

new kind of island living

EMBRACING JAMAICAN AND EUROPEAN AESTHETICS, COUPLE CREATES A HOUSE OF CONTRASTS ON JAMAICA'S WEST COAST

HANOVER GRANGE IS A HOME OF HARMONIOUS INCONGRUITIES. IT IS THE DEFINITION OF AN OXYMORON.

A space where delicate steelmesh sculpted torsos blend with an iconic black and white photo of Edna Manley, and a colourful dancehall-inspired painting by Kristina Rowe. It is a seamless marriage of opposites, much like its owners.

Lounging on the Italian white leather sofas, on their expansive terrace, Jamaican-born and British-raised property investor Theresa Roberts and her British husband Andrew have just said goodbye to their houseguests—the former Jamaican High Commissioner to the UK Burchell Whiteman and his wife, Jolene. As they prepare for a new visitor the next day, they take time to relax a little, and enjoy the tranquility.

The story of Hanover Grange began during a trip to the island three years ago that surreptitiously turned into a house-hunting expedition—albeit at first without Andrew's knowledge. "I thought we were coming to relax," he says, "but then a driver would appear every morning to show us another piece of land. Now, I am a bit slow, but after three days, I got the picture." The couple decided on Tryall Club, and after an arduous legal process, building began one year later. However, building restrictions at Tryall; complexities of organizing construction and the shipping of furniture from London; and a very specific design philosophy were just some of the elements that defined the two-year building project. Theresa was adamant that she wanted to create a home that was unlike anything else in Jamaica, one that would elevate island living. In fact, Andrew adds, "Theresa's only comment on the plans that I showed her, was 'Can you make it bigger?'" In essence, this 15,000-square-foot home would represent much more than a simple space for holidaying. It would be a glamorous marriage of all her passions—her family, entertaining, and art.

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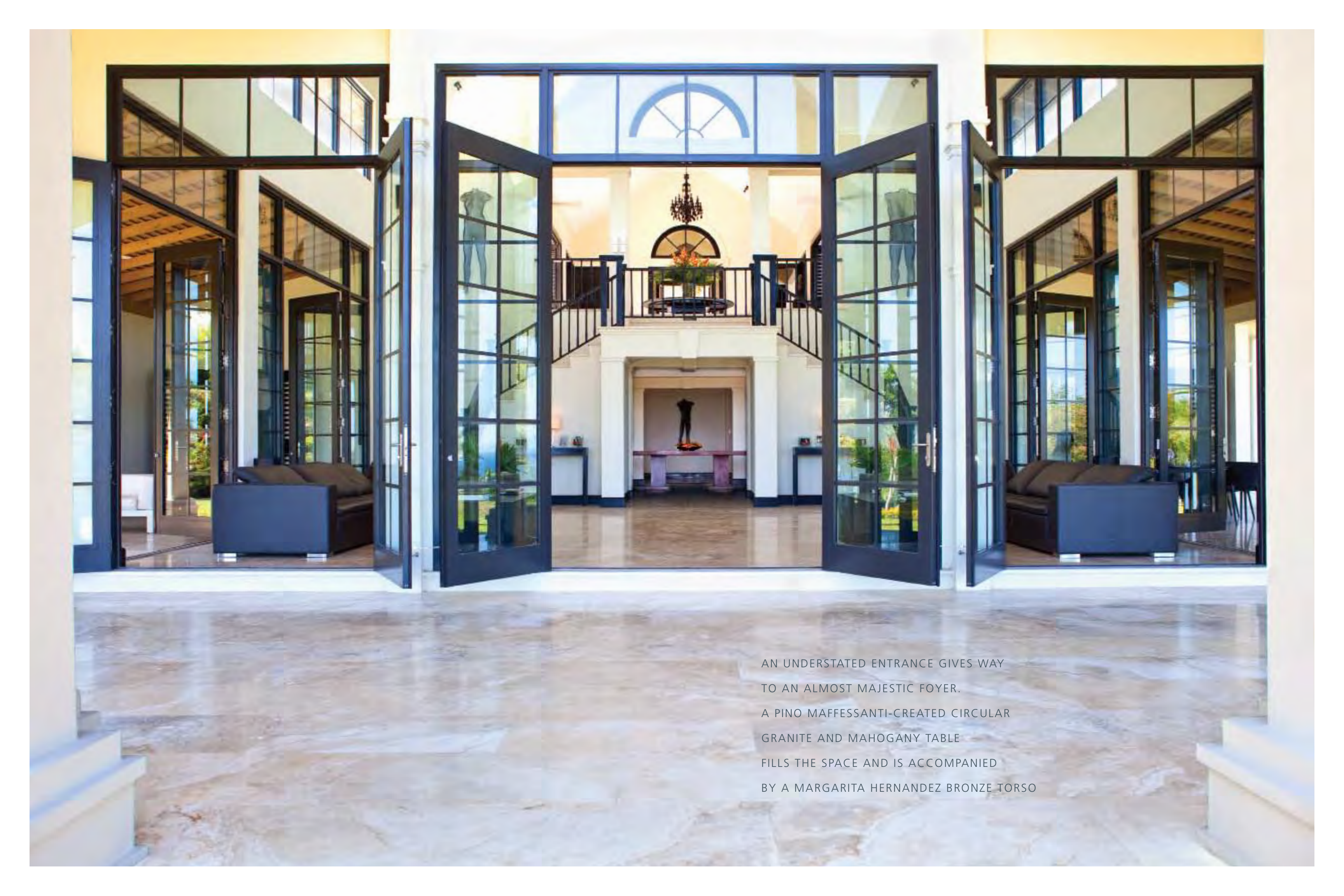


