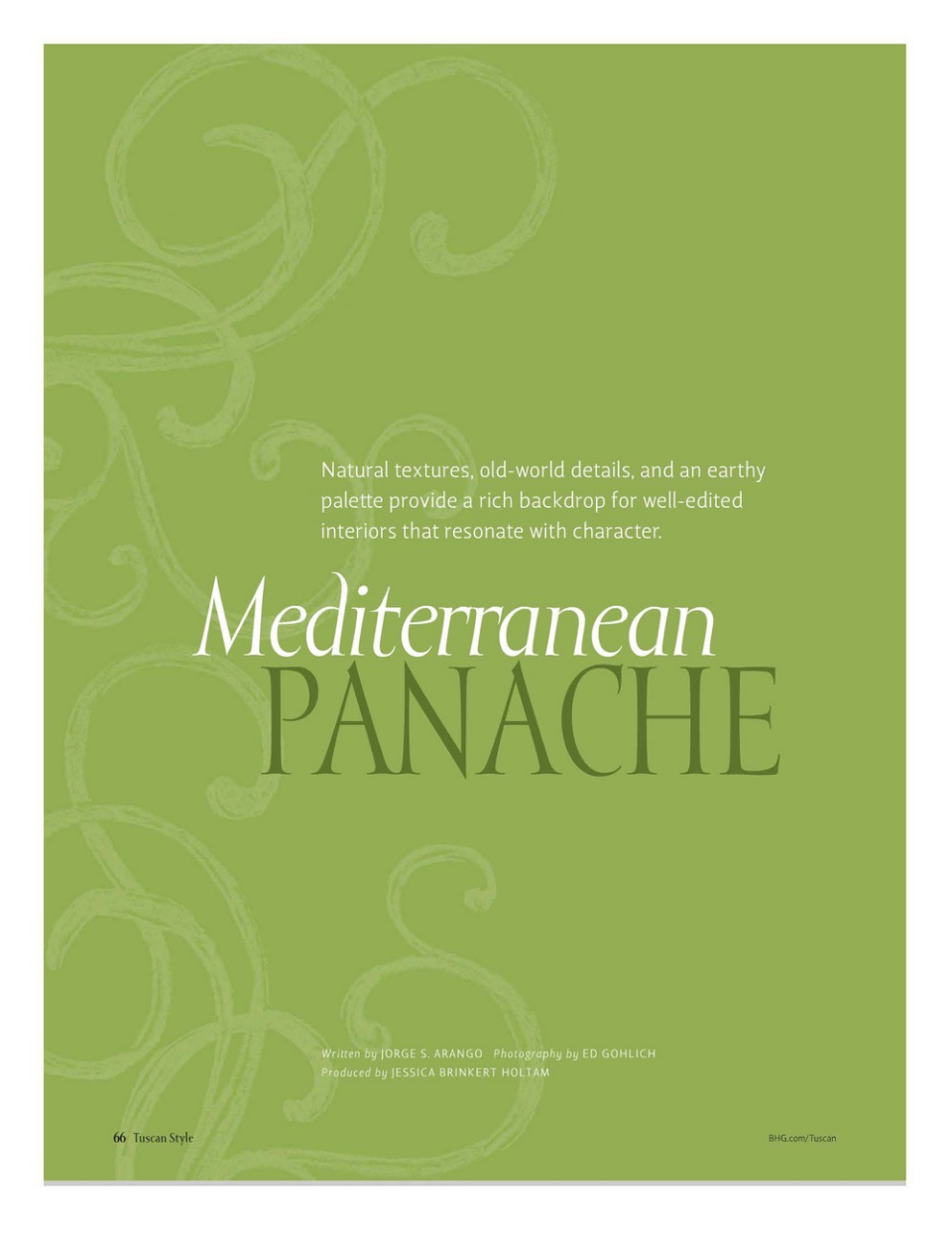


# Tuscan Style

Live in  
Relaxed  
Elegance

Warm Up Your Rooms with  
Rich Patinas & Handcrafted Style


Spring•Summer 2014



Natural textures, old-world details, and an earthy palette provide a rich backdrop for well-edited interiors that resonate with character.

# *Mediterranean* PANACHE

*Written by* JORGE S. ARANGO *Photography by* ED GOHLICH  
*Produced by* JESSICA BRINKERT HOLTAM



To create a striking contrast between the curvaceous lines of a sofa and the heavily carved detail of an Italian cardinal's chair, interior designer Dana Lyon anchored her sitting room with a streamlined coffee table.



## When you get the architectural bones of a property right and use a sumptuous palette of textures, interior decor need



**ABOVE:** Terra-cotta-clad roofs extending from stucco walls lend the home's rear facade old-world appeal while sheltering multiple alfresco living spaces. **OPPOSITE:** A chiseled-limestone fireplace and terra-cotta flooring ground the living room's groin-vaulted ceiling, while a velvet-covered sofa and upholstered chairs soften the room. Repurposed 150-year-old Mexican doors front built-in shelving.

not fight for attention, interior designer Dana Lyon says. Simple, sophisticated, uncluttered interiors are Dana's signature, and the home she shares with her husband, Scott Fey, in Paradise Valley near Phoenix showcases her brand of easy elegance. Long before she purchased the first piece of furniture, Dana worked with architect Mark Candelaria to create a strong architectural framework that would need few embellishments.

