



BY THE SEASHORE

The perfect vacation spot for a couple and their four young children, this Hilton Head Island residence in the US state of South Carolina boasts a magical setting, with astonishing nature and direct ocean access. 美國南卡羅萊納洲的Hilton Head Island坐擁壯麗的大自然和向海景色，是一對夫婦和四名年輕孩子的完美度假勝地。

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Geneva-based interior designer Alexandra de Garidel-Thoron has decorated numerous residences for the same clients: a Czech banker and his wife. One of the first was a country house in their native land with a futuristic tunnel that wouldn't be out of place in a James Bond film. Others have included a chalet in Verbier named Black Bear, after the Xavier Veilhan sculpture that stands near the main entrance. There's also a villa on Lake Geneva and a historic winery near Cape Town, South Africa.

The couple's favourite home, however, is the one located on Hilton Head Island in the US state of South Carolina, where they vacation with their four young children. "It's quite a magical place – a little strange and unique," says Alexandra. "The vegetation is like something out of a Lewis Carroll tale, with astonishing fauna." Indeed, you'd be hard-pressed to find nature quite so lush; on the one-hour drive from the Savannah airport, the highways are lined with forests.

The 10-bedroom house has the added advantage of being situated directly on the ocean. Measuring almost 11,000sqft, it was designed by local architect C Matthew Taylor, whose initial scheme for the interiors was to focus on just two materials: teak wood and white Corian. "I completely turned the project upside down," recalls Alexandra. "In jest, the construction crew would ask if I was going to arrive in cowboy boots. But, there were lots of really strange things." In the sitting room, for instance, stood a traditional black marble fireplace with a huge TV screen above it. There were also windows between the ground-floor corridor and children's bathrooms.

The clients asked Alexandra specifically for decor that was more welcoming and relaxed. She explains, "It's a seaside house – so you're supposed to be able to hang out in your swimming costume." One of the main complexities she had to deal with was the sheer volume of many of the spaces – the master suite alone measures some 1,000sqft. "We completely reproporioned things, so you now have the impression that everything is on a human scale," she says. Much of the furniture was ordered in custom sizes. The Robert Bristow bar stools in the kitchen, for instance, are twice their normal dimensions.

駐日內瓦室內裝飾師 Alexandra de Garidel-Thoron 已為捷克銀行家及其妻子裝飾過數間住宅。首批設計包括一間位於他們家鄉的田園鄉郊房子，極富未來特色之餘，就算放在占士邦電影中亦不會格格不入。其他設計還有位於Verbier的Black Bear小屋(取名自放近主門口的Xavier Veilhan雕塑)、一間日內瓦湖別墅、位於南非並近開普敦的歷史酒莊。

然而，夫婦最喜愛的家還是要數美國南卡羅萊納洲的Hilton Head Island，這裡是他們跟四名年輕孩子渡假的地點。「這片魔幻土地帶點奇異另類。」Alexandra表示：「植被好像來自Lewis Carroll童話，滿目教人驚艷的動物群。」翠嫩如此的大自然或許叫人喘息不來；從薩凡納機場出發的一小時車程中，高速公路上盡是森林樹木。

房子擁有10間睡房，額外優勢還在於跟海洋互通相連。空間面積達11,000平方呎，由當地建築師C Matthew Taylor設計，起初計劃更只集中選用柚木和白色Corian兩種物料處理室內空間。「我把整個項目的方向完全顛倒。」Alexandra回想說：「建築工程團隊更會開玩笑問我是否要穿著牛仔靴出場。但這兒確實怪事不少。」以客廳為例，傳統的黑色大理石火爐上方方便掛有大型電視屏幕，地下走廊和孩子浴室之間設有窗戶。



OUTSIDE LOOKING IN

An exterior view of the spectacular 10-bedroom house surrounded by nature. A beautiful staircase leads from the living spaces to the ground level of the property

往內觀看

10房大屋的戶外景致被大自然緊緊包圍。美麗樓梯引領你通往物業的地下客廳



THE LUXURY OF SPACE

The living and dining areas are stunning retreats: a custom fireplace made from black marble sets the scene, and the triptych above it is *1000 Platitudes* (1973) by Rafael Lozano-Hemmer. Elsewhere, the coffee table was designed by Pilar Proffitt and the bench beyond by Robert Bristow; the hammock was designed by Jim Zivic

豪華空間

美麗的客廳：黑色大理石製成火爐奠定基調，上方的三件組作品 *1000 Platitudes* (1973) 出自 Rafael Lozano-Hemmer 之手。咖啡桌由 Pilar Proffitt 設計，長椅則來自 Robert Bristow；吊床由 Jim Zivic 設計

Many of the artworks are also rather sizable. The focus of the sitting room is a four-metre-wide triptych called *1,000 Platitudes* by Rafael Lozano-Hemmer. The Daniel Buren wall sculpture at the top of the dramatic staircase is another eye-catcher. "As soon as I saw it, I knew it would be perfect for the house," says Alexandra. Meanwhile, she discovered the three masks on the credenza in the dining area on the French Riviera. Serendipitously, it turned out that they were created by South Carolina native Robert Courtright, who had a house nearby and ended up delivering them himself.

