

\$40.00 U.S.

BARRY DIXON INTERIORS

BRIAN D. COLEMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY EDWARD ADDEO

Barry Dixon's design style is an international approach, developed from an early exposure to a variety of cultures and countries around the world. Using classical architecture and traditional inspirations along with elements of modern design, he creates elegant and very individual interiors.

Author Brian Coleman visits a wide range of Dixon interiors, from a breathtaking mountaintop villa in the sunny Caribbean to an eighteenth-century farmhouse in the rolling foothills of Virginia and an open-plan loft in Manhattan. Luminous photography by Edward Addeo reveals private realms that speak to the art of living in an original and believable manner.

"Our homes are our personal centers of the universe. In the better instances, they intimate who we are—what we value, how we think—without giving away the whole secret, leaving enough mystery to romance a return. In the best instances, they transcend being about us to become about those we invite into our private world, their comforts, their imaginations and fascinations, their unspoken wants and wishes. Perhaps the greatest quality a home might possess is that of innate, soulful hospitality." —Barry Dixon

Dixon's designs have been featured in scores of publications and his own furniture and soft furnishings line is carried in showrooms nationally. His knowledge of the historical past woven into the best of contemporary design and technology result in a body of work that is both timely and timeless.

BARRY DIXON INTERIORS

BRIAN D. COLEMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY EDWARD ADDEO

BARRY DIXON INTERIORS

COLEMAN
& ADDEO



BRIAN D. COLEMAN, M. D., is a practicing psychiatrist in Seattle, Washington. Also an old-house enthusiast, he has grown his love for historic restoration into an active second career. He has written numerous articles on historic home design for magazines ranging from *Old House Journal* to *Period Living* in the U.K. and is editor-at-large for *Old House Interiors*. Brian is the author of *Farrow & Ball: The Art of Color*, *Scalamandré*, *Window Dressings*, *Historic Arts and Crafts Homes*, and *Cottages*, among other home design books. He divides his time between New York and Seattle.

EDWARD ADDEO is a New York-based photographer whose work has appeared in *Vogue*, *House Beautiful*, and the *New York Times* magazine, among other publications. He has also photographed several books, including *Farrow & Ball: The Art of Color*, *Cherished Objects*, and *The Art of the Party*. He lives with his family in New York.

HOME REFERENCE

ISBN-13: 978-1-4236-0189-0
ISBN-10: 1-4236-0189-0

9 781423 601890

GIBBS SMITH
TO ENRICH AND INSPIRE HUMANKIND
WWW.GIBBS-SMITH.COM



THE FIVE ROOMS of the master suite are entered through the vaulted antechamber; the main bedchamber is to the left. An antique walnut table from Gore Dean Antiques is handy for an early morning coffee while watching the sun rise over the ocean. Bare hardwood floors reflect the light. Blanket chest from Rose Tarlow; mirrored wall sconces from Vaughn.



PALM BEACH PANACHE

A downstairs guest suite is a portal into a magic kingdom seen through the large gilded mirror. The Indian recamier is upholstered in Osborne & Little ribbed velvet “Delamont,” which highlights the mother-of-pearl inlay. Mist-colored sheers blow gently in the breeze between the drapery panels of Osborne & Little “Chrysanthe,” also used on the antique French bed canopy.

Mustique IS A PRIVATE ISLAND in the French Caribbean, a tropical paradise of luxuriously appointed villas set amongst palm trees high above the sandy white beaches and clear blue ocean waters. After vacationing there for several winters with Barry, the owners asked him to plan a winter home of their own for them. Barry had already designed previous residences for the couple in Delaware and Maryland so knew just where to begin. It had to be in a sunny locale similar to the Caribbean but more accessible, somewhere in the States that was easy to slip away to for a long weekend. A place with style and sophistication, even a dash of flamboyance. Florida’s sunny Palm Beach fit the bill precisely, and a large waterfront lot was located not far from Worth Avenue and its charismatic winter social scene.

Influenced by the great 1940s English set designer and decorator Oliver Messel, an eccentric and larger-than-life persona known for his colorful and theatrical villas on Barbados, Mustique and other Caribbean islands, Barry incorporated dramatic designs of his own throughout the home. A hand-painted underwater mural in the dining room, a fantastic grotto powder room entirely covered in shells, and a striking open staircase spiraling upwards from a gurgling pool in the foyer became cornerstones of the project. Hand-mixed terrazzo floors in colors of sea green, sand, turquoise and raisin were used throughout to keep the floors cool to the touch, while twelve-foot ceilings helped circulate the warm air. Views were emphasized, and an infinity pool across the back merged the house into the ocean and sky.

The entry set a dramatic tone, with a spiraling staircase rising like a waterspout from a circular pool in the foyer. A wire mesh pedestal of Barry’s design seems to float on the water’s surface.



The guest bedroom was painted in a warm Caribbean chartreuse and furnished with a tall canopy bed to exaggerate the room's height. The living room and breakfast bar are glimpsed beyond the open door. Framed collections of shells on the wall add to the island ambience, *left*. ■ A green lacquered writing desk sits at the window and holds a colorful assortment of tropical blooms, *below*.

Barry's Tips

- A small room with low ceilings becomes larger when both walls and ceiling are painted one enveloping color—for example, a small guest room completely covered in cheerful chartreuse expands and blurs its boundaries.
- Tie curtain linings to the outer panels rather than sewing them together to avoid shrinkage and puckering in humid climates.
- Use indoor-outdoor fabric on window shades in a shower or bath to screen the window and repel moisture and mildew.
- When furnishing a large room several versions of the same piece make the space more cohesive—a pair of “Michael” sofas along with a coordinating bench in the center unite the open living room.
- Use native colors to relate to a locale—here tropical hues of kiwi and chartreuse, soft, creamy banana, aqua turquoise and ocean blue were combined for a colorful, Caribbean palette.

