

NAPLES EDITION

FLORIDA DESIGN

Autumn At Home

**Gorgeous Residences
in Naples and Beyond**

**COTTAGE CACHET
A Waterside Reinvention
in Fort Myers Beach**



ABOVE LEFT: The Paolo fabric pattern for Clarence House was inspired by travels through much of Italy. ABOVE RIGHT: Designer Frank Ponterio

SETTING ROOTS

DESIGNER FRANK PONTERIO SOLIDIFIES HIS GULF COAST PRESENCE WITH A NEW DESIGN STUDIO AT THE COLLECTIVE

TEXT LUIS R. RIGUAL



ABOVE LEFT: The Valentina fabric pattern for Clarence House was inspired by Ponterio's longtime good friend, Valentina Bertazzoni. ABOVE RIGHT: The Adami fabric pattern for Clarence House is named after the Italian town Ponterio's mother was born.



ABOVE: Ponterio's Salotto cabinet for Arteriors is wrapped in vellum and accented with bronze rivets.

Since launching his interior design business in 1994, Frank Ponterio has amassed an impressive clientele of discerning homeowners who turn to him for what many call his aesthetic sixth sense. Those who know him insist he has an innate ability to read people and immediately know what they need from a space. He then translates that knowledge into interiors that are balanced, timeless, and beautiful.

That acumen served him well when he decided to develop his own lines and go into collaboration with some of the top brands in the design business, as well as when he resolved to expand his reach into Florida by opening a Naples office. This fall he's taking a chance on the Gulf Coast again with the debut of a new design studio at The Collective, the popular complex dedicated to design and lifestyle shops on Naples' 10th Avenue South.



ABOVE: Ponterio's Lee lounge chair for Lee Jofa

RIGHT: Ponterio's Griffith chandelier (in black glass and bronze) for Arteriors



BELOW: The Isabella sofa (named for Ponterio's daughter), Gavin lounge chairs, Georgie cocktail tables, Franklin side tables, and Sam sconces are all part of the designer's collaboration with Lee Jofa.

"We opened our first office two-and-a-half years ago with a five-year plan to grow; fast-forward and here we are," says Ponterio about the 1,200-square-foot space that finds him alongside neighbors such as Casa Italia, Perennials Sutherland, and The Luxury Bed Collection. "The new space is more of a working studio with the majority of the square footage being allocated to our library of materials, furnishings, lighting, and art."

The new location intends to put the focus on fabrics from vendors not usually represented in Naples, including textiles from Loro Piana and De Le Cuona. The space will also offer access to Ponterio's lines with Gregorius Pineo, Holly Hunt, and Clarence House.

Although the new studio should keep him busy well into the new year, those familiar with him know the man doesn't rest on his laurels for too long. "There are things in the works," says the designer when prompted for information. "I'm just starting on few new ventures with industry partners and another on the development/custom home front. All will be revealed in due time." frankponterio.com



PHOTOS COURTESY OF FRANK PONTERIO