



# pattern play

A WEST PALM BEACH CREATIVE INFUSES ORGANIC MODERNISM INTO BESPOKE WALLPAPER AND TEXTILES INSPIRED BY THE NATURAL WORLD.

WRITTEN BY BRADLEY NESBITT  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHELSAE ANNE

“MY STUDIO IS BASICALLY A GREENHOUSE. I’VE ALWAYS LOOKED TO NATURE TO SPARK MY IMAGINATION.”



**Above:** Barnacles inspired Jenny Kiker's latest fabric print for Living Pattern, her modern line of bespoke wallpaper and textiles.

**Right:** A repeating pattern of maidenhair ferns allows these wallpapers to bring the outside in.

**Opposite:** All of Kiker's designs begin with sketches she draws or paints in her studio.



**T** rue artists can be known simply by experiencing their work: one look at their pieces and immediately you have a window into their soul. Such is the case with Jenny Kiker, who pours herself into her creations using walls as her canvas. Living Pattern, her bespoke line of wallpapers and textiles, comprises mini reflections of her that are at once fresh, modern and organic. Her prints are a menagerie of lush flora and fauna that bring the outside in, with muses ranging from maidenhair ferns to the small detail of a beetle's back. "I was looking through the book *Pheromone: The Insect Artwork of Christopher Marley* and immediately fell in love with this gorgeous Goliath beetle's shell markings and knew I had to make it into a paper. It's a new take on a cheetah print," says Kiker, who works with her partner in business and in life, Chris Johnston. Kiker's by-hand approach to making pattern is what sets her apart, drawing and developing her motifs in her studio before they are printed in Chicago. Though she uses traditional techniques, she does so with a clean, contemporary lean that speaks to her love of Australian design. "It's bright with hints of modern but still organic," she notes of the region's aesthetic. "Australian designers are the world's trendsetters to me. I love how they take black and white and add saturated pops of color." When the artist isn't busy brushing her next stroke or inking her custom stamps, she can easily be spotted driving around town in Little Donkey, her 1990 ecru-hued Ford Ranger, foraging for new inspirations to bring back to her studio. Perched above the Brass Scale Antiques shop in West Palm Beach, her work space is brimming with nods to Mother Nature. "I'm a plant hoarder," she says. "My studio is basically a greenhouse. If I'm not sketching, I usually have a plant mister in my hand. I've always looked to nature to spark my imagination." ■