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Books

REVIEWED BY KATHY BRYANT



Beth Webb: An Eye For Beauty Rooms That Speak To The Senses

By Beth Webb

Written with Judith Nasatir, Foreword by Clinton Smith

"Light is essential to life, and it's one of my absolutes for transforming a house into at home," states Atlanta interior designer Beth Webb in her new book. *Beth Webb: An Eye for Beauty* is a testament to her love of light since it suffuses the book's 12 featured residences located from Atlanta to Costa Rica. Walls are painted in soft colors, natural light streams through windows and floor coverings complement the soft ambience. These rooms do speak to the senses and most have an aura of casual luxury since Webb feels that interior design involves much that isn't seen as well as beautiful things you can. She cites Marcel Proust as an influence with his idea of marrying the sensory experience to the remembrance of things past.

Her philosophy that beauty in a home should appeal to all the senses is beautifully illustrated throughout the book. Divided into chapters extolling sight, touch, sound, taste and scent, the book shows how to turn a room into a sensory delight. Her style is fairly minimal, with the accents on specific art works, floral arrangements and furnishings. These are not fussy rooms, but, instead, rooms that are inviting and airy and cleverly layered with her clients' past and present. Hints of her Southern heritage with its accent on home and land abound and it is during her early life on a farm in Alabama that she learned the elegance of simplicity. The farm was built in 1920 and it is that period that she is still drawn to.

"In my own spaces, my priority is always to create order, beauty and peace, a place where I'm able to breathe deeply and rest my mind," Webb says. The same is true of the rooms in this book.

Beth Webb: An Eye for Beauty
Rooms That Speak To The Senses

By Beth Webb, Written with Judith Nasatir, Foreword by Clinton Smith
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TOP LEFT Vintage Gracie wallpaper panel adorns living room. **TOP MIDDLE** Gentleman's office has shiplap panels. **TOP RIGHT** Contrasts heighten the sense of touch. **ABOVE** Antique antler shelves add form and texture.