THE WINTER EQUESTRIAN capital of the world, Wellington is a bucolic paradise in Palm Beach County that grows exponentially in the winter months—or “season” as it is known to the locals. All disciplines of equestrian sports compete here, from show jumping to polo, which makes this quiet little town a unique cultural melting pot where people from across the globe keep homes and show their beloved horses.

Designer Heather Weisz and her partner, Lisa Hynes, seized what they consider a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity when they were selected to transform part of a client’s barn into a spectacular Bali-inspired retreat. To this day, the industrious duo behind HW Interiors continues to process the project’s size, complexity, and amazing outcome. “We consider ourselves so fortunate to have been involved in this endeavor,” says Weisz. “We are beyond grateful for our amazing client who entrusted us with something this unusual and large in scope.”

BELOW: Renovated with new stall fronts, the adjacent horse stables received a glow-up with lustrous new ceiling stain and a fresh coat of Benjamin Moore’s Chantilly Lace. An oversized custom chandelier from Hubbardton Forge brings an elegant contrast to a traditionally utilitarian space.

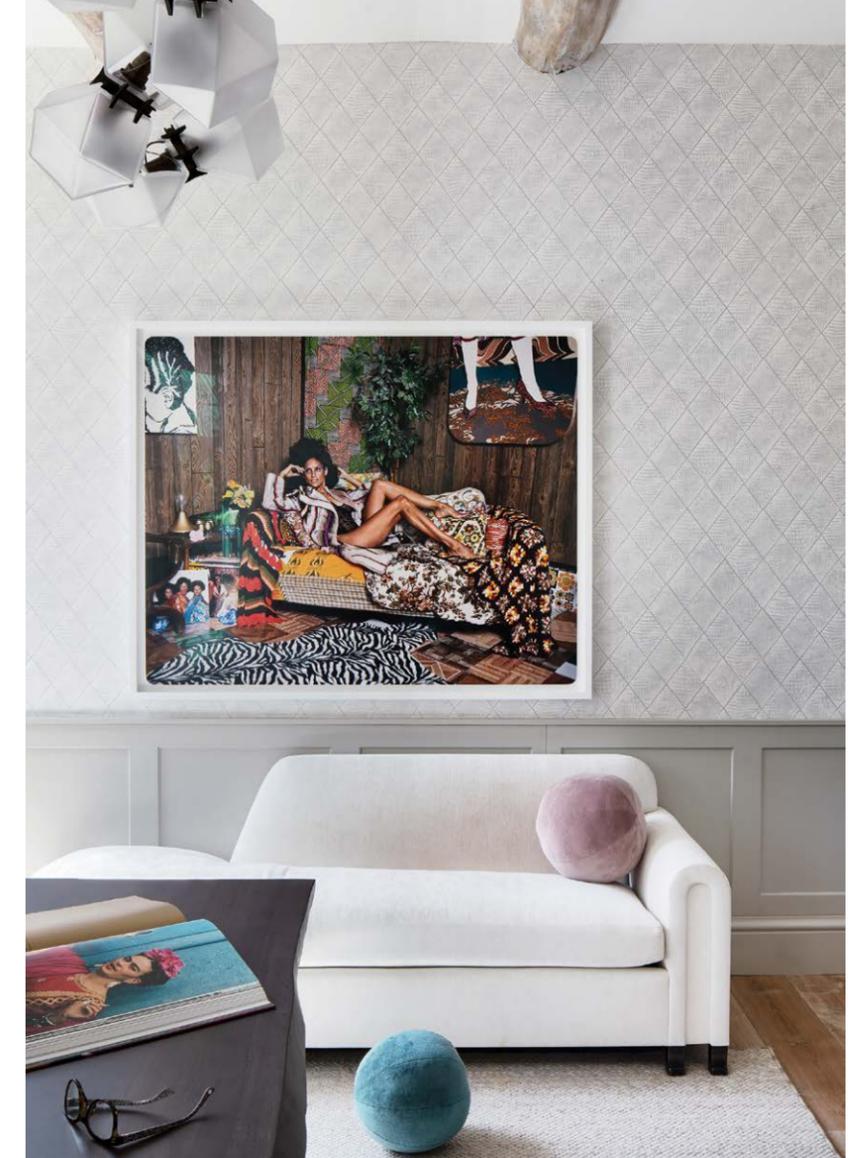


In the main house, a cozy breakfast banquette designed by HW Interiors outlines the curved bay windows. Pink chairs from Shelby Parker and a sculptural pendant from Apparatus Studio complement a round statement table from Palm Beach Custom Woodworks.



RIGHT: A chic home office houses a desk designed by HW Interiors and a plush white chaise lounge from Dmitriy & Co. accented with sphere pillows from Marquis Design Group. A dynamic photographic artwork by Mickalene Thomas is set against a Phillip Jeffries wallcovering.

BELOW: A pair of oversized Kravet sofas creates an inviting allure in the lounge area, and two bean-shaped coffee tables from Four Hands bring an organic vibe. A herringbone-patterned natural wood wallpaper from Phillip Jeffries generates textural warmth.



An accomplished equestrian and wellness aficionado, their client was naturally drawn to this peaceful Wellington neighborhood. Its sprawling lots exceed five acres a piece, all with barns adjacent to their homes and plenty of wide-open space with trail access for riding. The main house boasts 4,500 square feet, but HW's design focuses on the barn. Weisz and Hynes converted one third of it into 3,500 square feet of livable luxury play space while renovating the remaining two-thirds for the owner's horses, including two adorable Gypsy Vanners, Sugar Bear and Brown Sugar. "The property itself has gorgeous mature landscaping," says Hynes, "making it ideal for our client who values all aspects of health, wellness, and social connection."

