

entertaining: newbie style

Casbah Cool

JEANNIE FRAISE STYLES

A MODERN MOROCCAN BBQ

WITH A NESTING THEME AT THE
THOMAS FOGARTY ESTATE.

Photography by Natalie Wi

Video by James Burkart





It began with an idea, and Lea had one. A really good one. “I want to show our readers an alternative way to barbeque,” Lea McIntosh explains. “I envision a low table, with lots of cushions for casual seating and the hostess at the head of the table with a small, portable grill right next to her. Then she can be a part of the party—not stuck behind the scenes cooking. I picture Casbah-like entertaining for the dog days of summer—laid-back...lots of laughter and conversation...pass the food as it comes off the grill and nosh all night.”

ALRIGHT, LET'S MAKE IT HAPPEN!

We needed a spectacular location—someplace dreamy and exclusive—and found what we were looking for at the Thomas Fogarty Winery & Vineyards. “It is so intimate and isolated from the world,” says Jodi Murphy. “It was as though this was our private villa, perched high above the clouds overlooking the Mediterranean Sea...the estate evokes such imaginings!”





FOR THE TABLE, we discovered Jeannie Fraise from a blog post about her hip and playful décor shop, Lotus Bleu. Jeannie's signature style is a vivacious use of bright colors and a mix of graphic patterns. We knew she was the one to make Lea's vision materialize... the one who could clearly create a modernscape with a Moroccan splash.

Jeannie chose a hot-pink-and-steel-gray color palette with soft, green accents. She and her design assistant, Allie Bruch, built the dining area layer by layer, beginning with a green-and-white-striped dhurrie rug by Madeline Weinrib. They rented and pushed together two children's banquet tables (6'L x 30"W x 21"H) and used a gray tablecloth from La Tavola Fine Linen Rental topped with a printed cotton tablecloth by John Robshaw. The duo added placemats, dishware, napkins, flatware, cushions, and votives using items available through Lotus Bleu, including pieces by Madeline Weinrib, John Robshaw, Muskhane, Katherine Rally, Thomas Paul, and glassybaby. They placed a colorful collection of Lotus Bleu lacquerware (Jeannie designs these and manufactures them in Vietnam) and sprinkled around small side tables from Oomph and Casamidy to hold nibbles and wine, so nothing was far from reach.

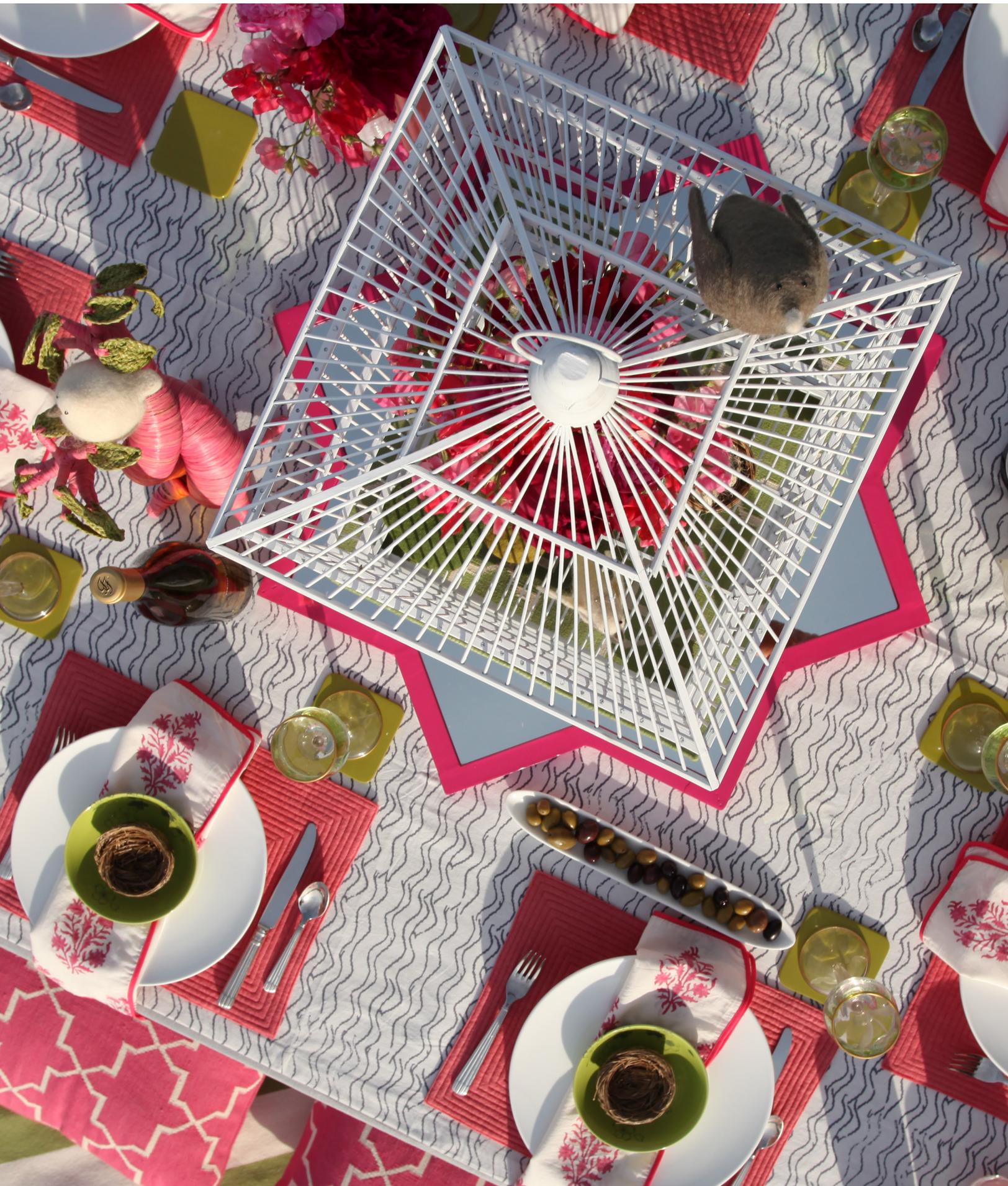
Knowing this was for Nesting Newbies, clever Jeannie incorporated a “nesting” theme using birds, nests, and a birdcage centerpiece. She illustrates that one can have a combination of “themes” executed in “non-themey” ways—and Jeannie’s themes are never cutesy and always stylish. Amy Burke of Amy Burke Designs did the flowers using sweet peas, peonies, and gloriosa lilies...simple, lovely arrangements that set off the whimsical glass bird vases.

