

JONI VANDERSLICE

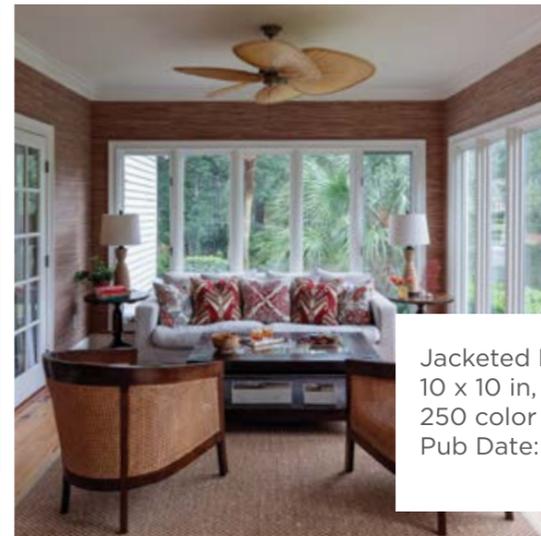
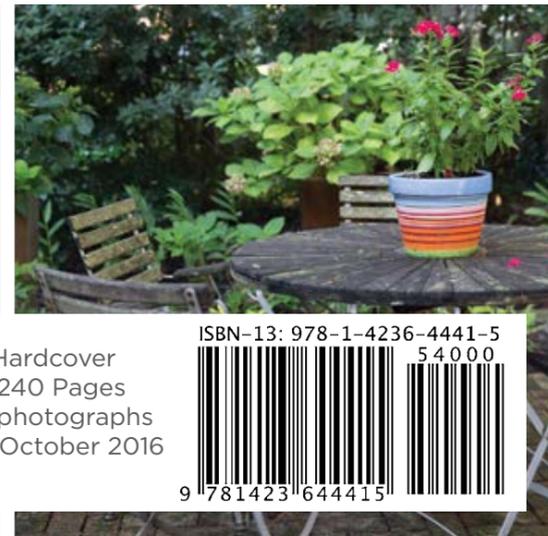
# Southern Coastal Living

STYLISH LOWCOUNTRY HOMES BY J BANKS DESIGN

Southern Coastal Living JONI VANDERSLICE



GIBBS SMITH



Jacketed Hardcover  
10 x 10 in, 240 Pages  
250 color photographs  
Pub Date: October 2016

ISBN-13: 978-1-4236-4441-5  
5 4000



9 781423 644415

\$40.00 U.S.

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Over two decades, Joni Vanderslice has led her J Banks Design Group to national and international renown in hospitality and residential living. In this, her first monograph, she tells her story and features homes that each radiate their own statement of southern coastal style.

Joni's "luxury without pretense" philosophy is showcased in residential resort homes on and near Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. Designed to feature the inspiring vistas from both inside and outside the home, these residences create relaxed indoor/outdoor living for families and guests alike.

A variety of styles includes the classic blue-and-white theme that simulates the coastal waters and sky; rich vibrant hues that simulate respond to the natural bright light; equestrian themes; and lush private spaces that promote relaxation. There are kitchens and family rooms and men's spaces, where hobby accouterments are part of the décor. There are outdoor settings around poolsides, verandas, and docks.

Vanderslice also shares more than her philosophy on displaying artwork and collectibles, incorporating texture, choosing lighting, and color, among other essential design considerations. She also shares her gracious southern hospitality and welcomes readers into her life and home.

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# A Classic Coastal Home

Occasionally, after doing a house for one family, they will move away and I will be asked to reinvent the same house in a completely different style for another family. When such a situation occurs, as it did here, it forcefully reminds me of what I love most about design: its power of expression and transformation.

My history with this house, which is next door to ours, dates back to its conception. Family friends had purchased the property, and when they decided to build on it, they were inspired by the classically influenced designs of the great American architect Robert A.M. Stern. At that point our friends also became my clients, so I was involved with every aspect of the home from the interior plan and organization to the finishes, furnishings, and innumerable details.

