

Charlotte

JUNE/JULY 2021

HOMIE

DESIGN & DECOR®

The
COLOR

Issue

PLUS:
ON THE MARKET:
LIVING COLORFULLY

COLOR CRUSH:
FIERY FUCHSIA

DILWORTH DELIGHT

KEVIN CARPENTER MAINTAINS A CLEAN, MODERN VIBE WHILE INFUSING COLOR THROUGH AN EXUBERANT MIX OF ART AND ACCESSORIES.

WRITTEN BY CATHERINE RUTH KELLY
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DUSTIN PECK



“Decorating a room with neutral walls is like adding a scarf to a plain outfit,” explains Kevin Carpenter, a local interior designer. “You can make a bold statement or keep it subdued.”

Carpenter leans toward bold, which is apparent in the effusive pops of color throughout his Dilworth condominium. The vibrant space has the worldly, collected feel of an international traveler.

“I owned a house in Mexico, where there is color overload everywhere you go,” he avers, “and I am forever inspired by the intricate designs of Moroccan tiles, the muddy-blue painted doors throughout Paris, the pops of turquoise in rugs from Istanbul.”

Most of the rooms in Carpenter’s condo have creamy white walls—a blank canvas filled with strokes of color through the furniture and accessories. In the

LEFT: Interior designer Kevin Carpenter has a penchant for infusing color in his work, which is evident throughout his Dilworth condominium.

TOP & RIGHT: A pink velvet armchair and wooden credenza from Nuevo Living surround the boldly colored Moroccan rug, which was the inspiration for the living room. The egret photograph by Wink Gaines is printed on high-gloss aluminum and hangs above the Arteriors sofa. The leather chair and ottoman, as well as the round coffee table, are from West Elm.



LEFT: The vintage plumed-bird print, an heirloom from Carpenter’s grandmother’s house, hangs above a West Elm bar cart. An artisan in Mexico forged the large iron lock, shaped like a bat. The drapery fabric is by Fabricut.

RIGHT: The dining room light fixture, table, and chairs are from West Elm. A vintage turquoise lamp and yellow porcelain vase by Middle Kingdom rest atop the Blu Dot credenza.

BOTTOM: A vintage Oushak rug brightens the bedroom. The geometric coverlet is by Ballard Designs. Hand-painted turquoise lanterns flank the headboard.

living room, he selected fabrics and art to highlight the vivid pigmentation of the Moroccan rug that grounds the space. In his bedroom, he hung whimsical turquoise sconces to frame the bed and complement the pillow shams.

The one exception to the neutral backdrop is his dining room, where the walls are painted Spring Pink by Benjamin Moore.

“The dining room doubles as my office, so I wanted to be surrounded by a warm, soothing color,” Carpenter says.

The funky, asymmetrical light fixture was the inspiration for the room’s design scheme. The translucent globes’ soft hues are echoed in the chartreuse velvet chairs and the tropical tones of the parrot photograph. A painting of a plumed bird that was in Carpenter’s grandmother’s house hangs over the bar cart, which displays an assemblage of libations as well as relics from around the globe.

Carpenter finesses a colorful mix of heirlooms and eclectic treasures by using items that bring him joy.

“I firmly believe that you will always find a place for things that make you happy,” Carpenter concludes. ♦