

# Innovation & Imagination

EXCITING DESIGN IS NOTHING WITHOUT THESE TWO QUALITIES. WE ASKED FOUR EXPERTS IN THE FIELD TO TELL US THE WAYS THEY EMBRACE NEW IDEAS AND CREATIVITY IN THEIR OWN PROJECTS.

TEXT LUIS R. RIGUAL



**ALEX THIES**

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**Q. From furniture to fabrics and kitchens to baths, what kind of design innovations are you seeing in the industry these days?** I've seen a huge increase in the use of new and unique materials—capiz shell fronts on dressers, shagreen textured nightstands, bone inlay cocktail tables and the like. Manufacturers are pushing the limits on new and innovative uses for unique textures.

**Q. What do you see as the biggest design innovations for 2022?** I think we are going to see a shift in colors and where and how they are used. For example, bright pops of color on ceilings, not as many all-white kitchens and the introduction of deeper and bolder colors outside of the typical Florida palette.



**Q. Lately, there's been a big focus on outdoor spaces. Do you see that continuing?** In Florida, absolutely! Outdoor spaces are just as important as indoor spaces when you live here, and that is always, not just a trend.

**Q. Biophilic design seems to be the buzz phrase on everyone's lips lately. What's your take on this trend of finding harmony with nature through design?** It may be a buzz word for some now, but it's a way of life at Adelyn Charles. We love the use of natural materials as they bring a sense of comfort and warmth, and create an ambiance of holistic living.

**Q. Speaking of harmony, sustainability seems like it's finally here to stay. How do you incorporate this concept into your work and what are you seeing in terms of innovations when it comes to sustainable products and practices?** From using bamboo sheets, which is a naturally sustainable resource, to reclaimed wood art and accessories, to stunning wallcoverings made from recycled materials, being sustainable can be a beautiful thing.

**Q. Pantone declared its own shade of periwinkle as the color of 2022, but what colors do you see trending in your own projects in the year ahead?** We have a lot of current clients who are really embracing color. One client came to us with a love of all things purple, so we currently have an entire project in the works with purple of all shades. I think a lot of people are ready to see some new colors coming to life in 2022.

