

# CTC & G

Connecticut Cottages and Gardens

COTTAGESGARDENS.COM | SEPTEMBER 2022

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HOME



# THE SHAPE *of* WATER

SUBTLE SPLASHES OF COLOR, MIDCENTURY TOUCHES  
AND PLAYFUL PATTERNS FILL A LAKEFRONT HOME

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**Sun Time** (OPPOSITE PAGE) A  
teak sunbed from RH is the  
perfect perch for enjoying lake  
life. **Table With A View** (THIS  
PAGE) Oak chairs from Suite  
NY surround a walnut table  
with a glass insert designed by  
Catalina Castaño. The Murano  
glass Sputnik chandelier is from  
Cosulich Interiors & Antiques.  
See *Resources*.

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**Lakeside Lounging** In the living room, a custom sofa features Maharam fabrics. Marble for the coffee table is from Artistic Tile, and the Julian Chichester chairs are a midcentury-modern touch. The rug is through Sacco Carpet. Also in the main space, the woven wicker and walnut cabinet (OPPOSITE PAGE) is from the homeowner's collection, and the Murano glass sconces are from Venfield. See *Resources*.



**D**espite a career that began with studying interior design in South Carolina and followed by a move to New York City—where she eventually opened her own interior design studio—Catalina Castaño has never lost sight of her Colombian roots. “I grew up in a playful, colorful country,” she shares. “My background figures into all of my designs but always mingled with my client’s ideas.” So,

when a couple with two grown children and a penchant for midcentury modern approached her to work with them on their Litchfield County residence, Castaño responded by crafting interiors that honored the homeowners’ style while bringing her own signature vibrancy to the mix.

The residence in question—a contemporary structure on a tight sloping lot—was designed





by architectural designer Harold Tittman as an “upside down house.” “The structure is sandwiched between two roads with the main entrance and living spaces on the same level as the upper road,” explains Tittman, who notes,

from there it’s down one flight to the bedrooms followed by the final descent to the media room and gym. “The boat house is on the other side of the lower road,” he adds.

To maximize the incomparable lake vistas,

the house is intentionally long and narrow, and even the mudroom has a view. “Windows are a trademark in my architecture, and I made sure each room got extra-large openings,” Tittman says. The strategically placed fenestration framing up

**Casual Dining** (ABOVE) Bar stools from Industry West provide a place for guests to hang out in the kitchen. The reclaimed-wood floors are through Atmosphere & Bois. **Drop Off** (RIGHT, TOP)

Stone in the mudroom have a vintage feel. Walls are covered in gray Venetian plaster by Tittman Design. **Cocktail Time** (RIGHT, BOTTOM) A walnut bar sports a Kallista faucet with a gunmetal finish. See Resources.



**Guest Quarters** (THIS PAGE) The custom headboard is upholstered with rose velvet fabric by Concertex, and the bench sports yellow and rose linen through John Rosselli & Associates. **Suite Dreams** (OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) In the primary bathroom, the custom vanity is topped with honed marble from New York Stone, the Kelly Wearstler sconces are through Circa Lighting, and the rug is from ABC Carpet & Home. A side table from Arteriors sits next to the Victoria + Albert tub, and the shower tile is Ann Sacks. In the primary bedroom, Castaño designed the bed with floating side tables, headboard fabric is a Romo cotton-linen blend, and the sconces are from 7 Gods Lighting. See *Resources*.



the sparkling blue water and the surrounding greenery, all but guarantees a “wow” followed by a sigh from all who enter. Taking her cues from the environment, Castano began in the living room by introducing a commodious two-piece wool and mohair sofa in a deep shade of green. “It reminds me of the trees,” says the designer, who added a marble coffee table with a walnut base. “It looks like it’s floating,” she says about the additional nod to nature. A pair of

wood-frame midcentury modern chairs sporting geometric Hermès wool fabric with splashes of subtle orange and teal sets the tone for the palette that repeats throughout the house. In the adjacent dining room, for example, where the walnut table and oak chairs also play to the surroundings, the oval Italian Murano Sputnik chandelier continues the color motif with an explosion of yellow, orange, teal and white glass pieces. Here, and throughout European oak floors





**Hang Out** (THIS PHOTO) A terrazzo coffee table from CB2 is the centerpiece on the porch where the ottoman from L'aviva Home was fashioned from traditional Colombian hats. **Blue Tones** (BELOW LEFT) Deep blue tiles from Heath Ceramics make a statement in the guest bathroom. **Boat House** (BELOW RIGHT AND OPPOSITE PAGE) A custom banquette wears durable Perennials fabric, and the metal tables are from Blu Dot. On the deck, the metal-frame chairs are from Four Hands. See *Resources*.



imported from Belgium, and Venetian plaster walls provide a consistent, neutral backdrop. Meanwhile, real velvet drapes with a contrasting linen trim in the primary bedroom look like they were color matched to the lake. “You open these drapes and you feel like you are touching the water,” says Castano. A wood-frame bed of her own design is upholstered in velvet, and glass and brass sconces resembling branches look to be growing out of the headboard. “I wanted it to feel like a beautiful luxury five-star hotel.”

In the family room—where Castano also designed the tuxedo-back sofa topped with Hermès covered accent pillows—a pair of art panels in bold hues enliven the gathering place. As she explains about the pieces from the homeowners’ collection, “They are made out of metal and are from a 1930s theater set.” Elsewhere, intentional interjections of blues and greens—like the shimmering blue ceramic tile in the son’s bathroom, kitchen bar stools stained a Midori green, and a teal velvet bolster pillow

on the primary suite bed—guarantee the lake connection is never lost. But just in case such gestures proved too subtle, Castano left no doubt about the importance of the water locale in the powder room where a floating marble vanity backed by wallpaper featuring fish darting in every direction makes an unforgettable statement. About her design strategy Castano says, “In Colombia, we cover every wall with color but in this country that is too much. Instead, I use pops of color to make the spaces happy.” 🌟