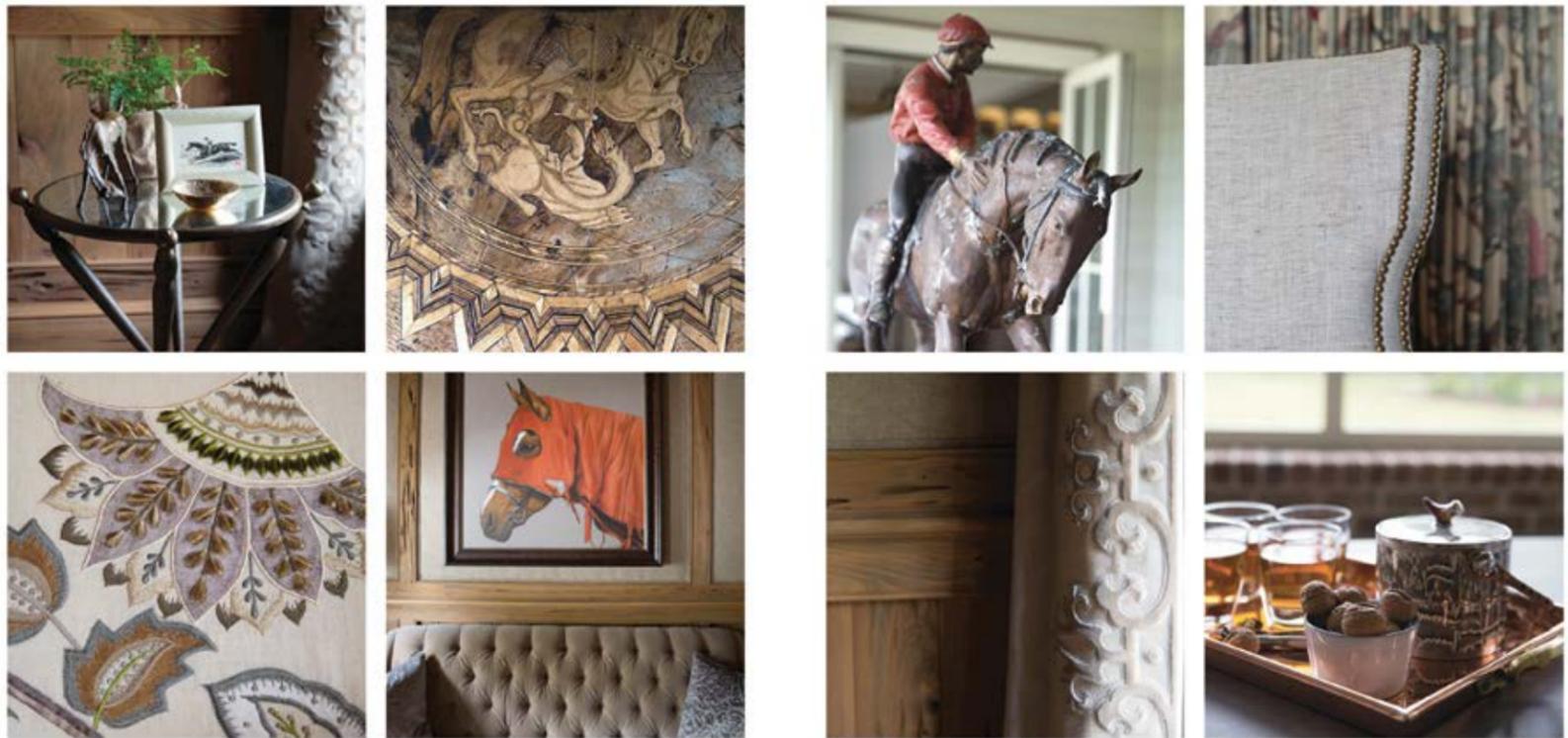
One of the most important elements of the layout of this house—its sight lines—is also a key feature of our home and, I believe, of many southern homes. From the foyer, the eye travels straight through the house from front to back, where a wall of windows and French doors lead to various furnished porches and other outdoor living areas, including the pool. Functionally, this open style of interior planning encourages the flow of air through the interior. Emotionally, it incorporates the view as featured dramatic player in the life of the home. Physically, it both divides and joins the exterior and interior.

From the first step inside, I will often mix materials and finishes that give subtle visual interest to the various surfaces and provide understated cues to help people focus and move through the house. In this foyer, for example, wood floors juxtapose with stone, a combination that I particularly like. This treatment breaks up the pattern of the architecture and also marks a significant intersection of the interior where a long hallway traverses the foyer.

As in our house, the bar is at one end of the foyer area and the kitchen at the other. This plan has proved to be a wonderful aid to entertaining, because guests can walk in and get their drinks and then move into the other parts of the home.

*Sight lines are a key feature in the planning of many southern coastal homes. Here, the symmetrical axial orientation of main house, pool, and pool house provides an organizing principle for the interior and exterior views.*





Joni Vanderslice founded J Banks Design Group in 1986. As owner and president, she has built the design company into an internationally firm recognized for its signature style of timeless design and casual elegance. Since 2014, the J Banks Design Group has been featured in *The Southern Living Hostess Handbook*, *Elegant Homes* magazine, *Interior Design* magazine, *Montage*, *The Design Bureau 100*, *Lowcountry Home*, *Town and Country*, and more. Over two decades, the J Banks Design Group has won every major award for hospitality design.

Vanderslice lives on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, with her husband, Rick, and their daughters, Sarah and Grace.

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