

Main Attraction

A PALATIAL VACATION HOME AT WALT DISNEY WORLD RESORT'S GOLDEN OAK COMMUNITY IN ORLANDO CHARMS ITS RESIDENTS AND NEIGHBORS WITH ITS GULF COAST VIBE

INTERIOR DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE, AND CONSTRUCTION
PHIL KEAN DESIGN GROUP, WINTER PARK, FL
TEXT JEANNE DE LATHOUDER
PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL PELZER, ORLANDO, FL

Nestled within Orlando's Four Seasons Private Residences at Walt Disney World Resort's Golden Oak community, this magnificent residence designed by architect Phil Kean is appropriately named The Pearl. Embellished with a dazzling glass sphere fountain by artist Allison Armour, the home's entrance gleams like its namesake gemstone.




IT WOULD NOT BE hyperbole to say that the owners of this splendid Orlando home live a charmed life. From their glorious rooftop terrace, they can enjoy Disney World’s spectacular evening fireworks every night if they choose—just one of the exclusive amenities that inspired the creation of their enchanting third-floor alfresco perch. Tucked within the Golden Oak community, the 7,367-square-foot residence is part of the Four Seasons Private Residences Orlando at Walt Disney World Resort and overlooks a sprawling golf course dotted with lush tropical foliage.

Originally designed as a spec home on a pie-shaped lot by architect Phil Kean, the lavish courtyard vacation residence wraps around a pool to create privacy from its surrounding neighbors. Inspired by Disney lore, Kean, the CEO of Phil Kean Design Group in Winter Park, decided to introduce the neighborhood to a “whimsical castle-like exterior” since the property sits at the entrance. He designed the island-style dwelling to embody an Alys Beach vibe—the posh Gulf Coast community on 30-A



LEFT: A tiled fountain feature punctuates a tranquil alfresco seating area covered with a tongue-and-groove ceiling by Beth Construction. Pendant lights from Troy Lighting hang above a pair of Brown Jordan Oscar lounge chairs.

ABOVE: The living room’s round skylights, finished with Venetian plaster, create sun circles on the exposed brick wall. Mixed with “diamond dust,” the plaster sparkles in the light. A massive abstract painting by Paul T. Scarborough highlights the wall, befitting the grand proportions of a Rene Cazes blue velvet sofa.



Illuminated with Kenway 25 pendants from LBU Lighting, the kitchen's sleek, two-toned quartzite island provides spacious casual dining. The open design connects visually to the family room, which nests at the bottom of a sweeping custom staircase.

that gleams with a mixture of bright white Spanish and Bermudan-style architecture. His courtyard layout allows for pool views from nearly every room in the home. It also boasts expansive golf course views from the primary suite's two balconies, one of which features an adjustable motorized louvered pergola.

"We incorporated a giant glass sphere fountain by artist Allison Armour at the entrance," says Kean, "so I began referring to this residence as The Pearl. The homeowners purchased the property when it was about 85 percent complete, so nearly all the design features,

furnishings, materials, and artwork were pre-selected by our design team and approved by the new owners."

The pool patio's larger-than-life sculpture is an exception. Supplied by the homeowners, *Doggy John Monaco* is a massive red and white French bulldog that immediately catches the eye of anyone nearby. Created by Parisian artist Julien Marinetti, the piece was purchased in Monte Carlo to benefit the Fight AIDS Monaco charity and stands as a meaningful memento.

Another notable change made by the homeowners was upgrading the wall finish to

RIGHT: A custom wine cabinet dividing the living and dining areas creates a magnificent focal point. The clean lines of an oak Holly Hunt Keel dining table counterbalance the Four Hands chairs with curved backs upholstered in sheepskin fabric. Palecek pendants gleam overhead.

BELOW: L'aviva Home's Khovar Vine wallpaper frames the entrance into the primary suite, providing a graphically bold touch. The long hallway reveals a glimpse of the transparent fireplace capped with Audrey Lane's decorative porcelain tiles from Trinity Surfaces.



Venetian plaster in the primary and guest suites. The design team then suggested applying it on the living room ceiling as well, and added “diamond dust”—a reflective mineral glitter—around the three skylight-style windows so that when the sunlight comes through, the wall sparkles. “As this is our vacation home, we entertain quite often and have hosted many gatherings for family and friends,” says the owner. “The home is truly well designed for enjoying all the amazing views.”

Kean collaborated with his crew of interior designers to create an elegant yet whimsical

blend of island and resort casual. The rooms feel light, airy, reflective, bright, and open—with abundant natural light. Indoor-outdoor connections were honored with numerous balconies and outdoor spaces, providing seamless transitions rather than just multiple windows. Many of the tiles, countertops, and backsplashes feature blue hues and emulate the movement of water. Natural materials with varying textures create depth and contrast, and festive floral prints dominate the wallpaper selections. Bespoke details include an intricate smoky blue painted border motif along the opening separating the living room from the foyer.



The spacious multifunctional kitchen creates the home's central hub, including a walk-in pantry and a hidden catering kitchen. A custom cabinet features a built-in Miele coffee system, breakfast zone, snack door, and display shelving. An elaborate kitchen island integrates a sleek gray and white quartzite mix and a lowered dining counter for casual meals. Gleaming brass pendants illuminate the space and connect visually with the adjacent family room's gold-leaf sconces.