JEANNIE FRAISE STYLES -MODERN MOROCCAN BBQ- AT THOMAS FOGARTY ESTATE



Table Designer: Jeannie Fraise
Design Assistant: Allie Bruch
Video: James Burkart







NOW...WHO TO EXPERIENCE THIS WITH? We invited a few of San Francisco's new media dynamos to enjoy the day with us so we could get to know each other outside of the blogosphere. "They stepped in as our models, helping us capture the essence of our Casbah-grill party," Jodi explains. "It was so great...from the moment they arrived, there was instant connection, and everyone actively engaged in conversation. Many knew each other online, but had never met face-to-face."





It began with an idea. A really good one.
And it ended with a group of new friends—who
have already set a reunion dinner date.





meet

**Karen Olivia
Alkemie**



"Lifestyle and design are what it's all about. I blog because it's a good outlet for my obsessive nature and because it's fun to share ideas."

**Anne Sage
The City Sage**



"I started my blog as a way to explore my many passions—interiors, fashion, entertaining—because try as I might, I couldn't squeeze them all into a single job description. I keep going today, not only because blogging is addictive, but because I cherish the community and friendships I've made along my journey!"

**Julia Walsh
Casa Sugar**



"CasaSugar is the home-and-design site in the PopSugar Network's stable of 16 lifestyle and entertainment sites, and the place to indulge in all of your home-related hankerings. From up-and-coming interior design trends—to décor tips and tricks for modernizing the home—to advice on tackling do-it-yourself projects, CasaSugar offers a daily dose of design ideas and inspiration."

**Carleigh Lowe
Remodelista**



"I am really excited to be working for Remodelista! The website is such a great resource; the products we feature are very carefully edited to help you achieve an effortless, chic look for your home."

**Melissa Davis
Ruby Press**



"Having been a fashion editor for 13 years of my life, it would have been hard to completely turn off those editorial tendencies when I transitioned to publicist/business owner! The Ruby Press Blog is a great creative outlet for me, and I love having my staff contribute as well—I think this keeps it fresh."

**Emily Goligoski
The San Franista**



"I have fun writing The San Franista, as it gives me the opportunity to provide arts and culture commentary about the Bay Area and beyond."

**Jennifer Jones
Niche Interiors**



"Creativity is more fun when it can be shared—I love being able to instantly showcase new and innovative design ideas. Blogging allows me to informally connect, sharing my excitement for new sources, newly completed projects, and unique interiors."

the bloggers

Rebecca Orlov
loving.living.small • Sweetline Agency



"Although I started my blog 2 ½ years ago as a digital inspiration for my own magazine tears, I quickly learned that many other people were living the same way. Part small-space solutions, part design inspiration, and all about emotionally embracing your space, my blog has become a community for small-space dwellers."

Jeanine Hays
AphroChic • AphroChic Shop



"The AphroChic blog is a visual conversation between me and the reader about modern, soulful, and stylish interiors. It serves to inspire and motivate others to create beautiful spaces truly reflecting who they are."

Kathryn Hill
Apartment Therapy | The Kitchn



"I love blogging for Apartment Therapy's food/kitchen design blog, The Kitchn. I enjoy cooking, traveling, food photography, and kitchen design, so it's a place where I can combine all my passions."

