

Campion, Tatiana Platt's Palm Beach home is featured in 'Architectural Digest'

By [DAVID ROGERS](#), Daily News Staff Writer

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Projects masterminded by Campion Platt, a prominent New York architect and interior designer, have been featured in Architectural Digest many times over the years. The part-time Palm Beacher has made the magazine's periodic list of top 100 interior designers for more than a decade.

His latest project to grace the pages of the bible of interior design is personal.

The September issue of AD gives a glimpse of designers' own homes.

The 1924 Colonial Revival style home on Seaspray Avenue that Platt shares with his wife, Tatiana, is among them. The look he created for the 3,000-square-foot house last year is British-Colonial-Africa-meets-Palm-Beach "using (the movie) *White Mischief* as a departure point and Peter Beard photographs my wife gave me for my birthday," Platt said from his New York office. He mixed light-colored furniture and walls, eclectic artwork and dark side tables as well as light-reflecting mirrors and crystal objects to create an airy, fun atmosphere.

An unusual feature is a movie projector that casts films onto the pool's feature wall. "We show movies outside and have dinner with friends."

Platt's work makes the print and online pages of Architectural Digest for one reason. "It's good," editor Paige Rense said by phone while on vacation in Maine. Rense, who works from the magazine's Los Angeles headquarters, has a home in West Palm Beach.

"His architectural background I think contributes to a certain classicism in his work. It looks easy, but it isn't easy," Rense said of Platt. "He manages somehow to be classically based, but it has a very contemporary spin. It always looks harmonious. In a way he's a feel-good designer. I think his interiors in particular, they meld. If he's doing both (architecture and interiors), they meld. They give people a great sense of stability and well-being," said Rense, who took the magazine's helm in 1970.

Being featured in Architectural Digest puts a designer on the map. And it gets the phone ringing.

In 1995, AD featured Platt-designed interiors for a high-rise in New York. "I ended up getting seven projects

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[\(enlarge photo\)](#)

Campion and Tatiana Platt



Mark Roskams

[\(enlarge photo\)](#)

The living room in Campion and Tatiana Platt's Seaspray Avenue home features a floor-to-ceiling mirror surrounding a pure white stone fireplace.

from that one project," he recalls. People keep the magazine for years. A story clipped one year can serve as the inspiration for a high-end renovation a few years later, Platt said. "I've gotten calls from clients five years after the magazine's been published," he said.

Palm Beach homes are regularly featured in AD because islanders can afford the best architects and interior designers, Platt said.

Rense agrees. "Many of the interiors in Palm Beach are done by architects in New York or perhaps California or Europe. So they are basically done by architects and interior designers whose work would be in the magazine frankly no matter where it was," Rense said. "However, Palm Beach offers so much in terms of those spacious, gracious homes that were done in the '20s and '30s in sort of a pseudo-Spanish style, heavily influenced by Addison Mizner."

She hosts a cocktail party once a year in Palm Beach for local designers and architects whose work makes the pages of Architectural Digest.

Rense says Palm Beach fills a niche for her magazine. "It's a wonderful, more relaxed look," she said. "I'm interested in interesting design. I show things that are classical, very contemporary, very spare, very cluttered, very English country (and) very whimsical. I like to show a wide range of things when I orchestrate an issue, and Palm Beach fits very nicely into certain issues."

Six of Palm Beach architect Jeff Smith's projects have graced AD, including his design of La Follia, the 44,000-square-foot Italian Renaissance palace built for Terry Allen Kramer in 1993.

The diversity of architectural and interior design styles seen in Palm Beach is a plus for Architectural Digest, Smith said.

"Every different style is recognized here, and there's also a tropical flair," Smith said. "We tend to blur the lines between inside and outside here. We have a very tropical style of living. When you open AD, you immediately know when it's a Florida home or Palm Beach home by the way it lives."

Like Platt, Smith said being featured in Architectural Digest boosts an architect or designer's profile and brings in additional clients.

"There's no question there's a prestige factor," Smith said. "I have had calls internationally from work published in Architectural Digest."

To see the AD feature on Platt's Palm Beach home, visit [www.architecturaldigest.com/architects/100/campion\\_platt/campion\\_platt\\_article\\_092009](http://www.architecturaldigest.com/architects/100/campion_platt/campion_platt_article_092009).

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