When planning this home, the gazebo floating over the pool and the rooftop (fireworks-viewing) terrace spark memories of Kean's favorite spots. "I also enjoy the story that unfolded when selecting the globe water feature at the front that inspired the name The



ABOVE: One of two balconies accessible from the primary suite, this breezy seating area boasts splendid golf-course views. A motorized louvered pergola from StruXure allows adjustable covering overhead, and a pair of Zumba club chairs from JANUS et Cie provides a cozy spot for a nightcap.



ABOVE: *Doggy John Monaco*, a large French bulldog sculpture by Parisian artist Julien Marinetti, presides over the pool. Dynasty chaise loungers from Skyline Design offer prime seating beside the pool.

RIGHT: Outfitted with a porcelain tile wall that houses a See-Thru linear gas fireplace from DaVinci, the primary suite emits a luxury-resort vibe. Holly Hunt's inviting Sorraia four-poster bed pairs with an upholstered Lexi bench from Arteriors, creating a graceful silhouette that doesn't obstruct the view.



The home's third-floor rooftop terrace offers an ideal spot for evening entertaining. An extension of the interior game room, this enchanting space includes a dazzling Ixtapa fire table from RH. An aluminum wall sculpture by Atticus Adams creates a vibrant backdrop.

Pearl,” he says. The homeowners adore the Alys Beach-inspired architectural design—and the fact that their home is the only one in Golden Oak with this design inspiration. They also relish the casual interior design for its livable comfort—an essential element for their grandchildren, who, of course, love to visit.

“We think it’s quite magical, especially the triangular-shaped pool with the cabana and the outdoor living room,” says the homeowner. “The floor plan’s design and orientation give us a feeling of being on vacation every day in an extraordinary place. We feel blessed to call this our home away from home.”



The homeowners love to spend evenings with family and guests on the rooftop terrace, watching the nightly Disney World fireworks in the distance.

SOURCES

LIVING ROOM

Sofa and love seat – Rene Cazares, renecazares.com
Chair and bench – Four Hands, fourhands.com
Cocktail table custom designed by Kaleidoscope Design, Orlando, FL
Side table – Vanguard Furniture, vanguardfurniture.com
Sconces – Circa Lighting, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
Brick wall designed by Phil Kean Design Group, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Natural Stone Resources, Trinity Surfaces, Winter Park, FL
Ceiling elements designed by Phil Kean Design Group, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Beth Construction, Saint Cloud, FL

Abstract artwork – Paul T. Scarborough, Axiom, Winter Park, FL
Bar cabinetry designed by Phil Kean Kitchens, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Plato Woodwork, Plato, MN
Chandelier – Currey & Company, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
BAR
Cabinetry designed by Phil Kean Kitchens, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Plato Woodwork, Plato, MN
Chandelier – Currey & Company, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
KITCHEN
Cabinetry and island designed by Phil Kean Kitchens, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Plato

Woodwork, Plato, MN
Island chairs – Palecek, palecek.com
Pendant lights – Tech Lighting, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
FAMILY ROOM
Sofa and club chairs – Rene Cazares, renecazares.com
Cocktail table – Four Hands, fourhands.com
Side table – Arteriors Home, arteriorshome.com
Sconces – Modern Forms, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
Decorative wall designed by Phil Kean Design Group, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Beth Construction, Saint Cloud, FL
DINING ROOM
Table – Holly Hunt, hollyhunt.com

Chairs – Four Hands, fourhands.com
Chandeliers – Palecek, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
Abstract artwork – Axiom, Winter Park, FL
Wine room designed by Phil Kean Design Group, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by Cru Custom Wine Cellars and Saunas, Orlando, FL
PRIMARY BEDROOM
Bed – Holly Hunt, hollyhunt.com
Side table – Vanguard Furniture, vanguardfurniture.com
Pendant lighting – Visual Comfort & Co., LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
Bench – Arteriors Home, arteriorshome.com
Fireplace designed by Phil Kean Design Group, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated by DaVinci, Fireplaces & Gas Services, Orlando, FL

Fireplace wallcovering – Audrey Lane, Trinity Surfaces, Winter Park, FL
Area rug – Carpet Source, Winter Park, FL
BACK EXTERIOR
Loggia seating and cocktail tables – Palecek, palecek.com
Pool lounge chairs – Skyline Design, skylinedesign.com
Sconces – Flambeaux, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
Red-and-white dog sculpture – Julien Marinetti, homeowners’ collection
Pool designed by Phil Kean Design Group, Winter Park, FL, and fabricated Paradise Pools by Design, Altamonte Springs, FL
ROOFTOP TERRACE
Chairs – Brown Jordan, brownjordan.com

Fire pit – RH, rh.com
Dining table – JANUS et Cie, janusetcie.com
Dining chairs – JANUS et Cie, janusetcie.com
Seating – West Elm, westelm.com
Pendant lighting – Serena & Lily, LBU Lighting, Winter Park, FL
Wall art – Atticus Adams, Axiom, Winter Park, FL
THROUGHOUT
Developer – Golden Oak Development, LLC, Orlando, FL
Landscape architecture – Redmon Design Company, Maitland, FL
Water globe front of home – Allison Armour, Santa Barbara, CA