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TERESE VIRSERIUS DESIGN DESIGN BACKGROUND FOR BAR VDARA

“My inspiration for this project was born out of what I would personally want in a lounge-type atmosphere which is dramatic and something someone really hasn’t seen before. The overall area, although challenging to work with because there were no solid walls and it was very narrow with 16-ft ceilings, evokes elegance and intimacy while at the same time bold vibrant energy and comfort.”

“I often use the element of subtle surprise in design and this project is no exception. Through a bold color palette, a variety of tactile textiles, interesting lighting choices and the usage of natural elements throughout, the end result is the unique jewel-box atmosphere the developers desired. If first impressions count for everything, then this design is sure to impress everyone who enters Vdara.”

Bar Vdara Highlights

- Four separate rooms, with cobra-like screens hovering around the perimeter, within one continuous space; the bar area, lounge and upper and lower levels of the patio.
- Locale is shaped like an eye and the garden area is reflective of the iris.
- Vibrant color palette encompasses a variety of fuchsia, gold, dark purple, light lavender, vivid green, orange and magenta and is balanced by muted champagne and gray tones
- Custom sheer panels in muted champagne-colored fabrics separate the lounge and bar from the garden areas. They create a layer of privacy while allowing natural light to shine through in the morning hours. In the evening, darker panels slide to create a darker, more intimate space.
- Stairs and built-in planters line the circumference of the lounge and upper patio reminiscent of a necklace. As a result, the space has the flexibility to range from sexy and intimate to dynamically bold and vibrant.
- The design allows for a transparent line so one can always get a sense of the space from anywhere in the building.

Bar Features

- Dramatic laser-cut antique bronze screens act as dramatic portals at the three entryways of Bar Vdara.
- Because the space is curved, the stone floor creates an illusion that it is layered diagonally, but it is not.
- Comfortable, yet very distinct and crisp furnishings evoke clean lines.

Bar Furniture Highlights

- Floating bar with three sides encourage mingling and evoke interaction instead of a typical bar with straight lines.
- Bar top created with striped marble makes a striking contrast against the lighting and butterfly cuts of the surface. Together, the overall look creates a graphic, masculine statement.
- Bar front is covered in dark purple leather panels patterned to look like crocodile.
- Pale lavender-grey fabric, that complements the overall color pattern, is featured on the open back barstools.
- Theatrical overhead sculpture consists of a multiple-angled, silver dollar like tiers which cascades over the main bar area.

- Color coordinating chairs in luxurious greens and fuchsias are adjacent to the bar. Settee seating features contemporary square-tufted with embroidered backs of fuchsia peonies. Delicate gold stitching on the back maintains the subtle floral theme found in the carpeting in the lounge area. Specific thought had to be given to the backs as, per the concept, everything could be seen from all angles throughout the building.
- Black, glossy lounge rocker/body raft made of wood found in the center of the space reflects simple Scandinavian design and creates a playful touch to the area.
- Liquor displayed in European style to blend into the overall design and not function as a design element.

Lounge Features

The functionality of the space was a factor so that private gathering could occur while other areas would be available for individual patrons and guests. Moreover, the space needed to transition from morning coffee to drinks at night, so like a little black dress, the design needed to be flexible.

Lounge Furnishing Highlights

- Silver pewter covered sofas with whimsical multi-colored pillows reminiscent of nostalgic candy wrappers line the interior of the space and are flanked by smaller-scale worn deep brown leather chairs.
- Lining the outer edge of the lounge are modern interpretations of English wing chairs which feature low arms and clean lines in a vibrant orange hue specifically chosen to make them pop against the other colors.
- Nine, sixteen-foot screens reminiscent of a cobra, hover over wing chair seating and are made with light golden or patina-type leather wrapped around rosewood framing.
- Lavender colored carpeting hand tufted 100 percent wool with raised gold peony outlines creating a subtle notion of seven-foot super-imposed flowers. The whole perception is that the flowers are whimsically spilling off the carpet and are 'strung' throughout in an irregular pattern.

Upper/Lower Patio Features

Comprised of two separate garden rooms; the upper garden is a more intimate space encircled by planters and steps while the lower garden is open and separated from the bar by glass facade panels. An under-lit infinity pool lines the outer edge of the garden creating movement and reflecting light onto the ceiling.

Patio Furniture Highlights

- Two deep-set couches with an m-shaped back enhance the rooms on the upper and lower levels to create a sense of casual comfort.
- A shining under-lit shallow infinity pool emitting stripes of light glitter up on the ceiling.
- Over the sliver of water, custom-made water drops include fiber optics for dramatic lighting.
- Translucent resin tables continue the sense of light and airiness created by the reflective pool.
- Two playful custom balloon-type chairs created by twisting metals to depict a nest reminiscent of the Beijing Olympic stadium.
- Two whimsical lounge-type swings seat up to six people and are suspended from the ceiling by silky steel-hued braided ropes.
- Custom-made curved planters specifically created to naturally separate the upper and lower areas.