

# INSPIREDESIGN<sup>®</sup>

innovative vision for today's hotel

“AUSTRALIA IS ONE OF THE  
MOST **BEAUTIFUL** AND **COMFORTABLE**  
COUNTRIES I HAVE **VISITED**.”

—KIM COOMBS







# KIM COOMBS

Since founding her company in 2002, Kim Coombs, president, Orlando-based KBCO Design, has worked on projects for clients such as Disney and Universal Studios. However, she considers putting her finishing touches on Versailles, the largest residence in the U.S., located in Windermere, FL—owned by Westgate Resorts founder David Siegel and his wife Jackie—one of her career highlights. It was featured in the TV series, “Queen of Versailles Reigns Again,” which aired earlier this year on Discovery+.

“Since this project was being aired on TV, it gave viewers full exposure to the complicated process of interior design,” Coombs said. “Viewers not only saw extremely luxurious materials and exquisite period antiques being used, but also the challenges of designing around preexisting conditions of a home.”

**A / Museums**

“Museums all over the world blow me away— architecturally and with their unique collections on display,” she said. “I love the Vatican because of the intriguing juxtaposition of various architectural styles and modern art. One of my favorite examples is the Sphere Within Sphere, or Sfera con sfera, a bronze sculpture by Italian sculptor Arnaldo Pomodoro that decorates the center of the Cortile della Pigna.”

**B / Clients** “We are so fortunate to work with clients who inspire our firm every day,” she said. “Working for clients such as Disney and Universal is a truly unique experience that requires extreme creativity. One of the most creative jobs we’ve recently completed is VooDoo Doughnut at Universal

CityWalk in Orlando. It’s such a fun space.”

**C / Hotels** “As a designer in the hospitality industry, hotels are always a big influence,” Coombs said. “There are so many amazing properties out there. For small and quaint, I love The Cameros Inn in Sonoma, CA. For uniqueness, the opening of Equinox in Hudson Yards in New York City was truly fascinating.”

**D / Travel** “Traveling to other countries has always been incredibly inspiring to me, not only for the differences in culture, but for the unique architecture and beauty of the landscapes,” Coombs said. “Australia is one of the most beautiful and comfortable countries I have visited. I love this snapshot of me in front

of Byron Bay, a cute little artsy beach town just south of Brisbane on the west coast.”

**E / Family** “My family is my ultimate inspiration,” she said. “My daughter, who is currently creating Broadway-style costumes for fun, is such an inspiration. Where did she and I get our talent? My mom. She’s an artist who had us all making art out of our food since we were young.”

**F / Books** I love books—design books, healthy-living books, longevity books; my collection is extensive,” Coombs said. “Four books that I recently purchased and I’m loving are ‘The Illumination Art of Eric Guillon,’ ‘Le Château de Versailles’ and ‘Architectural Digest at 100, A Century of Style’”

