



Photo by: Randall Perry

Interior Design

Debra J. Interiors

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Debra Stein Bacci, ASID, owner of Debra J Interiors in Delray Beach is the quintessential example of the adage that every experience helps to shape an individual.

In Stein's case, it has shaped the way she approaches working with her clients, making sure that every home is designed to reflect the style and the taste of the person who lives within the residence.

"I have three tenets in my design philosophy," said Stein, whose career began in Manhattan before coming to Florida 11 years ago as the director of design for Bloomingdale's.

"First, each space should be as unique as the people who are living there. Secondly, the difference between good and great design is perfect balance in color, space and texture. Finally, no matter how good it looks, it must feel good as well. Comfort should take the utmost priority."

Most of Stein's clients come to her because of recommendations of satisfied clients who have had Stein create the interior design in their multi-million dollar homes in Boca Raton, Palm Beach, Jupiter Island, as well as in the Bahamas and in such communities as Alpine, New Jersey and Farmington, Connecticut.

"My experiences in design have taught me

about the tremendous variety in furnishings that can completely transform a room and how custom moldings and architectural elements can enhance the value of the home. The right selection of accessories not only complete the design, but also brings out the homeowners unique personality," she said.

Stein said several trends have made homes even more important to the owners.

"People enjoy entertaining in their homes, and as a result, you see media rooms and other technology making it more enjoyable having friends over for an evening. And," she said, "in Florida, we finish the outside of the home, the pool and lanai areas as lushly and as comfortably as the inside, so you aren't aware of the transition between the interior and exterior spaces. We use magnificent stone floors on the patio and integrate them with the wood floors on the inside, which makes it a lot more exciting."

Stein said that she sees excitement in each interior design project, since each one is unique.

"A home is a special place, close to the owner's heart, and it evokes a certain passion that comes out when an individual talks about their dreams for the home. It's this wonderful feeling that makes me so passionate about what I do."