



Contributors



Melissa Feldman
Creativity Required

Attending this year's Maison & Objet and Déco Off design fairs in Paris provided substantial inspiration for the former style editor of *House & Garden* magazine. "While Art Deco themes and brushstroke motifs were already in the ether, it was exciting to see everything coalesce in the galleries, showrooms, and streets of Paris," Feldman says. When she spoke with industry player Pierre Frey about decorating today, Frey likened the trends to those of fashion: "You mix Zera with vintage Yves Saint Laurent."



Miguel Flores-Vianna
18th-Century Modern

"I love doing stories on the work of highly skilled craftsmanship, and people involved in that kind of work should be supported and applauded," says the well-traveled photographer. Flores-Vianna was particularly impressed by the artistry of the boisserie on display throughout Guillaume Féau's home outside Paris. Its entrance hall and dining room reminded him of northern neoclassical rooms. "I felt like I was somewhere in St. Petersburg," he says.



Jeremy Floto and Cassandra Warner
The Art of Living

When shooting the Stubbes' home in Dorado, Puerto Rico, the photography duo felt a strong sense of history and wildlife around the property. "The coqui frogs were as loud as New York City traffic," Floto says. A more unfortunate natural element was the gust of wind that knocked the entire lighting system into the pool. "We adapted quickly," Warner says. Their most recent project, *Hieroglyph*, a photo series of grotesquely altered caves in China, was exhibited at A. Galerie during the Art Paris Art Fair in March.



Wendy Goodman
18th-Century Modern

"It was a history lesson to do this story, and I love that," says the design editor of *New York* magazine. Goodman first met Guillaume Féau during a panel on the French decorative arts at New York's French Heritage Society, and she instantly became interested in the treasures that lurk around the owner of Féau & Cie's own home. As she learned, many of Féau's hidden gems were designed by his favorite 18th-century architects, Percier and Fontaine. "It was very exciting to discover there was not only a story there, but a great one."



Daphne Merkin
Once Upon This Mattress

The New York writer and critic whose sleeping troubles began at a very young age has long been intrigued by Hästens and the reputed benefits of the company's mattresses. "I loved helping stuff horsehair mattresses in the factory, and I was struck by the pride the entire staff took in what they did," Merkin says. "It reminded me of the John Galsworthy essay 'Quality.' Her memoir on living with depression will be published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux in January 2017.



Caroline Roux
Fashion's Night In

A London native and architecture expert for *The Telegraph's* Luxury section, Roux had not been excited by Amsterdam until recently. "It's now become a fascinating, fast-changing place filled with amazing new buildings, and the reinvention of the Rijksmuseum is reason enough to visit," she says. When Roux interviewed the president and CEO of Karl Lagerfeld International, Pier Paolo Righi, for the feature story, he divulged that despite his Italian style and the influence of his time in Milan, he makes an effort to be "a bit more Karl" when attending meetings in Paris.

DORADO BEACH,
PUERTO RICO

THE ART OF LIVING



A RESORT DEVELOPER
TRANSFORMS
HIS PERSONAL RESIDENCE
INTO A GALLERY-LIKE
PARADISE—WITH ALL
THE COMFORTS OF HOME.

BY AMANDA FRIEDMAN

Photographs by
FLOTO•WARNER



Peering into the living room of the Stubbs' home. Opposite: Albina, a ceramic work by artist Mariana Monteagudo. For details, see page 138.

**OR FEDERICO STUBBE,**

creating a home is not just a personal endeavor, it is his professional passion. The chairman and CEO of Prisa Group, Stubbe is one of the largest developers of upscale residential planned communities in his native Puerto Rico. Although he is responsible for high-profile projects in San Juan, Bayamón, Manatí, Cidra, and Gurabo, the jewels in his crown are the famed Dorado Beach Resort and the house he constructed on the property. A 1,400-acre tropical haven on Puerto Rico's Caribbean coast, Dorado Beach was developed by Laurance Rockefeller in 1958 and is now anchored by the spectacular Ritz-Carlton Reserve that opened in 2012.

"In the '60s, Dorado Beach was the place for the rich and famous in the Caribbean," Stubbe explains. "But with time, it got tired." He first came to Dorado in 1990, partnering with the Pritzker family to redevelop Rockefeller's master plan. The home he originally built in 1995 was a traditional Mediterranean-style residence by architect Heriberto Carbajal. "It started as a second home for my mother, and you know how mothers are—I had to buy it back from her!" he says with a laugh. "I borrowed the house while we were remodeling my home in San Juan, and my family loved living in Dorado so much, we decided to stay here. So then it became my primary residence." **CONTINUED>**

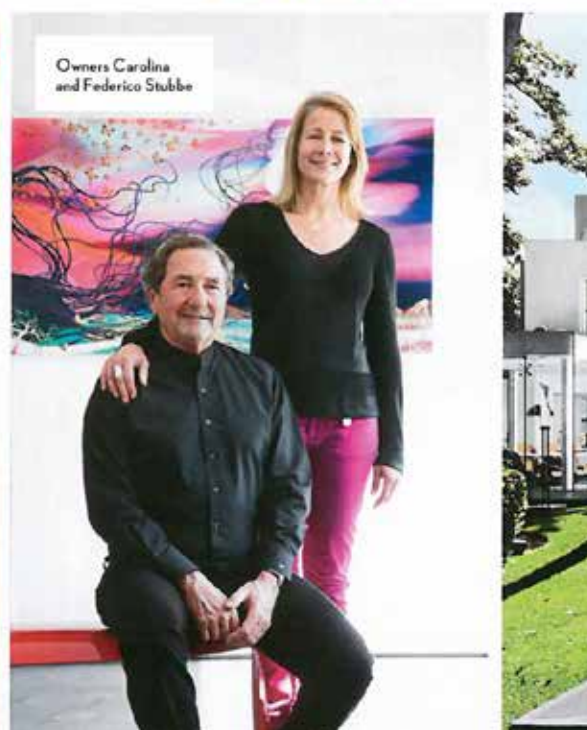




Lolo the parrot perches
in the breakfast area,
where Lazy '05 chairs
surround a Seven table,
all from B&B Italia.



