

# SARASOTA<sup>®</sup> MAGAZINE

LIVING IN PARADISE

hats off  
TO SEASON!

**31** SNEAK PREVIEW: GREAT NEW SHOWS  
STAR POWER: LOOK WHO'S COMING!  
DINING OUT: BEST LATE-NIGHT SPOTS

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## designing mind

Interior designer Kurt Lucas of JKL Design Group made headlines a few years ago with the design of his own outrageously opulent "castle"—complete with moat—off Mound Street just south of downtown Sarasota.

**My favorite residential project:** My favorites are the ones I do for myself—the castle, [my apartment in] the Orange Blossom—so I have to say my next one. For my next house I'm going to design and build a great contemporary. Everybody thinks I only do gothic or baroque, and that's so far from me. **The smartest way to spruce up your home on a budget:** Paint. It's so cheap, and if you don't like it or if you get bored with it, you can change your house weekly if you want to. Put some color and life on your walls, or if your furniture is the dominating color, make your walls light and crisp. **The trend:** Is toward intense color—dominant pinks and great darker lime—balanced with

rich chocolate. It's contemporary, it's traditional, it's transitional, it's happy. **If money were no object:** I'd do a combination of [Sarasota modernist architect] Carl Abbott and Versace—all in whites with silver and punches of orange and aquamarine, and things that are just outrageous. Carl's sense of space is incredible. I'd do Carl Abbott with crystal chandeliers, so it has grandeur and simplicity. **My favorite way to entertain:** Easy, and that's another reason why we're going to a contemporary mode. There are so many issues with politics, economy, gas—I need it to be an escape. **What's new:** DaRuMa [Japanese steakhouse] is getting ready for a third restaurant in Tampa, which is exciting because that's a restaurant I designed from the ground up from being a computer store. **On trends:** I always try to set my own trend. I tell people, "Don't run with everybody else; go with what makes your heart happy. Be yourself." —*Ilene Denton*

## ? what's next

**The Great Outdoors** Leave it to the showstopping French design king, Philippe Starck, to come up with this fresh take on outdoor furniture. His RobinWood collection for Sutherland Furniture features 25 pieces of aluminum-and-slatted-teak outdoor furniture in modern, geometric shapes. You'll lounge in style. [www.sutherlandfurniture.com](http://www.sutherlandfurniture.com)

## ✓ design datebook 56

**Junior League Holiday Tour of Homes. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 5 and 6; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$20**

The hottest eco-friendly innovations will be on display when the Junior League of Sarasota presents Ever "Green" Dreams, its 32nd annual tour. One of the highlights: the recently completed Coddling Cottage in Laurel Park, Sarasota's first Platinum LEED certified residence. And everybody's eager to peek inside John Chapman's new corrugated-steel Cracker home at 2624 S. Osprey Ave. All four homes on the tour will be decked out in holiday finery.

