



Perfect Pairing

The women of Tilton Fenwick pair traditional patterns with unexpected colors for their first foray into fabric with Duralee

BY TORI MELLOTT PHOTOGRAPHY BY FRANCESCO LAGNESE



Interior designers often fantasize about creating their own fabrics—expressing their unique creative vision through designs, patterns, and colorations.

Nearly two years ago, that dream started to come true for Suysel dePedro Cunningham and Anne Maxwell Foster, the duo who make up the NYC design firm

Tilton Fenwick. After spying the work of the two budding designers in the first issue of TRADhomemag.com, fabric house Duralee offered them the opportunity to design their very own fabric line.

Already recognized for their clever use of color, the pair's starting point was obvious. "We pulled inspiration from florals, fashion, rugs, and any sort of textile we liked," explains Cunningham. "Then with a Pantone book that literally shows thousands

of colors, we started concocting color combinations. We went nuts with that!"

Duralee's design team guided them through the steps. "This was our first time at the rodeo, so it was hard to imagine the end result," says Foster. Duralee's team let us do our own thing, but helped us focus and edit."

The process was personal. Many fabrics are named for individuals the designers want to thank for supporting their careers. Among the patterns is "Quintessence"—for blogger



“Cecilia” in Coral



“Quintessence” in Sapphire



“Sissy” in Cactus



“Rocat” in Lapis



“Chilvers” in Mint/Red



“Geniesse” in Cactus

Stacey Bewkes. There’s even a “Maine” in the mix (for *Traditional Home* editor Ann).

The final collection features 36 prints and wovens in functional colors with a few twists. “Some patterns have 10 or 12 colorways,” says Cunningham. “We threw in one or two unexpected colors to make the fabrics sing.”

The tremendous range of colors, patterns, and scales these two have harmonized might just have you humming along yourself.

For more information, see sources on page 106



Room with a View

To celebrate the debut of Tilton Fenwick for Duralee, Suysel dePedro Cunningham decorated her own bedroom in a pleasing mix of the collection’s stripes, solids, florals, and prints. “Armstrong,” a woven stripe, adorns the walls. “Scout” playfully accents the bed canopy, the lamp shades, and a vintage chair. All fabrics from Duralee (duralee.com).