THE HOUSE WAS
REDESIGNED TO REFLECT
THE STUBBES' LIFESTYLE:
CONTEMPORARY,
CLOSE TO NATURE, AND
**SURROUNDED
BY ART.**





Artist Carlos
Marcado's acrylic
mirror boxes
decorate the Dorado
Beach golf course.



The glass-cube
additions were inspired
by the Apple flagship
store on Fifth Avenue
in New York City.

In 2009, the home's interiors were gutted, glass cubes were added, and more. It was a complete transformation. The same could be said about Stubbe's life. After suffering the sudden loss of his longtime wife, the mother of his two grown children, he found love again, in 2006, in the most unlikely of places—at the Formula One racetrack in Barcelona, where he was testing out cars. The object of his affection was Carolina Figueredo, a Venezuelan art gallerist based in Caracas who shared Stubbe's penchant for fast cars and great adventure. The two embarked on a whirlwind romance and Carolina moved to Dorado in 2007. They married in 2009.

Carolina quickly left her mark on her adopted hometown, launching the arte_FIT'S Foundation, a nonprofit devoted to producing site-specific installations, developing educational programs, and promoting local and international artists. She also curated an ambitious assortment of sculptures and installations at the Ritz-Carlton Reserve. But her masterpiece is the Stubbes' own residence, which highlights Carolina's modern sensibility and the couple's extensive collection of Asian art, acquired on numerous buying trips to cities such as Shanghai, Beijing, and Tokyo, as well as at Art Basel in Switzerland and Miami Beach. "I started studying the contemporary Asian art scene ten years ago," Carolina recalls. "Except for Japan, contemporary art was emerging at that time. As a muscologist, I thought it was an interesting challenge, and my husband and I had a lot of fun learning together."

The redesign was completed in 2011 by the original architect, Carbia. The gallery-like glass-and-concrete space displays monumental pieces by the likes of Takashi Hinoda, Lin Tianmiao, and Tomoko Sawada, while remaining true to the property's paradisaical location, situated alongside a Robert Trent Jones Sr. golf course and overlooking the water. "The actual house was redesigned to reflect Mr. and Mrs. Stubbe's lifestyle in Dorado Beach: contemporary, close to nature, and surrounded by art," Carbia says. "This house reflects Mr. Stubbe's vision of life in a tropical park and Mrs. Stubbe's passion: art and museums."

One of the biggest challenges was softening the house's entrance, which is made of concrete and looked too stark and imposing, especially next to the two garages for Stubbe's collection of vintage Porsches, a Mercedes-Benz, and

daily drivers that include a Range Rover and a Tesla Model S. The Stubbes decided to build a green wall, overflowing with lush ferns, and install a large bronze-and-glass door from Italy. Throughout the home, the architecture shifts back and forth between the modern and the organic. The main foyer is essentially an art gallery, and as you continue on you come across a modern spiral staircase and an interior patio with bonsai trees and a clay wall by well-known Puerto Rican ceramist Jaime Suarez. In addition, the property's stunning natural surroundings are always on display.

"The most spectacular impression is when you open up into the living area and you see the golf course and ocean behind it," Stubbe says. Inspired by Apple's Fifth Avenue flagship store, in New York City, he added three glass cubes throughout the residence: one for Carolina's studio, a second off the kitchen, and, for the main living area, a striking glass pavilion overlooking the picturesque backyard and lap pool. "These glass boxes are mainly used in commercial structures, and we were experimenting with using them in residential ones," he says. "The challenge in the Caribbean is how to integrate nature with the inside of the house and still incorporate things like air conditioning with the tropical environment."

Carolina collaborated with local interior designer Jean-Pierre Santoni on the decor of the four-bedroom home, which is also contemporary in style, filled with pieces by such designers as Fritz Hansen, Jean Prouvé, Arne Jacobsen, and Christian Liaigre. Much of the couple's time is spent in the kitchen, which features sleek cabinetry and appliances from the Varenna line by Poliform, a B&B Italia table and chairs, and a Skygarden hanging light fixture by Marcel Wanders for Flos. "Cooking is one of Carolina's hobbies," Stubbe says. "She tells me it's one of the ways she expresses love, and that's very dangerous because you might get fat!"

Still, when the couple entertains, they often bring in the resort's chefs to orchestrate elaborate dinners for the politicians, celebrities, and other notables who frequent the property. "Houses are places to pursue happiness, and I call our home my sanctuary," Stubbe says of the residence he and Carolina share with their two dogs and a cockatoo. "It's our own private retreat within this great park." Carolina sums it up quite simply: "To me, our house is a dream come true." •



