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TRAVEL INSPIRED DESIGN

Dubbed “The Destination Designer,” Denise LaVey has traveled the globe and is notorious for drawing inspiration from her vast explorations and travels. By discovering unique design elements, cultivating a deeper understanding of faraway places, and uncovering talented artisans yet untapped by the world at large, this talented interior designer creates one-of-a-kind spaces that tell a story.

LaVey's skill is masterfully shown in her stunning project, Royal Plaza, located in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. She encourages clients to draw upon personal adventures to create spaces that reflect their unique sense of self and style. In turn, she has broadened her own soulful horizons.

The Royal Plaza project was a complete facelift for the home of a couple with three young children. Beyond improving basic functionality, LaVey focused on creating an overall aesthetic that was less South Florida and more classically chic, while still presenting as warm and family-friendly.

With the concept of designing with a destination in mind, LeVay incorporated some African accents in the master suite. Sharing similar travel experiences with the homeowners inspired LeVay. "The homeowners had spent time in Africa and loved it. I have traveled throughout Botswana, Zambia and Namibia, which was an incredible experience, so getting to collaborate on that aspect together was a big highlight."

LeVay combined a traditional style with contemporary accents through use of modern textiles in the window treatments and pillows, and the space finally reflected the true spirit of the family. From the African decor of the master bedroom, to the countryside beauty of the backyard, LeVay exquisitely mixed cultures to create a one-of-a-kind home.

Prior to establishing her own design firm in 2002, LaVey was a principal interior designer with Tutt Interiors, Inc. of Miami Beach. Working alongside Wallace Tutt III, one of Miami's most respected celebrity designers, she collaborated closely on high-profile projects in Miami and the Bahamas.









Since establishing her eponymous interior design practice, LaVey's projects include homes in Florida, New York City, the Hamptons, Cabo San Lucas, and Los Angeles.

Her fresh global perspective has given her the ability to capture each client's unique taste, while incorporating her own worldly style.

Additionally, her work is showcased in the coffee table book, *Spectacular Homes of South Florida*.

DeniseLaVey.com

—Melissa Howes-Vitek

