

# Kissed with COLOR



CHARLOTTE DESIGNER LAYTON CAMPBELL GIVES A STately COLONIAL HOME A DOSE OF SOUTHERN COMFORT WITH SPLASHES OF VIBRANT COLOR, LUSTROUS METAL ACCENTS, AND LUXURIOUSLY SOFT FABRICS.

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Previous pages: Varying shades of blue reign supreme in this stately Charlotte home that was transformed for modern living by designer Layton Campbell. The living room's pale pink tufted ottoman adds contrast to the blue scheme, and the dining room echoes the cool palette with plush periwinkle dining chairs. Clockwise from above: Blue notes continue throughout, beginning at the front door and continuing into the foyer with a painted blue bench. The great room's matching white Lillian August sofas pair gracefully with two ethereal paintings by artist Lauren Smith-Nagel. A gold metallic tile backsplash lends reflective glamour to the bar area, and a pair of blue armchairs reiterate the blues of the great room's paintings and throw pillows.



**P**oised on a tree-lined street in the posh Foxcroft neighborhood of Charlotte, North Carolina, this stately home stands proudly on top of a lush green hill. At first glance, the gracious 8,000-square-foot property emanates a sense of Colonial grandeur from its well-appointed architectural presence. But a closer look at the entrance reveals a pair of striking blue doors that pop against pristine white brick—a modern touch that sets the tone for what is to unfold when one steps inside. Swathed in white, a crisp and airy interior palette comes to life in a multitude of cool blues accented with hints of coral and lilac. Updated traditional patterns, textures, metal finishes, and materials sprinkled throughout culminate to create a warm Southern welcome. The light-filled home breathes a fresh aesthetic suitable for a modern family—a feel strategically crafted via the creative nuances of designer Layton Campbell.

Owner of J Layton Interiors based in Charlotte, Charleston, Nantucket, and New York, the multifaceted North Carolina native approached the project—like all his projects—with a unique expression of originality, a signature mark that never fails to surpass client expectations. Honing his design skills at the prestigious Parsons School of Design, Campbell has also traveled extensively across the globe, gleaned influences from Asia, Australia, Europe, Russia, and the Middle East that continue to inspire his aesthetic today.

“This family decided to move closer into town and made the shift from a more contemporary home and furnishings to a







Opposite: The waterfall kitchen island has plenty of seating and a wide expanse of prep space for the chef. Clockwise from above: Appliances are tucked neatly in the island, and a trio of pendant lights illuminate the area. An adjacent breakfast room provides a light-filled gathering spot for the family in the morning. A scullery offers a cozy nook for toast and coffee and also provides additional prep space during parties. Open shelving holds dishes while additional cabinetry keeps everything organized.



traditional-style home,” Campbell explains. “I chose classic silhouettes for the furnishings but calmed down the formality by using bright, colorful painted finishes and soft-to-the-touch fabrics.”

The designer added elegant but lively textural wallcoverings, from a Phillip Jeffries blue silk in the living room to a Thibaut dogwood blue-and-white grasscloth in the powder room. He continued the theme, applying an abstract blue-and-white textured wallpaper in the dining room to give it a more approachable feel. His choice of brass accents for lighting, hardware, and cabinets lends warmth and Southern charm to the home’s interiors. He also implemented a Phillip Jeffries gilded mirror wallcovering in the bar above the shelves to echo the gold-themed metallic tiles below them and create a beautiful reflection in the space. “Reflection of all the sunlight-filled spaces was important for me to capture,” notes Campbell. “I used

a wool and silk hand-knotted rug from Stark in the living room that the sun dances about throughout the day, and in the evening, it shimmers in the lamplight.”

The casually elegant great room is where the family loves to gather, so Campbell selected a matching pair of long Lillian August sofas that face each other to anchor the massive space. But the true show-stoppers are two vibrant blue abstract paintings by Southern artist Lauren Smith-Nagel that flank the fireplace. “The homeowners have a wonderful art collection and pride themselves that all their important pieces are created by Southern artists,” adds the designer. “Their art collection was an integral part of all the design decisions, and many pieces were sourced from local galleries in Charlotte.”

Because the owners like to entertain frequently, Campbell worked to showcase all the artwork as prominently as possible. The living







Clockwise from above: An expansive covered terrace with sweeping arches houses an outdoor kitchen, dining area, and cozy fireplace. Dining furniture from Palecek features a light teak finish complementing the overall blue theme. Plush seating provides an inviting spot for chilly evenings in front of the outdoor fireplace. A vibrant painting over the mantel exemplifies the owners' passion for art.



Clockwise from left: A blue hexagon tile floor in the laundry area anchors the space and brilliantly complements blue cabinetry against white tiled walls. Even with its laid-back vibe, the recreation room maintains a stylish ambiance. Here, a comfy sectional from Ambella Home Collection wraps around an oversized blue-and-white striped storage ottoman that houses family games and blankets. A pair of dynamic blue paintings bring visual punch to the cool palette. The powder room gets a dose of whimsy with a blue-and-white dogwood-pattered grasscloth wallpaper from Thibaut, accented with a glamorous gold chandelier.







room boasts two compelling pieces from their collection—an enchanting landscape by Andy Braitman sits above the fireplace, and an abstract by Suzanne T.S. presides over the deep blue velvet Hickory Chair sofa. “I enjoy creating spaces that provide a unique experience from room to room, and art always dictates that direction,” says Campbell. “I also wanted to add an element of whimsy to the project, and having accessories that don’t take themselves too seriously helped create that youthful attitude.”

The bright white kitchen accented in light blue offers a cheerful space for the family to enjoy their morning coffee and breakfast routine. Tucked just beyond the kitchen, a lovely scullery features yet another reflective custom touch with cabinets dressed in antique mirrored panels. Another favorite family spot is the kids’ recreation room, where Campbell positioned a large sectional around a colorful storage ottoman for extra blankets and games. “Add a periwinkle-blue bar packed with their favorite beverages and snacks, and you have a happy place for all.” He laughs.

For the spacious primary suite, Campbell juxtaposed a Hickory Chair French-style bed wrapped in luxurious linens with lacquered bedside chests paired with dazzling gold hardware. “I wanted to keep

Above: A serene guest suite located on the main level allows visitors to enjoy a private oasis with its own access to the outdoor living area. Opposite: The luxurious primary bedroom houses one of the owners’ prized art pieces by J Louis. Dark lacquered bedside chests counterbalance the room’s soft blue and neutral palette. A pair of tufted ottomans enhance an elegant French-style bed from Hickory Chair. Clad in marble and dappled with natural light, the primary bath features a luxurious soaking tub and walkin shower. The room’s matching his-and-hers vanities add to the spa-like ambience.

this room from having anything close to an expected tone,” he notes. A black-framed painting by J Louis hovers over the fireplace and creates a bold focal point.

Outside, the covered terrace is by far one of Campbell’s favorite places on the property. Its graceful white arches and inviting fireplace generate a warm, welcoming vibe for alfresco entertaining. Here, he selected light teak pieces from Palecek accented with blue cushions and paired them with comfy deep blue upholstered outdoor seating. Janus et Cie lounge chairs and chaises surround the tranquil blue water of the pool that mirrors the soothing furniture palette. “The journey working with these fantastic clients was so fun and fulfilling,” sums up the designer. “They were excited and involved at every turn, but clearly, the passion for creating a relaxing home to share with friends and family was our utmost goal.”

