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“There’s just so much detail that goes in this room. There’s continuity with the house ... the way it flows.”
 — Victor Farina

Soaring coffered ceilings run indoors and out. Large glass doors stand at attention, allowing light to stream in. Stealthily, the doors fold back, allowing the outdoor and indoor rooms to become one expansive living space. The view of Lake Osceola provides a picture-perfect backdrop.

Ask luxury homebuilders to pick their favorite room from within the many homes they have each crafted ... well, as you can imagine, it is like asking them to pick from among their children.

“It’s hard to tell what is inside and what is outside — the colors are the same, the same finishes, the same ceiling detail, even the same [limestone] flooring,” Phil explains.

A monochromatic palette of ivory creams adds to the spaciousness of the room.

Touches of green match the greenery outside. A ceiling fan features a sailcloth “blade” that adds to the outdoor feel of the room.

The room is comprised of clean lines and angles. On the main wall is a minimalist fireplace, with no mantle and a slender hearth. It collaborates with an embedded television and a series of art nooks, which highlight the homeowners’ extensive pig collection. The wall’s white matte glass tile adds a translucent finish to the wall.

The outdoor living room offers an additional seating area, making it the perfect spot for conversations over morning coffee. Motorized screens come down and hold in more than 80 percent of the home’s air-conditioning, allowing the space to be open virtually year round.

The design “was based on their lifestyle,” Phil says. “They have Sunday barbecues so the idea was to create this family environment where everybody gets to be part of it.”



VICTOR FARINA

Farina and Sons

The great room area of Nolan and Pati Carter's home has won the heart of its creator, Victor Farina. Rich Spanish flavor permeates the room. The kitchen, living and dining room integrate effortlessly, creating a unified space.

Dark woods, from pecky cypress ceiling beams to becky trim to rustic flooring, contrast with the honey-tinted plaster walls.

"Don't you just love the ceiling?" Pati asks. "With these wood beams, [I love] the way it looks."

"There's just so much detail that goes in this room. There's continuity with the house ... the way it flows."

The kitchen is the focal point of the area, especially its color-drenched tile mosaic backsplash. Each piece of tile was handmade by a local artist, making it a one-of-a-kind masterpiece.

"Look at all the different tile pieces of the backsplash," Pati says with a hint of awe. "It's incredible."

Over the stove is a majestic copper hood that glimmers with elegance. The counter of the breakfast bar, crafted from reclaimed wood, teams with the emerald-green granite of the countertops. Chestnut-toned base cabinetry complements the



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home's Spanish flavor. The wall cabinetry is in sage, adding color to the room.

"It is striking how it all flows together," Victor says. "There are so many textures, yet it all comes together."

"I love how intimate this kitchen area is."

Like the kitchen, the living room is rich with color. Sumptuous couches beckon to be sat upon. A substantial media unit stylishly provides the entertainment.

The formal dining room is also a part of this space. Unlike many dining rooms, it is not relegated to a separate room. It is a unified element of the overall space, ensuring that it remains a part of the home's daily activity. Majestic ruby upholstered dining chairs look as though they could have come from a Spanish castle. A wrought iron chandelier adds elegance.

"[The great room] is very elegant, but an easy room to be in," Victor says. "It's very comfortable."