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WRITER LEISHA CHEN YOUNG
PHOTOGRAPHER PAUL STOPPI

A wide-angle photograph of a luxurious, multi-story foyer. The entrance is dominated by a large, dark-framed glass door that is open, revealing a bright, airy interior. The floor is made of large, light-colored stone tiles. In the center of the foyer, a circular table with a granite top and mahogany base holds a bronze sculpture of a torso. The background features a mezzanine level with a black metal railing and a chandelier hanging from the ceiling. The overall atmosphere is one of elegance and grandeur.

AN UNDERSTATED ENTRANCE GIVES WAY
TO AN ALMOST MAJESTIC FOYER.
A PINO MAFFESSANTI-CREATED CIRCULAR
GRANITE AND MAHOGANY TABLE
FILLS THE SPACE AND IS ACCOMPANIED
BY A MARGARITA HERNANDEZ BRONZE TORSO



THE HOUSE IS DESIGNED SO THAT YOU CAN SEE THROUGH THE LARGE GLASS ENTRANCE DOORS RIGHT ACROSS TO WALL-TO-WALL GLASS SLIDING DOORS THAT OPEN UP ONTO THE DECK, STRAIGHT ONTO AN INFINITY POOL, THE BEACH AND THE TURQUOISE WATERS OF NORTH SOUND BEYOND

ABOVE Open floor plan and floor-to-ceiling glass doors and windows deliver views that stretch beyond living room, all the way to the ocean
RIGHT Open terrace, outfitted with white Italian leather couches, draws on best of its Caribbean locale



That marriage plays out throughout the house. An understated entrance gives way to an almost majestic foyer. A Pino Maffessanti-created circular granite and mahogany table fills the space and is accompanied by a Margarita Hernandez bronze torso. Then you descend into an open living room flooded with natural sunlight streaming in through the floor-to-ceiling windows—the expansive view welcomes you. A dual staircase winds downwards, while above, a spectacular black Schonbek Swarovski crystal chandelier dramatically fills the double-height ceiling living room.

Working side by side with Jamaican (by way of Italy) architect Nancy Maffessanti, Theresa shared her vision of creating a home that would be reflective of the location, but above anything, would reflect who they were as

a couple. “We wanted something different,” Theresa says, “not a holiday home, but a family home with a little English formality.” By formality, Theresa did not mean an air of detachment, but rather of sophistication not usually associated with a holiday home. Instead it would celebrate the luxury of space, and the beauty of clean architectural lines. And it would be white. Unlike typically colourful Jamaican villas, Hanover Grange is bathed in white, highlighted by black accent pieces such as black bathtubs and personalized black Ralph Lauren bath towels. Not only was this palette important aesthetically, but it was also a testament to the couple’s multi-racial status. “We are a black and white couple, so it was fitting that we would have a house with black and white elements,” Theresa says.



ABOVE Large custom-designed kitchen is seamless marriage of rich mahogany and sleek stainless steel.

Here, chef creates dishes using produce from property's gardens run on strict organic principles

RIGHT Outside dining area offers idyllic setting for entertaining family



This simple palette plays out in each of the six spacious bedroom suites, where crisp white linens and sheets join dark mahogany beds, nightstands and consoles, black louvre windows, and sleek brown daybeds and sofas. In homage to her Jamaican roots and love of art, each suite is named after a classic Jamaican artist, so you may find yourself staying in the Barrington Watson or even the Louise Bennett Suite. Drawing on its name, each room also features the work and a photograph of its namesake. The bathroom is an extension of the bedroom—spacious and minimally elegant, with black features. Outdoor space is incredibly important at Hanover Grange, and each bedroom has large french doors that open to private terraces. Natural sunlight floods each room, as it does the house, inviting the outside in.

