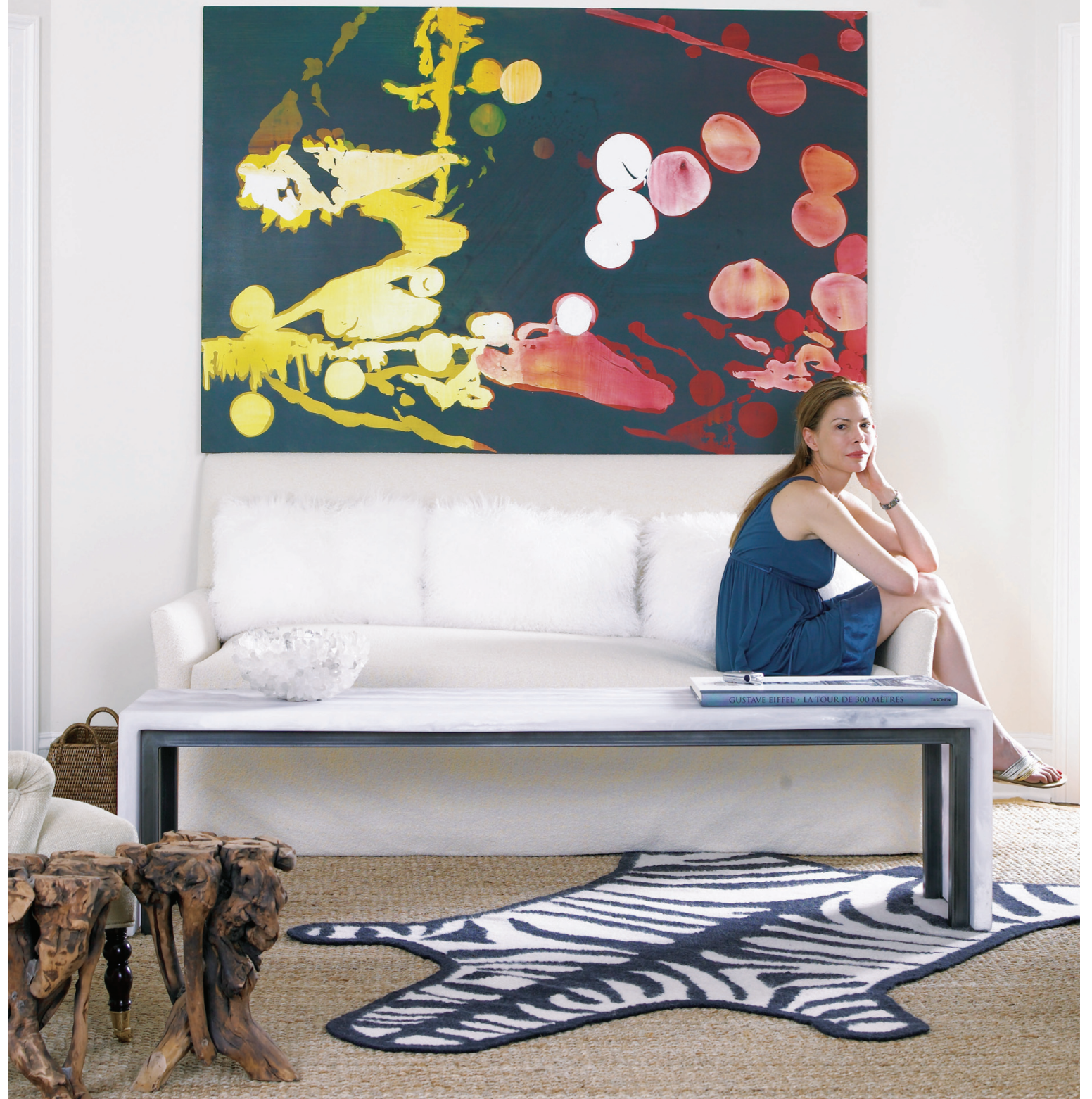


LYNNE  
SCALO  
DESIGN

LYNNE SCALO  
TEL 203.222.4991  
FAX 203.222.4915  
23 JESUP ROAD  
WESTPORT, CT 06880  
WWW.LYNNESCALO.COM

# Connecticut COTTAGES & GARDENS



**Out of Africa** | Designer Lynn Scalo turned the mudroom (OPPOSITE) of a Westport home into something special by mounting the homeowner's collection of African baskets over a combide-covered settee. **Go Wild** | Coral (THIS PAGE) injects a natural element into the living room. See Resources.





DESIGNER LYNNE SCALO  
GETS PERSONAL;  
A PREVIEW OF BUNNY  
WILLIAMS' NEW BOOK;  
ARTISANAL CHEESE  
IN COLCHESTER;  
MATTHEW PATRICK  
SMYTH INVIGORATES A  
SHARON COLONIAL  
AND FALL FABRICS BRING  
COUTURE HOME.



## HOUSE OF STYLE

INTERIOR DESIGNER LYNNE SCALO INFUSES A  
WESTPORT HOME WITH PERSONALITY

BY ALEXA STEVENSON | PHOTOGRAPHS BY LAURA MOSS



**"IT SEEMS EASIER** to most people to arrange a room like some one else's than to analyze and express their own needs," wrote Edith Wharton in her first book, *The Decoration of Houses*, in 1897. As demonstrated by a recent project by designer Lynne Scalo, more than a century later Wharton is still on the mark.

Scalo could have been channeling the grande dame of American literature when she first entered the home of a Westport client, a husband and wife in the publishing business with a 3 1/2-year-old daughter. "I walked in and I thought, 'Whoever did this has no idea what the client is like!' It looked more like a version of what somebody thought she [the wife] was like, not this chic, elegant, unpretentious woman who had walked into my store."

