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BEYOND MOD IN MEXICO



# HOME FRONT HOOD

BY JACQUELINE DEMONTRAVEL  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BEN CLARK

## LAGUNA CHIC!

*When jet-setting interior designer Brooke Ziccardi stays local, she hits Laguna Beach. We got her to spill on her fave spots for instant décor*

Brooke Ziccardi's passport is the ultimate testament to her scouring and scavenging prowess. After all, this interior designer traverses the globe for major finds, going from Paris flea markets for rare antiques to Mumbai for vintage saris. But when this Newport Beach native is stateside, she skips L.A. (yawn) in favor of Laguna, where the design Richter is off the charts with a bevy of new stores.

"I'm inspired daily by cultural design and color sensibilities from around the globe, but I've found that Laguna Beach offers so many exotic objects that are ideal for my varying projects," says Ziccardi, whose eponymous firm is getting ready to launch a line of Newport Beach-meets-India luxury furniture.

### AREO

When Ziccardi is in search of casual home accessories like books, mirrors or vases, she heads to Areo, where she gives in to feverish impulse buying of the items she loves: local jewelry lines, stellar stationery and the (secret) stock of seashells. "They're hand-selected, with specimens of



**TREASURE TROVE:** Need found objects fast? Designer Brooke Ziccardi gets her fill at Trove in North Laguna.

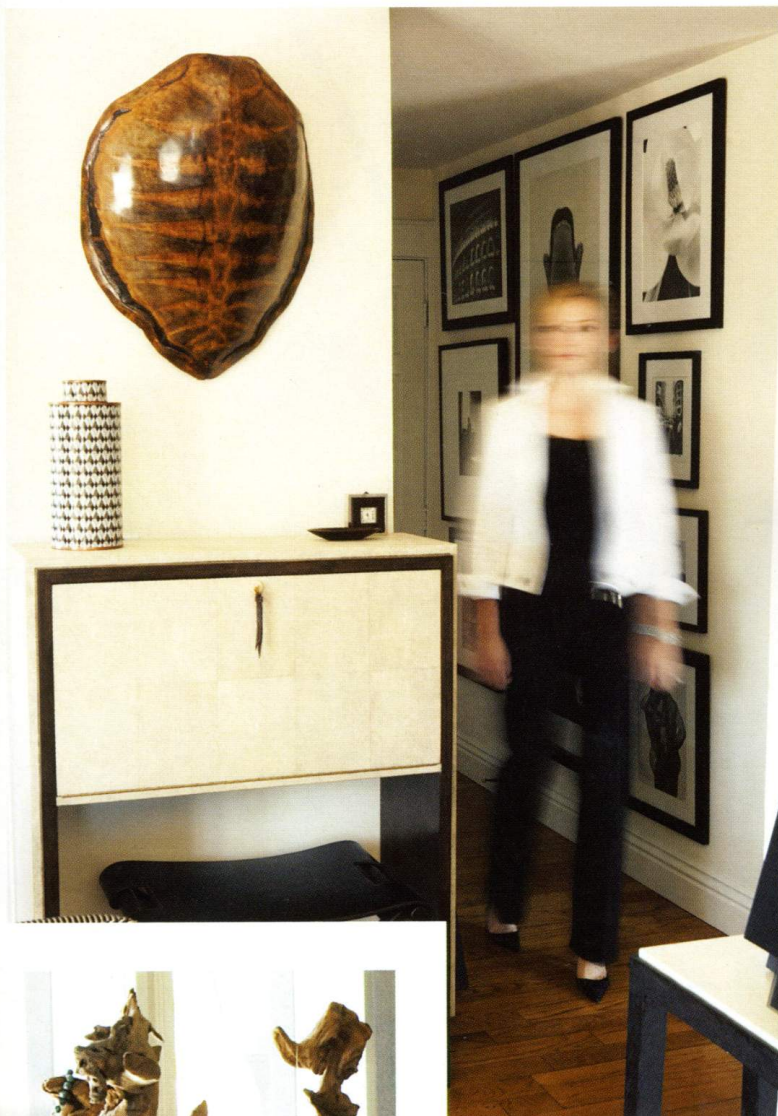
non-endangered seashells from all over the world. I love the green urchins, which look great in a glass cylinder on a shelf mixed with tarantellas in another." *Areo, 207 Ocean Ave., Laguna Beach, 949.376.0535.*