The homeowner's primary goal was to make the space feel Balinese inspired, with a dedicated Zen yoga retreat, sauna, gym, lounge area, and outdoor cold plunge pool. Her intent was twofold—an exercise space that overlooks the lush landscape, as well as a destination for friends and get-togethers. The design team's initial concept utilized



ABOVE: A stylishly graphic entryway to the sauna includes a white stool paired with pottery from Bloomingville and a black fiber wall hanging from Vita Boheme Studio. The infrared sauna accommodates four guests and features the latest biohacking technology.



Sugar Bear, the owner's pristine Gypsy Vanner, graces the impeccable landscape that surrounds a plunge pool from Volcano Pool. This enclosed area offers privacy for early morning cold plunges. Guests can enjoy the view from the primary bath's oversized window.



LEFT: The primary bathroom reiterates the sauna's serene palette with a sculptural soaking tub from Badeloft and custom teak vanities by Palm Beach Custom Woodworks. Matte black Waterworks fixtures give a dramatic edge to the soothingly organic white micro-cement wall finish.

this generous space to give their client the best possible layout to provide privacy for yoga and gym time, along with public areas to host large gatherings and take advantage of the lounge, kitchen, and pool table area. "We applied an imported bamboo ceiling treatment along with earthy tones in the wood floors and quartzite island slabs and an organic live-edge shelving detail to transport visitors to a soothing luxury oasis upon stepping through the doors," says Weisz.

A long view into the yoga studio from the entrance reveals bespoke pecky cypress barn doors with custom brass inlaid handles and a stunning beaded chandelier from Africa. Two oversized living walls flank the opening, emulating the landscape's lavish growth and vivid natural colors. To keep the property in tune with its surroundings, the team installed oversized sliding glass doors to invite natural light and serene views inside from every vantage point. Working closely with Surfside Contracting, they brought the project to life, ensuring every detail—from the AC vents to the kerfed door

jamb and baseboards—feels elevated and luxurious. “Personally, Heather and I would have moved in if we could,” jokes Hynes. “The place is a dream.”

As for the client, she is enjoying the space thoroughly, utilizing it for group yoga and meditation retreats and daily health and wellness. “We’ve also heard from her that those beautiful stone countertops are sturdy enough to hold several people dancing,” laughs Weisz, “so we know it’s getting plenty of use for entertaining.”

BELOW: Just beyond a pair of lush green living walls from Miami Vertical Gardens, a Zen yoga retreat offers uplifting landscape views. A 10-foot handmade African chandelier by Ngala Trading provides an awe-inspiring focal point against the elegant bamboo ceiling treatment.



SOURCES

GAME AND KITCHEN AREA

Armchairs – Taracea, High Point, NC
 Drink tables – Four Hands, Austin, TX
 Pool table – The Billiard Shop, Houston, TX
 Wall art – Vita Boheme, vitaboheheartstudio.com
 Island designed by HW Interiors, Wellington, FL, and fabricated by Palm Beach Custom Woodworks, West Palm Beach, FL
 Stone – Stone Gallery, Riviera Beach, FL
 Stools – Thomas Hayes, Los Angeles, CA
 Wicker pendant lighting – Hudson Valley Lighting Group, hvlg.com
 Chandelier over pool table – Hollis and Morris, York, Ontario, Canada
 Beaded chandelier – Ngala Trading, New York, NY
 Area rug – Feizy, High Point, NC
MAIN HOUSE BREAKFAST AREA
 Banquette designed by HW Interiors, Wellington,

FL, and fabricated by Shelby Parker, Lake Park, FL
 Pink chairs – Shelby Parker, Lake Park, FL
 Table top – Palm Beach Custom Woodworks, West Palm Beach, FL
 Table base – Mr. Brown London, High Point, NC
 Lighting – Apparatus, New York, NY
MAIN HOUSE OFFICE
 Desk designed by HW Interiors, Wellington, FL, and fabricated by Palm Beach Custom Woodworks, West Palm Beach, FL
 White lounge – Dmitriy & Co., New York, NY
 Pillows – Marquis Design Group, West Palm Beach, FL
 Wallcovering – Phillip Jeffries, Fairfield, NJ
LOUNGE
 White sofas – Kravet, Woodbury, NY
 Cocktail tables – Four Hands, High Point, NC
 Side tables – Four Hands, High Point, NC
 Wallcovering – Phillip Jeffries, Fairfield, NJ

Area rug – Jack Walsh, West Palm Beach, FL
SAUNA
 White stool – Four Hands, High Point, NC
 Pottery – Global Views, High Point, NC
PRIMARY BATHROOM
 Tub – MTI Baths, mtibaths.com
GAZEBO
 Lounges – GAN, Gandia Blasco, gandiablasco.com
 Pillows – GAN, Gandia Blasco, gandiablasco.com
THROUGHOUT
 Exterior architecture – Roy & Posey Architecture, West Palm Beach, FL
 Additional architecture – Avercamp Associates, West Palm Beach, FL
 Builder – Surfside Contracting, Inc. Jupiter, FL
 Landscape architecture – Armstrong Landscape Group, Jupiter, FL
 Living walls designed by Miami Vertical Gardens, Miami, FL

Meticulous landscape architecture from Armstrong Landscape Design Group includes a picturesque patio area featuring a pergola draped with spiraling greenery. Elegant lounge chairs and pillows from GAN provide a relaxing and meditative space for guests.