Inspired by the red tile roofs and courtyard-style homes prevalent in the neighborhood, Dana and Candelaria looked to Europe for architectural inspiration while channeling materials capable of standing up to desert heat, such as brick, terra-cotta tile, and stucco. Candelaria traveled to Italy frequently during the planning phase and wove notions from those trips into the design. "I was inspired by how people live in the Mediterranean," Candelaria says. "We gravitated to an indoor-out feel, with everything centered around the kitchen."

The site's original home, a plain rectangular ranch, was largely demolished, but its footprint suited the team's intentions. "Italian farmhouses are simple shapes—just one or two rectangles juxtaposed," Candelaria says. "That's the beauty of them; they're not trying to be more than a farmhouse." True to form, the main house and guesthouse are rectangles that sit perpendicular to each other. Both have cinder block foundations, which provide a sturdy—and cool—base for plaster walls on the inside and stucco on the outside.

Waxed French paver-size terra-cotta tiles and 200-year-old reclaimed barnwood underfoot warm the main residence, as do a collection of old doors Dana gathered from around the world. A local artisan created custom frames to seamlessly integrate the doors into the home's design. "I wanted to use materials that felt weathered," Dana says. "My goal was to create a home with authentic beauty."

These humble, honest materials highlight Dana's one-of-a-kind decorative pieces: an Italian cardinal's chair in the sitting room, framed intaglios and heavy baroque Italian church candlesticks in the living room, an old French pigeon-carrier basket and a marble-top antique Italian console in the den. Silver boxes, candlesticks, and serving dishes add sparkle, while indoor-outdoor velvets sweep over streamlined dining chairs and sofas to provide tactile luxury that's practical. A warm neutral palette and Fortuny-inspired fabrics throughout create a unifying backdrop that pulls everything together.

To echo the interiors' casual elegance outside, Berghoff Design Group bordered paths crafted from reclaimed Chicago bricks with tightly clipped boxwoods. Lemon and grapefruit trees brush shoulders with olive trees, providing lush privacy and softness, while white roses maintain the monochromatic palette of the interiors. "Inside and out, the house has a nice accessibility to it," Candelaria says.





*"I'm a big believer in keeping things simple and livable."*

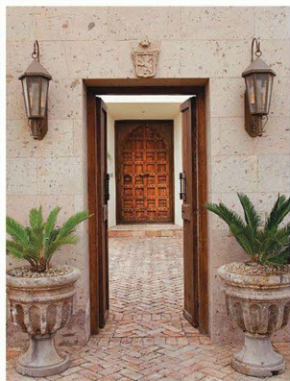
—INTERIOR DESIGNER AND HOMEOWNER DANA LYON



**THIS PHOTO:** An elaborately carved mantel and Indian table add textural oomph to the loggia's unadorned stucco walls and simple iron furnishings. "Dana's work is edited and sophisticated," architect Mark Candelaria says. **OPPOSITE:** Twenty-foot-high ceilings and a skylight imbue the kitchen with an airiness that's amplified by a window above the sink and a lack of upper cabinets.



**TOP LEFT:** A gilded Venetian mirror redoubles a shimmering gathering of silver containers clustered atop an ornate Italian console in the den. **TOP RIGHT:** The olive tree-ringed garden showcases a classical parterre sculpted from boxwoods and soft white roses. A cantera fountain lies on a central axis with the loggia's fireplace, giving the landscape a soothing sense of symmetry. **ABOVE LEFT:** The den offers plenty of seating thanks to a streamlined sectional sofa, yet it stays connected to the ages with a long, low console Dana fashioned from the zinc top of a laundry table and an old cabinet. An antique pigeon-carrier basket balances the modern lines of the television. **ABOVE RIGHT:** A guest bath departs from the home's mostly monochromatic palette, offering visual punch via graphic Mexican tiles. The vanity, created from an old cabinet, is accented with hand-forged strap hinges and pulls.



**TOP LEFT:** Dana discovered the 60-year-old hand-carved cantera fireplaces—which ornament the loggia and dining room in a down-to-earth way—in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. **TOP RIGHT:** Ever practical, Dana opted to forgo a rug under the dining room table—and in many other rooms throughout the home. “When you’re constantly walking in and out of doors, it’s hard to sustain rugs,” she says. Antique Gothic windows and a table made from reclaimed wood accentuate the patina of age that radiates from the centuries-old wood flooring. **ABOVE LEFT:** With large stucco pillars supporting a pergola, the guesthouse by the pool follows the architectural cues of the main house. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Antique doors collected from around the world lend instant patina to the home; one is deployed at the threshold to the front courtyard and another serves as the principal door to the house.

*The home's palette is intentionally neutral to emphasize changes in texture. Cues for surfaces came from the intimacy of European homes.*



**LEFT:** Two leather-upholstered French-style chairs and a rustic metal café table cozy up to a fireplace in the master bedroom. **ABOVE:** A large soaking tub tucks neatly into a niche within the master bath. Antique French doors lead to a walk-in closet. **OPPOSITE:** The master bed's tone-on-tone damask draperies culminate in a scalloped pelmet, a design popular in Italian bedrooms, particularly in Venice. To offset the bed's formality, Dana screened the windows with stationary sheer shades embellished with tailored blue-gray trim.

