



THE RHYTHM OF AFRICA

Details bring the exotic into a marvelous cooks' space

BY EVA DITLER | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVE CARTER

The earthy color palette of arid Africa was the creative foundation for this kitchen," says Laura Wireman of the space she designed for clients in Vista who wanted to add a touch of that alluring continent to their home.

The sultry tones of Brazilian cherry floors, maple butcher block, and alder cabinets stained a rich chestnut caramel color are cooled by brushed stainless-steel appliances and highlighted with accents of bronze and copper.

"For each corner of the floor, I inlaid

a bronze four-by-four tile with beautiful tumbled raw edges — and the hardware on the cabinetry is a patina copper that I custom made," says Wireman.

That's not the only hardware that has Wireman's unique touch. She custom sized hand-forged bronze handles, the kind often used on extravagant entrance-way doors, to fit the built-in panel-ready fridge and freezer. The handles have a carved-relief detail and match custom bronze handles on the butler's pantry.

Amber Fantasy granite with tones of

amber and burgundy accented by waves of black and gold was chosen for countertops because it "flows like sand under the ocean," says Wireman.

"The same burgundy, amber and neutral sandy beige tones go through the backsplash stone as in the granite. The backsplash is a mosaic combination of metal-coated diamonds in copper and pewter colors with travertine and polished marble cut into the diamonds."

Wireman wove the backsplash throughout the space by including an

inset of the same stone mosaic in a rectangular form to delineate a border on the floor.

On the ceiling, flowing bronze leaf bases on reverse tulip lights pair up with a three-light chandelier and the bar's matching wall sconces. The lights, along with cathedral-style candles and silk window treatments hanging from hand-forged bronze medallion pegs, capture a Moorish ambience.

The kitchen may be inspired by Africa, but it also is a cooking, dining and entertaining experience for the talented homeowner chefs and their friends and family. Open to the family room where glass doors lead out to the patio and its barbecue, the space has a great flow as well as having comfortable interaction with the family room's stone fireplace. ∞

This kitchen is one of the nine kitchens (others shown on following pages) on this year's ASID California San Diego Chapter Kitchen Tour. For more information on the tour, see details in "On Tour."

For resources on this kitchen, see Where to find it, page 127



ON TOUR

What: ASID California San Diego Chapter Kitchen Tour 2010

When: 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 23, 2010

Tickets: \$25/general, \$20 each/groups from four to nine, \$15 each/groups of 10 or more

Hotline: 858/646-9896 for ticket details and locations

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Pacific Beach kitchen by:
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and April Worrell, ASID
Marrokal Design & Remodel
858/549-9000, ext. 10

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Poway kitchen by:
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ASID, CMKBD, CID
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La Mesa kitchen by:
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Joan Peters, Allied Member ASID
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La Jolla kitchen by:
Carol Spong, ASID
Carol Spong Interior Design
858/453-1700

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Carlsbad kitchen by:
Lynn Wyndham Morris,
Allied Member ASID, IIDA, AIA,
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