Scalo, owner of the eponymous design firm that also sells original art, furniture and light fixtures, met the wife when she walked into the designer's store for an art consultation. The two meshed so well that the homeowner hired Scalo to update her house. "She's very chic, stylish and understated," Scalo says, "and that's what I tried to create in the house while also making it comfortable, casual and livable." On a grander scale, the designer wanted to translate the client's personality into the interiors, not use the kind of cookie-cutter design scheme that so many fall victim to.



wallpaper—but one room in a black color way and the other in white, creating a playful yin-yang opposition.

The guest suite echoes the feel of the rest of the house. "Basically, I see my work as art in film," Scalo explains. "I want every vantage point, where someone sits or walks into the room, to be a perfect reflection of harmony, beauty and the client's sensibility. I approach every room like it's a little jewel."

One of these jewels is the "Audrey" room, fabulously outfitted in Kelly Wearstler's green-and-white Imperial Trellis pattern—on all of the walls and upholstered pieces—that is broken up only by a single black and white photo of Audrey Hepburn as Holly Golightly in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. "It's classic but fresh, a different way to approach designing," Scalo explains. "I don't like big poofy-woofy. You can have elegance without being overly decorated. I don't like spaces

to look like a decorator just left there."

But while the interior successfully reflects the homeowner's personality, Scalo's quiet imprint is detectable throughout. For example, each room is dotted with a chandelier—some elaborate (such as the one-of-a-kind crystal flower fixture in the bedroom) and some classic but with a fresh update (as in the living room's Fortuny silk-tiered piece). All, however, are a little unexpected, like much of the décor in the rest of the house.

"I like to think of each fixture as a piece of sculpture in a space," says Scalo. "It may sound pretentious, but it's true. Each piece I put in there has to create a whole, and something beautiful. You are given a certain constraint with a room, and within this context you have to make something a little bit magical." ✨



**Quiet Elegance** | A raffish covered wall in the master bedroom (LEFT) exudes a warm, sophisticated feel. A soft, oyster-colored linen covers an English lounge chair. **Iconic Styling** | In the "Audrey" room (OPPOSITE), Kelly Wearstler's Imperial Trellis covers the walls and the upholstered pieces, an eye-popping design scheme broken up by a single black and white photo of Audrey Hepburn from Breakfast at Tiffany's. See Resources.



**Dine On** | In the dining room, English skirted chairs (OPPOSITE) provide a soft juxtaposition to the tulip-base rosewood table, which sits under a hand-blown Murano glass chandelier. Crystal snowball lamps from England grace the walnut and mother-of-pearl banquet table, designed by Scalo. **Water Colors** | The family room (LEFT) had to be chic and livable. Scalo used durable Santa Barbara sofas of her own design to withstand the wear the homeowners' daughter, Brooke (BELOW LEFT), and her friends might cause. The mother-of-pearl and walnut coffee table was custom made by Scalo. **Water Colors** | A silhouette of Brooke (BELOW CENTER) pops against Maya Romanoff's Platinum Leaf wallpaper in the living room. In the same space, a Fortuny chandelier (BELOW RIGHT) hangs over a Lynne Scalo—designed sofa covered in silk. See Resources.





**Come Together** | In the guest suite living area (OPPOSITE TOP) Scalò sits on a sofa she designed, which is lined with Mongolian wool pillows. A hand-poured resin and steel coffee table was also designed by Scalò. The painting, Fall by A. Butress, from Scalò's shop is the piece that brought Scalò and the homeowner together.

**Foreign Affairs** | In one of the three guest rooms (OPPOSITE BOTTOM LEFT), scrolled iron beds from Italy and a scrolled wire chandelier from Paris complement the Osborne & Little wallpaper, which was also used in the bedroom directly across, but in a contrasting color way.

**Crystal Method** | In another guest room outfitted with the same Osborne & Little wallpaper, but in black, a rock crystal cube bedside lamp (RIGHT) sits next to a Scalò-designed bed. Scalò's "Crystal Explosion" chandelier hangs above. See Resources.



She began by reworking the color palette, opting for simple, warm tones and earthy hues mixed with silvery green, lots of silver, gold and pops of peacock blue. Making the selections was easy, says Scalò. "I chose the colors she looks good in. When she walks through that environment, she looks great in every room." Another nod to her client's personality is the touch of exotic elements throughout—African baskets hanging on the mudroom wall, a hide-skin rug in the family room, another leopard-print rug in the master bedroom. The wife's brother is a missionary in Africa, and the family travels to the country frequently. "I was so impressed by these people and their priorities," Scalò says. "I don't know about you, but I don't know that many people that give that much time to Africa. I wanted to incorporate that into a New England interior."

The African motif continues in the master bedroom, where Scalò covered the wall with raffia for a warm, organic look. Elsewhere, she addressed practical problems with panache. The clients, avid readers, gave up a lot of book shelving when they moved into the house three years ago, so Scalò artfully stacked books in a corner—a clever way to make them readily available while creating a "pretty piece of sculpture" for the room.

Since the husband and wife often host friends and a large extended family, the guest suite, consisting of three bedrooms and a common area, plays a major role in the house. It's a chic space that demonstrates Scalò's ability to marry sophistication with livability—and throw in a little fun for good measure. In the common area, the sofa is lined with pillows covered in fluffy Mongolian wool, a chic, cozy and, perhaps most important, kid-friendly material. Two of the bedrooms, which face each other directly, are outfitted in the same Osborne & Little