For the furniture, Alexandra was keen to work with American designers, too. "For me, the interiors of every house should always have a link to the actual place," she explains. She incorporated

客人特別請她打造出格調宜人放鬆的裝飾。Alexandra 解釋：「這是間沿海樓房，你理應可以穿著泳裝四處閒逛。」其中一項需要處理的複雜步驟就是偌大的空間面積，單單是主人套房已達 1,000 平方呎。她指：「我們重新調配大小尺寸，現在你可以感受到符合人體比例的效果。」大部分傢具均根據特製尺碼訂造。廚房的 Robert Bristow 吧凳便是比正常尺寸大兩倍的版本。

大部分藝術品也頗巨型。客廳焦點就是 Rafael Lozano-Hemmer 製作、4 米寬的 *1,000 Platitudes* 三聯作品。Daniel Buren 掛牆雕塑裝飾在矚目的樓梯上方，也是另一處抓住人們目光的亮點。Alexandra

DINING IN STYLE

Above a cream carpet from Tai Ping is a 10-seater walnut dining table and chairs created by Chris Lehrecke, and a custom credenza made from walnut and Corian. The kitchen is from Valcucine and the barstools were designed by Robert Bristow

時尚用餐

太平的奶油色地毯上放有10人用的胡桃木餐桌和座椅，出自Chris Lehrecke之手，餐廚櫃以胡桃木和Corian特製。廚房來自Valcucine，吧凳由Robert Bristow設計





BUILT TO LAST

A staircase made from resin leads to the master suite on the top level, and guest bedrooms and the children's playroom on the lower level; the wall sculpture at the top of the stairs is *Fracture no. 1010/009* (2010) by Daniel Buren from the Galerie Kamel Mennour in Paris, while the photo on the lower level is *Kobe* by George Rousse. The master suite features relaxing bathing areas

恆久魅力

樓梯以樹脂精製而成，引領你走到頂層的主人套房，客房和孩子遊玩房則置於底層；樓梯上方的牆飾*Fracture no. 1010/009* (2010)是Daniel Buren的作品，來自巴黎Galerie Kamel Mennour，底層的照片*Kobe*則出自George Rousse之手。主人套房設有悠閒的浸浴間

ceiling lights by David Weeks, introduced a dining table and chairs by Chris Lehrecke, and hung comic strip images of Batman and Robin on the walls of the bedroom of the couple's two boys. Elsewhere, she added even more colour and whimsy. Much of the palette consists of different blues, inspired by the hues of the ocean at different times of the day. "They range from a deeper Persian blue to the oily tone the sea can have when the sun sets on it," she says. Alexandra decorated the bathrooms with playful mosaics and hung three grinning masks made from ceramic and horse teeth in the outdoor sitting area. In the garden, meanwhile, she created a circuit of wooden paths wide enough for the children to drive their electric karts.

表示：「一見到我已深知它能完美放於屋中。」同時，她在法國蔚藍海岸的用餐區櫃內發現三個面具，並湊巧發現原來是南卡羅萊納州Robert Courtright的作品，他在附近擁有一所房子，對方最後更親自運送作品上門。

傢具方面，亦傾向跟美國設計師合作。她解釋：「對我來說，每間房子的室內裝潢應該與所在地擁有一定關聯。」她與David Weeks合作製作天花燈、引入Chris Lehrecke的餐桌和座椅，又在夫婦一對兒子的睡房牆上掛放蝙蝠俠和羅賓的漫畫圖像。她也在其他地方混入更多色彩與趣味。大多用色組合包括不同深淺的藍，靈感源自日間不同時份的海洋色調。她說：「從波斯深藍至太陽升至海面映照出的油畫色調亦有包括。」Alexandra利用玩味馬賽克裝飾浴室，並放上以陶瓷和馬牙製作的笑樣面具作掛飾，放在戶外客廳。花園內，她則創造出小木闌徑，讓孩子能駕駛卡車遊玩。



“FOR ME, THE INTERIORS OF EVERY HOUSE SHOULD ALWAYS HAVE A LINK TO THE ACTUAL PLACE”

IT'S A KIDS' WORLD
 The kids' areas are colourful fantasies: in the playroom, the plush sofa is from Roche Bobois covered by Missoni Home fabric, while the curtain fabric is from Lelievre. The bedroom is every superhero's dream, decorated with big comic artwork from Warner Pictures

小孩當道
 孩子區是個彩色天地：遊玩室的沙發來自 Roche Bobois，鋪上 Missoni Home 布藝，窗簾則來自 Lelievre。睡房以 Warner Pictures 的大型漫畫藝術品裝飾，是每位超級英雄的夢想



OCEAN BLUE

In the master dressing room, the closet unit is decorated with a custom design by Alexandra, inspired by the ocean. In the master suite, the artwork *Nuptial Sleep* (2010) by Andrea Mastrovito; the wall is made from a composite material that imitates concrete

汪海藍調

主人衣帽間的儲物櫃由Alexandra特別設計，靈感源自海洋。主人套房內的*Nuptial Sleep* (2010)出自Andrea Mastrovito之手；牆壁由模仿混凝土的複合物製成

Other considerations were a little more serious in order to adapt the structure to the local environment. All the floor-to-ceiling glass windows, for instance, had to be hurricane-proofed. "They are the greatest technical prowess of the house," says Alexandra. "I can't even begin to tell you how much each one cost." The exterior blinds, meanwhile, couldn't be too white or reflective. The reason? The area's indigenous turtles. "There are really strict regulations in place," she explains. "Otherwise, there's a risk they can be dazzled and completely lose their bearings." //

其他考慮則較嚴謹認真，確保結構能貼切迎當地環境的需要。例如，所有落地玻璃窗均具備抵禦颶風的功能。「它們是全屋數一數二的高科技配件。」Alexandra：「我都已經算不清每道窗價值多少。」戶外遮簾則不能太白或太反光。何解？該區住有當地龜龜。她解釋：「這兒規條嚴格。否則，龜龜會被弄得目眩迷失。」 //