

# HCG

Hamptons Cottages and Gardens

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THE  
DECORATING  
ISSUE



Bring It On  
Cricket Burns,  
proprietor of  
Cricket's Crush  
and self-described  
professional  
"jusher," arrives  
at client GERALYN  
Lucas's home ready  
for action. See  
Resources.

AS SEEN IN  
**HC&G**  
Hamptons Cottages and Gardens

## Decorator Cricket Burns puts some "zhush" into an East Hampton weekend retreat

BY KELLI DELANEY KOT  
PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER MURDOCK

# THE JUSHER





**Graphic Punch**  
(OPPOSITE AND THIS PAGE LEFT) Photographs of Tina Turner hang above a channel-backed Tov sofa in the living room, which is also furnished with West Elm cocktail tables and a Thomas Paul Serpent rug from NuLoom. (BELOW) Osborne & Little's Butterfly Garden wall covering envelops the entry. The tufted mirror is from Mecox and the bench is by A & B Home. See *Resources*.

K

ismet happens in any number of ways. For GERALYN LUCAS and CRICKET BURNS, it brought their children together, who were “best friends when they were young,” Burns recounts. “When GERALYN would pick up her daughter at our house, she would always say how much she loved the decor. Fast forward 15 years, when she rang me for a coffee date in New York City, arriving with a swatch of wallpaper in hand. ‘We bought a house in East Hampton,’ she told me, ‘and I want you to decorate it.’”

Kismet showed its face again “a few months into the project,” Burns continues, “when I almost lost my life in a skiing accident and shattered my kneecap. The first call we made was to GERALYN’s husband, TYLER LUCAS, who is one of the city’s top orthopedic surgeons. He did a masterful job putting me back together, and then I had the chance to return the favor with this renovation. It really was kismet . . . which is the name we gave to the house.”

A fashion editor in New York City for more than 30 years, Burns has always been a home decor fanatic. “Not a day goes by when I’m not crushing on something new and different,” she says, hinting at the genesis of Crickets Crush, her decorating and staging firm. “I love to fulfill the desires of clients who don’t necessarily live for the hunt like I do.”







**Pretty In Pink**  
In the dining room (THIS SPREAD), vintage bergères covered in a Kravet velvet and floral appliqués sit next to a Swedish dining table and chairs. The drapery fabric is from the Shade Store. See *Resources*.



“Geralyn rang me for a coffee date and told me, ‘We bought a house in East Hampton, and I want you to decorate it’”



**Bold Strokes**  
(THIS PAGE) A Slim Aarons photograph hangs above a French sideboard in the kitchen, which also features cabinetry painted Benjamin Moore's Raspberry Glaze. In the master suite (OPPOSITE), a Muriel Brandolini-designed daybed sits at the edge of a vintage four-poster painted to match the Fine Paints of Europe's Zuider Zee Blue on the wall. See *Resources*.







“The house has an empowering female energy to it, which reflects Geralyn and a little bit of me as well”

The Lucases use the home year-round, so Burns endeavored to make it a little more glam than the average beach house, a goal shared with Geralyn, who is a television producer and best-selling author of *Why I Wore Lipstick to My Mastectomy* and *Then Came Life*, funny and moving accounts of her experiences as a breast cancer survivor. “Kismet really has an empowering female energy to it, which reflects Geralyn and a little bit of me as well,” Burns says. “My inspiration was to create this world around her.”

The “very ’70s, very Halston” living room, for example, seems spun straight from Studio 54, with starburst cocktail tables and a Thomas Paul Serpent rug that riffs on Gucci’s classic motif “for a billion dollars less!” Burns raves. “I love a good mix of high and low.” Appropriately enough, a pair of “Tina Turner sconces that resemble her infamous chain-mail dress” flank vintage photographs of the performer as a young woman, dancing rhapsodically.

Powerful women—Audrey Hepburn, Frida Kahlo, Diana Ross, depicted in graphic works by artist Ashley Longshore—also play a starring role in the adjacent dining room, where a silver-foil-striped wallpaper “creates the feeling of a giftbox,” along with pink curtains and accent chairs covered in a Kravet velvet and frilly red and pink appliques.

The Lucases are “not afraid of bold colors,” confirms Burns, who gave the couple’s master suite a heaping dose, matching a watery Fine Paints of

**Color Coordinated**  
(THIS PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) A headboard and bench covered in Scalamandré’s Zebras punctuate a guest bedroom. Burns added a bold stripe to the game room’s ceiling with Fine Paints of Europe’s Summer Sky. A Martha Stewart Home toile covers the wall in another guest room. (OPPOSITE) Tongue-in-cheek nods to Elizabeth Taylor, Jane Birkin, and Salvador Dalí amplify daughter Skye’s room. See *Resources*.







Europe blue with a Muriel Brandolini daybed covered in an eye-popping magenta glazed linen from Schumacher. Guest rooms are a riot of color and pattern, from a bright yellow in the “Zebra Room,” named for Scalamandrè’s popular (and abundantly used) Zebras print, to one featuring an old-school toile given an edge with a horizontal stripe in a high-gloss orange. In daughter Skye’s room, sophistication meets spunk in an array of lavenders that complement a whimsical portrait of a tattooed Elizabeth Taylor. Even the standard-issue Hamptons kitchen is zipped up with Benjamin Moore’s high-gloss Raspberry Glaze on the cabinetry.

Perhaps the most adventurous space is the falling-down barn, which Tyler Lucas had wanted to turn into a garage. But Burns was determined to restore it. “Trust me,” she recalls telling him, “this barn is going to be your favorite part of the house.” Swaths of bubblegum-pink trellis on the ceiling, framed artworks, a glitzy chandelier, and a black-and-white diamond-patterned floor give the space, now a chic sitting room and bar, an air of “Dorothy Draper meets Palm Beach. Black and white always provides a great foundation for layering furnishings and accessories on top of it.”

“Every single room at Kismet, even the barn, feels different,” muses Burns’s client GERALYN, “and that’s what people find exciting when they walk into the house. They literally light up. Once you have Cricket in your life, you can never go back.” ☀

#### Barn Raising

(ABOVE) The striped poolside umbrella is from One Kings Lane. Inside the retrofitted barn turned sitting room and bar (RIGHT), vintage sofas upholstered in Ralph Lauren Home and Schumacher textiles sit atop a Bunny Williams Home for Dash & Albert rug. The drapery fabric is Sunbrella’s Tropics Jungle. See *Resources*.

