

Ficarra Design Associates Inc. transforming condominium in Brighton Tower at Bay Colony

Submitted by Caffrey & Associates

Sunday, July 29, 2012

When it debuted in 1994, the Brighton condominium tower at Bay Colony in Pelican Bay was heralded as much for its innovative architecture as it was for the unobstructed Gulf views each of its 75 beachfront residences offered. With its oversized, curving, glass-railed balconies, and garden deck, pool, spa, poolside bar and barbecue and dune walkover to the beach, the Brighton quickly became one of Pelican Bay's most preferred addresses. Today, many of the residents are choosing to update their 18-year-old residences rather than moving.

One of the Brighton residences is being completely renovated by Ficarra Design Associates' Founder and President Lisa Ficarra and Senior Designer Molly Grupp. The great room floor plan includes an elegant entry and foyer, a dining area, a bar, three bedrooms, three baths and a breakfast nook off the kitchen. Working with the Professional Contractors Group, the designers are transforming the original traditional Tuscan design style into a transitional style that features various contemporary components.

"The traditional Tuscan interior design style was one of the predominant styles when the Brighton was built," said Ficarra. "It's a style that is known to stand the test of time and has certainly served the owners well over the past 18 years. The current owners want a more updated look and we're making some substantial changes. Walls are being moved. Hallways are being widened. The new design emphasizes curvilinear elements in the new ceiling and wall details that will play against the building's curving, glass railed balconies. Like all of the residences in the Brighton, this residence is a fantastic space with one of the best views on the beach. It's a pleasure to be able to transform the space into something that better reflects the forward thinking lifestyle of the owners."

Ficarra's new color palette is a combination of cream, taupe and cinnamon tones with Clery accents. All of the trim will be painted a fresh white. The existing crema marfil marble floors are being removed and will be replaced by grayish taupe whitewashed hardwood. The hardwood will be used everywhere except in the two guest bedrooms. The original ceilings have been removed. A new HVAC system will facilitate the installation of elevated coffered and tray ceiling treatments.

The foyer's new tray ceiling will feature a suspended grid with specialty lighting. In the living room, the ceiling will have a curved architectural element and drywall beams that

have been dropped down to facilitate lighting placement. A very large new sectional sofa done in a natural tone-on-tone fabric with splashes of color and a contemporary metal frame coffee table will be included in the living room. The designers have extended their attention to lighting design to the powder bath off the foyer where a floating zebra wood cabinet will be lit from underneath. Onyx flooring will be featured in the baths and the master bath will have a three-inch thick onyx countertop that will also be lit from underneath with LED lighting. The tub in the master bath is being removed so the shower can be enlarged.

Ficarra Design is completely redoing the kitchen. New contemporary cabinetry in a dark espresso finish will feature a two-inch picture frame molding surround that will play against granite countertops. Newly designed spaces will accommodate a Miele coffee maker, wine storage and a pantry. A semicircular banquet and curved wall have been incorporated in the breakfast nook. There also is a bar area.

A curved wall will wraparound the dining room and include applied molding presented in a more linear fashion. That molding will carry into a newly widened hallway and then into the master bedroom where it will repeat the rectangular style of the room's new ceiling.

The master bedroom will have a desk, nightstand with an espresso finish and a bed with an upholstered headboard that includes a wood accent. A new stepped ceiling is being installed in one of the guest bedrooms. In the second guest bedroom, a flat molding detail is being incorporated in the ceiling that will follow the perimeter of the walls.

Renovation of the Brighton condominium residence is scheduled for completion in October.

"The renovations we've designed and are executing reflect the owner's desire for a relaxed coastal lifestyle," said Ficarra. "The result will be a residence that is fresh and clean-lined with wonderful accents of color that will blend easily with the home's beachfront milieu. At the same time, the unmistakable elegance of the space will befit its location in a building with the Brighton's prestige."

For more information about Ficarra Design Associates' interior design and project management services, visit ficarradesignassociates.com.



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