Erin Feher
California Home + Design



"As a magazine journalist, it can be months before something cool I've stumbled upon finally appears in print. With the Editors' Blog at CHD, I have an instant outlet to tell people about upcoming events, a new product I just spotted, or news that will lose its relevance in a few days. Plus, the blog allows for so much more interaction, and I can be a part of a really passionate and talented community."

Lily Gahagan
7x7 Magazine



"I blog because there are so many beautiful, interesting, and unique things in the world that I want to share with everyone, and my voice would get hoarse if I didn't have a place to write them all down. Plus, blogging is more socially acceptable than shouting my love from the rooftops—more neighbor-friendly, too."

Lynn Goldfinger
Paris Hotel Boutique



"My blog is a companion to my online shop, Paris Hotel Boutique, which celebrates the glitz and glamour of a bygone era by offering vintage and antique finds. Blogging allows me to share my musings in the world of vintage: flea markets, tips on collecting, travel, trends, friends, and finds."



THOMAS FOGARTY WINERY & ESTATE offers sweeping views and an intimate setting for the perfect event. Thomas Fogarty, a former cardiovascular surgeon at Stanford University Medical Center, started home winemaking in the early 1970s in a small cabin on the current winery site, and by 1981 he had established a commercial winery that has grown to become one of the premiere vineyards in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Today, Thomas Fogarty Winery and Vineyards offers a very diverse, high-quality selection of award-winning California wines, including pinot noir, chardonnay, merlot, pinot gris, and more.

The mountaintop estate is as impressive as its wines. Sweeping views of the San Francisco Bay Area...a 4000 square foot pavilion...two indoor facilities with handcrafted detailing...river rock fireplace...indoor and outdoor kitchens...lily pad lake...beautiful gardens and vineyards... it's an ideal location for a wedding, business retreat, or milestone event. The Tasting Room is open for wine tasting every Wednesday through Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm. **650.851.6777, fogartywinery.com**

RESOURCES

SITE AND WINES: Thomas Fogarty Winery & Vineyards

TABLE STYLING: Jeannie Fraise and Allie Bruch, Lotus Bleu

TABLE LINEN: Tuscany in silver from La Tavola Fine Linen Rental

FLOWERS: Amy Burke Designs

MOROCCAN LEATHER POUF: Tazi Designs, Inc.

NESTS: Through floral supply stores

GREEN BOWLS, WHITE BOWLS, WHITE

KEBAB TRAYS: Kamei Restaurant Supply

GRILL: Weber® Q® 100 Gas Grill

GREEN WINEGLASSES, BIRDCAGE, PINK

BENCH, FELT BIRDS: Private collection

ALL ITEMS BELOW AVAILABLE THROUGH LOTUS BLEU

Lacquered round vases: Lotus Bleu—\$62

Lacquered round tray: Lotus Bleu—\$68

Faux bois log bolsters: Lotus Bleu—\$85

Striped 10' x 14' dhurrie carpet: Madeline Weinrib—\$1,625

Brooke- and zig zag-patterned woven cushions: Madeline Weinrib—\$250 each

Printed trimmed-cotton keri napkins:

Madeline Weinrib—\$24/pair

Star mirror: Casamidy—\$525

End tables: Almidy by Casamidy—\$575, Tini

Table II by Oomph—\$430

Glass votives: glassybaby—\$50 each*

Chick vases: Kanick Chung—\$120

Hanging Egg Planter: J Schatz—\$95

Felt turtle and mushrooms:

Muskhane—\$6-\$12 each

Felt quilted reversible placemats:

Muskhane—\$20 each

Tidal tablecloth in printed-cotton: John

Robshaw—\$120

Viridian printed-cotton lumbar pillow: John

Robshaw—\$60

Picchwai printed-cotton rose-star pillow:

John Robshaw—\$88

Garden Gate printed-cotton pillow:

Katherine Rally—\$68

The Birdcage printed-linen pillow: Thomas

Paul—\$100

**Special thanks to glassybaby for donating the shipping.*



lotus bleu

The one-of-a-kind interior design destination.

You can't help but feel happy when you walk into Jeannie Fraise's Lotus Bleu, even on a foggy San Francisco summer day! The store is filled with modern, well-priced, colorful, and graphic-patterned home décor for the discerning, worldly, and eco-conscious consumer. Jeannie handpicks vintage midcentury furniture pieces and updates them in her favorite bold graphics, including the green lines from Mod Green and Amenity. You can find bright, stylish, and whimsical accessories from Madeline Weinrib, Hammocks & High Tea, Muskhane, glassybaby, and others. The store also features lacquerware that Jeannie custom designs and produces in Vietnam.

And for those who need help pulling it all together, Jeannie's interior design studio is located right next door!

Lotus Bleu Home Décor & Interior Design
325 Hayes Street, San Francisco, California
415.861.2700, lotusbleudesign.com