

Designers' Secret Sources

By Gale Steves



German-made Duravit bath fixtures are one of the high-end brands available through Galleria Kitchen and Bath Showplace in Tampa Bay. Pictured here is the line architect Sir Norman Foster designed for Duravit.

Ever wonder where Tampa Bay's interior designers and decorators shop for their clients? Everyone knows that designers are usually guarded about where they find those perfect parts of the decorating puzzle. Do they make those just-right purchases on the other side of Florida, or is it New York, London, or Paris? Surely, you say, they cannot weave their magic with local resources. And when queried about some of their favorite suppliers, ten design firms happily admit that some of their best sources are right here in Tampa Bay. Not surprising is that many of them shop at the same resource.

Décor accessories and fabric
Both Shelah Kaufman, of Ciel Interiors in Tampa, and Doug Preiser, of D. V. Preiser Designs in Tampa, shop **Interiors Trading** (813-258-6678) in Tampa. Preiser finds his clients cannot resist the intriguing décor pieces there, and Kaufman counts Interiors Trading as a good fabric resource because of its wide selection. Interior designer Ed Biggs, of Interior Planning Services in St. Pete, likes the serendipity of the wonderful accessories he finds at St. Petersburg's **Interior Motives** (727-898-6061).

Faux wrought iron
Mediterranean style often calls for wrought iron details, and Suzan Decker

Ross, of Decker Ross Interiors in Clearwater, shares an amazing faux metal resource she uncovered in New Port Richey, **Profile Designs** (727-514-0571).

Furniture

One resource for custom furniture and cabinetry is the **Harden House** (727-442-7546) in Clearwater, which is the place Franco Pasquale, of Franco A. Pasquale Design Associates in Tampa, recommends. While Michelle Jennings, of M. J. Designs in St. Petersburg, has discovered a new resource in St. Petersburg, **Doma Home Furnishings** (727-327-9400), which helps her clients make better decisions, she says. And Kaufman frequently locates unique, high-end

pieces at **Logans Furniture Showplace** in Tampa (813-630-4744).

Furniture restoration and repair

Interior designer Stapleton D. Gooch IV, of Stapleton Gooch in Tampa, relies on the workmanship and skill of Tampa's **David A. Nores Antiques and Restoration** (813-254-4508) to repair and restore furniture.

Kitchen and bath cabinets

Gooch prefers the professional and proficient showroom at Tampa's **Park Avenue Designs** (813-884-9440) for kitchen and bath cabinetry.

Lighting

Lights are often a hard decision for clients, and Biggs unearths a great lighting resource in Bradenton's **Lyteworks** (941-745-2900). While Decker Ross highly recommends the assortment and service of **World of Lighting and Fans** (813-253-3044) in Tampa.

Plumbing fixtures and accessories

Susan Nice, of Lasting Impressions in St. Petersburg, reports that the showroom at **Galleria Kitchen and Bath Showplace** (727-521-2691) in Pinellas Park has a wonderful selection of plumbing fixtures and accessories for kitchen and bath needs. Galleria Kitchen and Bath Showplace also has locations in Tarpon Springs (727-938-1971) and Tampa (813-676-4000).

Rugs

For a wide range of high-end area rugs from around the world, Ada Pagano, of A. Pagano Design in St. Petersburg, and Preiser shop at **Addison/Dicus Company** (813-258-6511) in Tampa.

Stone

Sharman Eicher, of Interiors by Sharman in Belleair Bluffs, frequently sources her marble and granite needs at **Quality Marble** (727-527-1676) in Pinellas Park.



Among the many artisan tiles to choose from at Marla Davidson Tile and Stone is Trikeenan Tileworks, a New Hampshire-based brand established in 1990 by a couple of graduates of the Rhode Island School of Design.

Nice also favors Quality Marble for its custom fabrication operation for marble and granite countertops and fireplace surrounds.

Tile

And for an unusual and unique assortment of tile, several designers turn to

Tampa's **Marla Davidson Tile and Stone** (813-890-7200). Among them are Pagano, Pasquale, and Eicher. But Jennings prefers the high-end tile and service at **Ceramic Solutions** (727-323-4050) in St. Pete. **DR**