This expression of outdoor living is perhaps best experienced on the terrace, overlooking the pool, and outwards towards the sea. Here, trade winds keep the house cool, while ceiling fans spin lazily. Aside from the white Italian sofas that line the terrace, the couple chose southern European-designed moulded plastic chairs and tables—optimum material to withstand the often harsh outdoor conditions. Most of the furniture was bought in the iconic London department store, Harrods, and shipped through Chaplins (a furniture store).

That Theresa and Andrew even have a terrace, adorned with Italian-designed furniture, in Jamaica, is a testament to Theresa's stubbornness. Having left the island at a young age, and moving to England, Theresa fell out of love after returning a few times during her youth to a Jamaica that she no longer remembered. It was her sister Josephine's involvement with the Jamaica Basic School Foundation (UK) that encouraged Theresa to get more involved with her birth country, and 10 years ago, she and her husband began travelling to Jamaica more frequently.

Whilst visiting, she rediscovered the beauty of the island, and specifically the vibrancy of its visual artistic culture. Adding Jamaican artists to her predominantly

European art collection, Theresa filled not only their house in London, but also their Georgian country home in Somerset, England, (aptly named The Grange) with classic Jamaican artists like Barrington Watson and Albert Huie. "At Hanover Grange, we thought to do the opposite," Andrew says, "and house the contemporary European collection here, but Theresa decided it was essential to have a space for Jamaican artists as well." The house now merges classic and contemporary Jamaican artists, as well as some contemporary European pieces.

A long corridor doubles as a gallery to showcase the contemporary Jamaican art collection. A red, life-size mixed-installation piece by Monique Lofters

LEFT Louise Bennett suite has direct garden and ocean views. On wall above bed is black and white photo of the Jamaican cultural icon at dinner party in London in 1980s

BELOW Spacious stone granite bathrooms with black accents and fixtures feature in each suite

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AND EACH BEDROOM HAS LARGE FRENCH DOORS
THAT OPEN TO PRIVATE TERRACES.
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AS IT DOES THE HOUSE, INVITING THE OUTSIDE IN





LEFT Guests are invited to cross infinity pool to intimate cabana, and enjoy magnificent view of the property

RIGHT Set against the backdrop of majestic Hanover Grange, swimming pool is perfect haven for soaking in Caribbean sunshine



dominates the main wall, supported by pieces by Khary Darby, Laura Hamilton, Michael “Flynn” Elliott, Christopher Irons, and Keisha Costello. Theresa’s love of contemporary art stems from her desire to forge relationships with those artists she collects.

British sculptor David Begbie is not only a celebrated artist, but also a close friend of the couple. His steelmesh figurative sculptures are displayed prominently throughout the house, and afford dramatic prominence in the design scope. Other European artists include Craig Wylie, Oleg Tolstoy, Sam Jackson, and James Gillick. The gallery leads into the dining room, an almost cavern-like space. A mammoth 30-seater locally made mahogany dining table that is set in two pieces offers the perfect entertaining space, whether for an intimate or large dinner. Flat screens are embedded into the wall for future video installation projects.

The house may be modern in design, but the way its owners live is very much from the traditional vein. The house sits on four acres, and Theresa is excited about the vegetables and fruit gardens. June plum, pineapple, breadfruit, guava, watermelon, carrots, ochro, ackee, pak choi, green banana, pomegranate, tomatoes, mangoes, pumpkin among others are grown here, and they are watched over by the house’s knowledgeable and eloquent butler Andre Gardner. Theresa hopes that once the garden is fully established, they will be completely self-sufficient.

THIS EXPRESSION OF OUTDOOR LIVING IS PERHAPS BEST EXPERIENCED ON THE TERRACE, OVERLOOKING THE POOL, AND OUTWARDS TOWARDS THE SEA. HERE, TRADE WINDS KEEP THE HOUSE COOL, WHILE CEILING FANS SPIN LAZILY

Alongside the fruit and vegetables, grow local flowers such as Jamaican ginger, and hibiscus, which are used inside the house.

Back on the terrace, the Robertses still enjoy their view. Built from the heart, and very much rooted in Jamaican tradition, culture, and way of living, Hanover Grange is Theresa and Andrew’s way of demonstrating what is possible in Jamaica. This “new kind of island living is one that can compete anywhere internationally,” says Andrew. Yet somehow it finds its home, comfortably, on Jamaica’s west coast.M