

Chic nest

This elegant, salon-style formal living room is the perfect adults-only place to catch up with friends or enjoy a glass of wine fireside.

(Shown here) A Kyle Bunting rug creates a subtle backdrop for this handsome Michael Berman Limited coffee table. All are available through the trade at John Brooks, Inc.; the drapes shown in De Le Cuona fabric in Liquid Pewter from Town Studio; this matte white, two-tier Balthazar chandelier along with the matching slipper chairs are from Nancy Corzine and available to the Trade through Palavela Home. The painting above the fireplace is from the owner's private collection.



Written by Michele Perillo
Photographed by Werner Segarra

Simply put, even the most proficient design aficionados might have some difficulty creating a home that captures the true essence of chicness like those that have been designed by **Rebecca Salcito**. With family as their cornerstone, the **Salcitos** continue their long-practiced tradition of building and designing homes that are as lively as they are sophisticated.

We recently caught up with **Rebecca Salcito** for an interview. So how does this talented, seasoned designer breathe such opulence and elegance into the Sonoran Desert setting? One would think that her interiors, which boast a high-fashion, couture styling, would rarely find relevance in the wild west. Yet somehow they do. **Rebecca** has a knack for transforming, and has magically morphed an otherwise stereotyped genre into the most relaxed and romantic retreat that seemingly fits right into the adventure-packed lifestyle of her clients.



Reminiscent of an authentic French pied-à-terre, the custom flooring throughout the home was designed by Rebecca to reflect the elegance of a country villa. Here a herringbone pattern reigns in the master suite. Premiere Wood Floors, Inc.

With a high-fashion couture styling, infused with unique elements that have often been designed by Rebecca Salcito herself, her interiors are anything but ordinary when it comes to details.

The custom fireplace designed by Rebecca Salcito was fabricated by Casa de Cantera; the Paul Ferrante chandelier along with the Great Plains drapery fabric is from HOLLY HUNT through John Brooks, Inc.; the custom rugs throughout the home are from Azadi Fine Rugs; the "Adorno Bench" is from Ebanista; the carved, gold-leaved Dessin Fournir bed is from Town Studio; and the SDH Linens are available retail through Del Adora Home.



conversation with Rebecca Salcito

Q. What was your favorite part of this project?

A. The homeowners! They were just fabulous to work with. Our tastes and styles were completely in sync. We developed quite a wonderful friendship thereafter and actually hike together on the weekends. Our design acumen on the home even carried over a bit into fashion, and on occasion I help consult with her wardrobe for special events. It is the highest compliment and greatest reward when the relationship continues to grow.

What is your favorite style of design?

I'm not sure I actually have a "favorite" per se, but I do obviously love to work with rich textiles and exceptionally fine handcrafted furnishings. With all the internet shopping going on these days, I think it is increasingly so important to support our trade showrooms. They put everything on the line to bring both designers and homeowners the best-of-the-best from around the world.

I appreciate that, and utilize them as a resource. Because I am such a visual person, I look at design as a celebration of functional art. I am blessed to do what I do.

Relating to custom work, with a husband who is known for building some of the finest custom residences, you must find yourself quite immersed in the process. Do you enjoy that?

I really feel the opportunity and challenges of doing custom work is where I excel most. Especially being the wife of a respected custom builder, I have been exposed to some of the finest craftsmanship, products and finishes. Custom does not simply mean that it wasn't available off the shelf; I feel that custom means just what the word suggests - customizing an element and specifically tailoring it to the uniqueness of that individual client. Some of the most memorable design executions are those that have meaning to the homeowner and were tailored for them. This particular home had quite a bit of custom work done. The powder room, for example is nearly 100% custom.

(Shown right) A customized version of [Iatesta Studio's Brumidi Commode](#) available to the Trade through [Palavela Home](#); Wall upholstery by [Reeds](#); Roman drapes fabricated at [The Workroom](#); The two custom mirrors from [Framer's Workshop](#).

Editor's Note: From all of us, we wish you a happy retirement, Rolf and Kris. You served us well, and we appreciate all the years of business together.



Inspired by the tiles in the kitchen, **Rebecca** carried the beautiful blue theme right through to the rugs shown below in the family room and the custom Plum Blossom **de Gournay** wallpaper in the dining room.

(Shown below) Tomlinson chairs and 90" round table from **Iatesta Studio** to the Trade through **Palavela Home**; **de Gournay** wallpaper, 3-tier **Ironware Intl.** chandelier, **HOLLY HUNT Great Plains** fabrics are all through **John Brooks, Inc.**; Cabinetry by **Rebecca Salcito** through **Ryso-Peters**.



With many of the finish specifications requiring on-site fabrication, **Rebecca Salcito** kept a very hands-on presence throughout the entire design process. Her seamless flow of tones, textures and patterns can be seen in everything, right down to the exquisite detailing of the specialty cabinet fronts and various millwork finishes.

Reclaimed oak wide planks from **Premiere Wood Floors, Inc.**; Cabinetry: **Ryso-Peters**; Appliances: **Sub-Zero/Wolf** through **Arizona Wholesale Supply, Co.**; Plumbing fixtures: **Clyde Hardware**.

"I always start a design project from an inspiration - this one was the **Walker Zanger Delft blue tile** the client brought with her to our first meeting."



Architect **Dale Gardon** did a fabulous job of carrying a *life-relaxed* atmosphere right through to the outdoor cabana-style veranda and pool area. The repetition of second-floor master archways to the main level, echoed in relief through the use of limestone corbels and surrounds, was an elegant finishing touch.

In keeping with the owners' desires - *he likes traditional, she prefers a bit of an edge* - **Rebecca** opted for a sophisticated mix of both masculine and feminine elements, carrying them through to the exterior teak furnishings. The sleek contemporary lines play well against formal detailing. For example, the modern twist of a Rococo-style fireplace surround, also designed by **Rebecca**, makes a stately focal point in this otherwise contemporary setting. Following suit, the varying shades of blue make their way to the lounge chairs and beyond to the pool tiles, creating multiple environments that are all equally relaxed.

At the end of the day, it is these details which highlight **Rebecca Salcito's** work. This is what defines and results in homes which are completely unique yet all share a common thread - *comfort and sophistication at the highest level.*



CREDITS: Builder: **Salcito Custom Homes**; Architect: **Dale Gardon**; Interior Design: **Rebecca Salcito**; Landscape Architecture: **Jeff Berghoff, Berghoff Design**; Exterior Lighting: **Hinkley's Lighting Factory**; millwork and cabinetry: **Ryso-Peters**; Limestone surrounds and custom fireplaces designed by **Rebecca Salcito**, and fabricated by **Casa de Cantera**; **Walker Zanger** tiles: **Facings of America**; hardwood floors: **Premiere Wood Floors, Inc.**, Appliances: **Arizona Wholesale Supply Co.**; Plumbing fixtures and hardware: **Clyde Hardware**; Outdoor teak furniture from **Sutherland**, stone tables from the **Stone Yard**, both through **John Brooks, Inc.**

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Located close to the Summit in the Upper Canyon of **Silverleaf**, this renaissance estate sits on one of the most breathtaking lots in the Valley.

One crisp early morning, photographer **Werner Segarra**, alongside him builder **Anthony Salcito**, caught this shot - a truly magnificent capturing of the mountains' early breath.