### ARIS

Coco Chanel once said, "Luxury begins where necessity ends." And, upon arrival at Aris, it's clear why owner Trey Russell has this quote emblazoned on his storefront's window. A recent addition to North Laguna's growing strip of home décor stores, Russell fled Artisanco to be the captain of his own chicer-than-thou ship at Aris, where the "less is more" philosophy reigns supreme. And where else in O.C. can you find Jonathan Adler, Missoni Home and R & Y Augousti stingray furniture all under one roof? Ziccardi says she's all about Anne Ricketts' bronze statue. "Anne is a self-taught artist; both

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**LA VIDA LAGUNA:** Clockwise from bottom left: Driftwood accents and chic touches at Aris; bungalow beauty in @home.



and paisleys. "I love the mix-and-match linen and fabric collections which are inspired by vintage florals and mod geometrics," she says. "It's beachy Bohemian that's all produced seasonally." *Lala*, 1113 S. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach, 949.464.9220.

#### MADISON SQUARE

The alfresco café at Madison Square is a must, but one must not overlook the outdoor furnishings—think weathered busts and birdcages. "It is so nice to sit outside there, and the special landscaping and personalized consulting service that is offered helps people develop really well-planned outdoor environments." *Madison Square*, 320 N. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach, 949.494.0137.

#### @ HOME

Packed with 18th-century spirit bottles culled from a shipwreck and shell-mounted like ancient artifacts, this little bungalow screams "Laguna." Local art mingles with Hermès-orange lacquered tables, and take note: Ziccardi says stock changes quickly. *@home*, 1144 N. Coast Hwy., 949.715.1633.

#### TROVE

"Trove is vintage décor at its finest," says Ziccardi, "all waiting patiently to be discovered and placed in their proper homes." Owners Heather and Bobby Lee are expanding the store to double its size this fall, which means even more space for all the era-spanning furnishings, lighting, and textiles. *Trove*, 1233 N. Coast Hwy., 949.376.4640.

#### TUVALU

Boasting the vaulted ceilings of a Polynesian resort lobby, Tuvalu is brimming with island-themed décor and tropical indulgences for the home and bath—but don't fret, there's no aloha overdose here. Tuvalu (meaning "trade winds warming the island") stocks acacia hardwood from Hawaii, cute wooden beach signs and Palecek light fixtures—décor that has a casual elegance, Ziccardi says. "This is the ideal venue to shop for whimsical accessories." *Tuvalu*, 295 Forest Ave., Laguna Beach, 949.497.3202. ■

...CONTINUED her realist and abstract pieces capture the body beautifully," she says. *Aris*, 1155 N. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach, 949.497.8300.

#### ARTISANCE

Ziccardi visits Artisanice to stock up on Laguna glass artist Caleb Siemon's ornate pieces, which

are created in the old Italian tradition. (See this issue's story on Siemon.) "Many of my clients enjoy traveling to Venice to pick out unique glass pieces from Murano, so Artisanice is just a tad bit closer for us to shop," she says with a laugh. *Artisanice*, 278 Beach St., Laguna Beach, 949.494.0687.

#### THE BLACK IRIS

"This has got to be one of the most sophisticated fresh flower shops in Laguna," Ziccardi says of the Black Iris. "I've used this florist boutique when staging my photo shoots in the area. They have really rare, illusive flowers, like Torch Gingers and Garden of Eden heliconia." *The Black Iris*, 2950 S. Coast Hwy., Laguna Beach, 800.326.2882.

#### LALA

Designer Kerry Cassill's Lala boutique is a Laguna Beach staple, where the stylish beach set (you know the type) goes to stock up on her colorful and super-soft bedding collections, which come in Boho patterns of prints