

HOUSTON

# house & home

SEPTEMBER 2016

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# FALL LANDSCAPING

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Planting Perennials



Houston's renowned faux finishing expert Leslie Sinclair releases this month her third book, "Segreto Vignettes." This is one featured.

# CALM COMFORT KEY TO DREAMY BEDROOMS

By Marsha Canright • Photography by Wade Blissard

Nothing invites slumber like a serene bedroom, and these dreamy suites in the heart of West University are designed for dozing.

"Bedrooms are a truly personal space, a calm retreat in an often stressful world," says designer Cindy Witmer, who created both interiors.

"The rooms are airy and elegant but true comfort was always the priority."

Witmer Designs has been a standard in Houston interiors for more than two decades.

She has designed hundreds of luxurious bedrooms in Houston and many locations, but for her the elements that create comfort remain consistent: a superb bed with beautiful linens, soothing colors, good light for bedside reading, and storage for books and personal items – to keep the space uncluttered.

For these bedrooms, she repurposed some of homeowner Tracy Cirioli's furnishings, adding a few contemporary pieces to update their classic style.

The master suite is large and long with ceilings that rise to 13 feet with a wall of windows that overlook the tops of trees.

The walls are a silvery blue, chosen and created by Leslie Sinclair of Segreto Finishes, to provide a simple, soothing backdrop for the silk draperies patterned with tiny flowers and birds.

The room's centerpiece is a traditional French-style bed with a plump upholstered headboard and layers of soft, handmade linens.

Thirteen feet above the bed hangs a 19th century chandelier, painted to blend with the room's soft interior. It was a find from a Round Top antiques shop.

Underfoot, a soft silk and wool rug covers the dark hardwood



A club chair and ottoman, slipcovered in aqua linen, create a perfect reading or lounging spot by a romantically carved fireplace.

floors with patterns of blue and silver that accentuate the room's pale blue/gray palette.

Slipcovered in pale aqua linen, the chair and ottoman create a cozy niche before the white granite, wood-burning fireplace.

The French chair was reupholstered to match at Hien Lam Upholstery in Houston. To add a contemporary spark to traditional furnishings, the designer added a long, acrylic and tufted ottoman at the bed's end.

Across the house, a creamy beige guest suite also designed by Witmer, emphasizes comfort and convenience, offering any traveler the perfect locale for refreshing sleep.

"This was an interesting design project because the room has asymmetrical windows and no perfect place to put the bed," she explains.

The artistic solution was to install cream-colored opaque curtains that matched the neutral color of the walls. Antique shutters, also purchased at Round Top, were used to create a unique headboard.

To accompany the whimsical portraits already owned by the family, Witmer chose a large contemporary painting called "Serenity" by artist Leslie Sinclair.

It is in keeping with the room's tranquil air and country French style.

Thick sisal rugs in the bedroom and an adjoining sitting room offer texture and draw the two together in a cohesive design.

Large windows in the sitting room bring natural light into both spaces. The area is equipped with comfortable slipcovered chairs, a television in the armoire, and an easy-to-use coffee bar. There is a ceiling fan for additional cooling.



Thick sisal and soft linen layer this bedroom with texture. The antique shutters-turned headboard were found at Round Top.



Both bedrooms are featured in Sinclair's new design tool book, "Segreto Vignettes." Through hundreds of photographs, the book shows how homeowners and renovators can create ambiance and avoid mistakes by using finishes. Floors, beams, doors, cabinetry and furniture are all covered.

"Vignettes" is available to order online at [www.segretofinishes.com](http://www.segretofinishes.com) or on Amazon and other book vendors for September delivery. The book features photos and explanations of hundreds of wall finishes. There are also chapters written by experts on hiring contractors and other topics.

## Resources:

**Segreto Finishes & Home Décor Store**  
1414 Antoine Drive  
713-461-5210  
[www.segretofinishes.com](http://www.segretofinishes.com)

**Joyce Horn Antiques**  
(French antique furniture and accessories, plus reproductions)  
7065 Old Katy Rd.  
713-688-0507  
[www.joycehornantiques.com](http://www.joycehornantiques.com)

**Hien Lam Upholstery**  
(Reproduction antique furniture designer; upholstery shop offering tailor-made homewares)  
819 W Drew St.,  
713-523-3416



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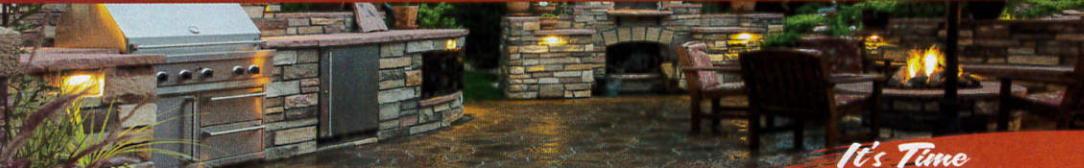
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