

Impressions of Autumn

Design in the Spirit of Aloha



Designer of the model units at [Montage Residences Kapalua Bay](#), Kari Demond sits down with Montage Impressions to discuss her vision for the design, cultural inspirations, and tips for adding coastal décor to your own beach home.

The embrace of a warm island breeze, the delicate cluster of small white flowers of the Kukui tree, a melding of rich cultures, a sense of coming full circle from the exploration of the islands to the interiors of a beach home: these are the inspirations behind Kari Demond's design for Montage Residences Kapalua Bay. "I wanted to evoke nature as it surrounds the island," Kari explains.

Kari studied Polynesian culture, incorporating lessons from Silla Kaina, the onsite Cultural Ambassador for [Montage Kapalua Bay](#). "Silla has such a deep reverence for her culture," Kari said. "I have learned so much from her."

The Hawaiian influence is evident throughout the residence, such as the Gobi stone basin Kari used as the pedestal for a dining room table. "It's the identical shape of the vessel used in an `ava ceremony, which is a Polynesian cleansing ceremony," Kari said. She also added that the bowl in the `ava would be made of wood not stone, as she gleaned from further conversations with Silla.

Woods play an important role in both culture and design. Kari used native woods to help bring the island feel indoors. With Kari's design, this begins with a Suar wood carved wall panel in an entry garden "so when you step off the elevator, you're immediately embraced by something warm, something natural." This is reflected in furniture as well. One example is the large, organic Chamcha wood table, which is one of the first pieces of furniture seen upon entering the over-scaled doors of the Montage Residences Kapalua Bay model unit.

Even the tiniest design details can reflect the abundant beauty of Maui. A [Moooi](#) Chandelier Kari brought in brings native elements "full circle." The delicate floral lights of the chandelier imply the white flowers of the Kukui tree. Each of these small flowers has five white petals and grows in clusters at the ends of the tree branches.

"Pacific Rim design encompasses Asian, Japanese, Javanese, Balinese and so many other cultures," Kari said. "That's the beauty of it. We wanted this to feel like a melding of cultures."

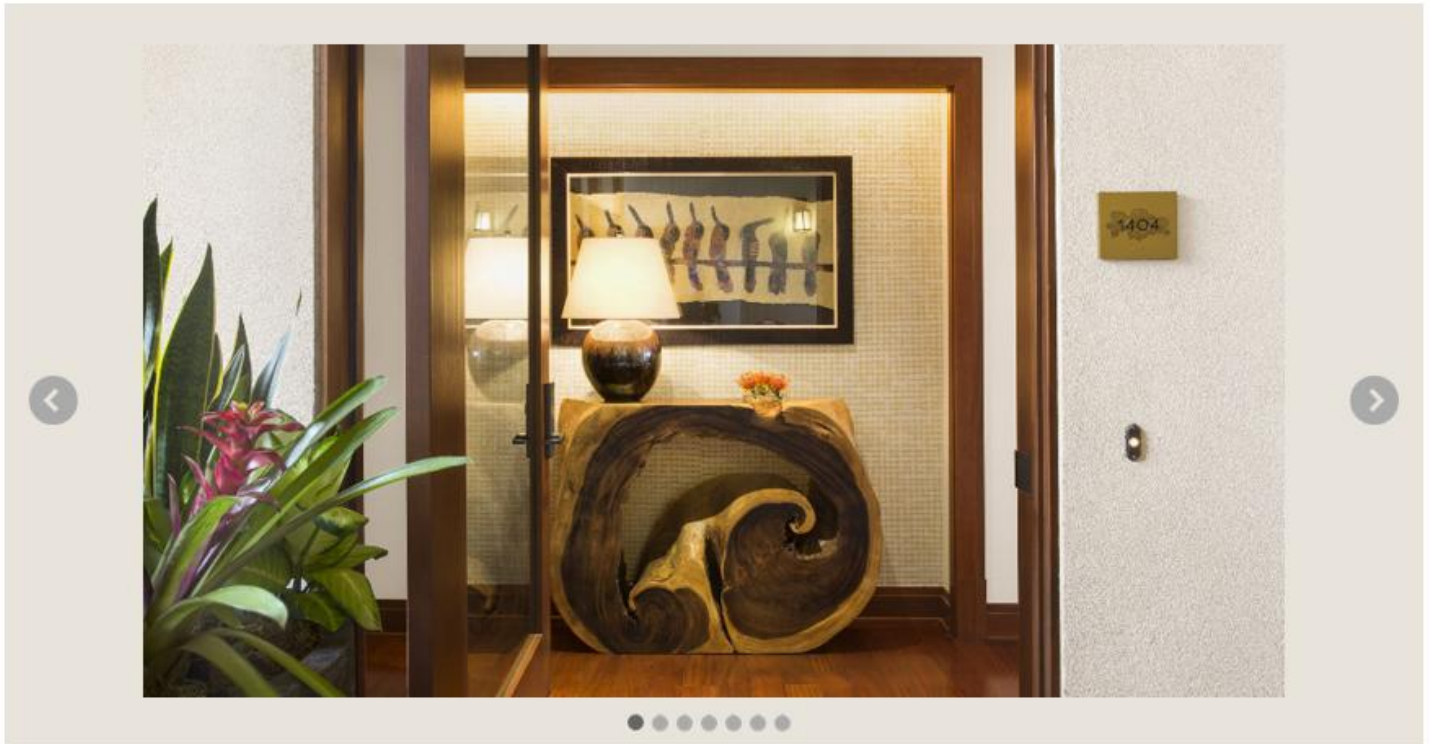


Name: Kari Demond

Title: Principal of KLM Interiors; Designer of Model Residences at Montage Kapalua Bay

Background: Kari has over 28 years of experience working on a vast array of residential and hospitality projects. Her projects span the country and have been featured in publications such as Architectural Digest, Mountain Living, and Kitchen Trends.

Impressions by Montage Hotels and Resorts



Bringing Kapalua Bay home

Traditional “Hawaiiana” is known for its bright color and wit, but can sometimes also be considered kitschy. With Kari’s savvy insight, a touch of Hawaiiana can be stunning and elegant. Below, Kari shares her tips for bringing the contemporary, sophisticated beach design of Montage Residences Kapalua Bay into your own home.

- ▶ Use moderation with the intense, saturated color and patterns found in the Hawaiian art and textiles. For example, Belgian white linen upholstery with only bold Hawaiian accent pillows and art is stunning. But too much of the bold print and “your eye will bounce from the walls to the art to throw pillows to fabric.”
- ▶ Consider warm woods, including macadamia, mango, teak and koa as well as weaves like bamboo and rattan – even banana leaves – for architecture, furniture and design elements. Kari used [Sutherland Furniture](#), which is one of the top manufacturers of teak furnishings in the world.
- ▶ [Ironies](#) offers a table that looks like lava is flowing to the base. Though less impressive imitations are available, the model from Ironies is both authentic and beautiful.
- ▶ One company Kari said is great with island products is [Kenneth Cobonpue](#) for fabulous combinations of abaca and rattan.
- ▶ For other great island furnishings, Kari also recommends companies like Stark, Walters Wicker and Conrad.