Coastal Design

BELVEDERE
LAGUNA BEACH
MALIBU
SAN FRANCISCO

KITCHEN COUTURE

Architects Turn Up The Heat
GEOFFREY DE SOUSA brings connoisseurship to every project he designs and has gained national and international recognition for creating interiors that are cosmopolitan and warmly modern. With the Jordan Winery dining room and its adjoining areas, De Sousa and his staff reimagined the 18th-century French design, retaining its best architectural features while introducing new design elements. He and his staff worked closely with John Jordan and Todd and Nitsa Knoll, the husband-wife team behind Jordan’s culinary hospitality program, to reimagine the space, which is central to both Jordan’s winemaking philosophy of making elegant, food-friendly wines and to the chef’s culinary philosophy of bringing a snapshot of the surrounding countryside to the plate.
“We always enjoy working with spaces that have strong architectural features and a story to tell,” Geoffrey De Sousa, proprietor of Geoffrey De Sousa Interior Design and De Sousa Hughes. “The Jordan dining room is now not only an homage to old-world France, but it’s also a portrait of the surrounding estate and the chef’s philosophy.”

The original interior design of Jordan Winery’s dining room and guest suites, led by John Jordan’s mother in the 1970s, featured antiques and other elements that celebrated 18th-century French design. A minor remodel in the mid-1990s continued in this style. Today, buttercup yellow walls with sherbet green fabric in framed molding are now a deep grey [Benjamin Moore French Beret] with an elegant wallpaper pattern called Midsummer Night from Wall&co created by Milanese graphic designer Lorenzo De Grandis that brings the outdoors in. Mahogany brown chairs were disassembled and completely reimagined with embroidery by a renowned, haute couture artist based in London, who studied with Alexander McQueen that celebrates nature; all woodwork has been painted. All of the new lighting selected is from Jonathan Browning Studios, pulling inspiration from French Beaux-Arts classicism. Local Sonoma artisan Randall Tuell of Tuell + Reynolds was hired to create a bronze surround, hearth trim, and tools to give the fireplace a modern touch. DeSousa constant support of local artisans worked with Nikki and Will Callnan of NBC Pottery to create custom vases and “estate garden plates” that will be used for food pairings. The addition of a playful statue “Petulant Apoll” by New York artist Stephen Antonson form his pie-faced bust series, aligns with Jordan’s reputation for its fun culture and is a favorite artisan of DeSousa.”

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Design Profile

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