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A hula dancer wall covering by Crezana, pineapple-inspired pendants by the Urban Electric Co., and a Rolf Brandt artwork lend whimsy to the entryway of a Southampton, New York, cottage with interiors by Rita Konig and architecture by Gil Schafer.

Warm Welcome

Without the luxury of grand proportions, some entryways demand more subtle maneuvers. When architect Gil Schafer built a cedar-shingled vacation home in Southampton, New York, to resemble the area's abundance of colonial-style cottages, he and interior designer Rita Konig wanted the house "to have two architectural characters: one formal, one informal," he explains. The entry hall's Federal-style moldings and classic wainscoting establish the former; Konig wittily subverted them with pineapple-leaf-topped lanterns and grass cloth wallpaper printed with hula dancers.

More than a visual foil, the hall also coaxes guests inward and beyond with a sweeping view of the grounds by landscape architect Edmund Hollander, who organized a swimming pool, dining terrace, and lush plantings around a 150-year-old copper beech tree. "This is a house for fun and relaxation when the family is together and at play," says Konig, who believes transitional rooms invite adventurous decorating. "Hallways are spaces you move through rather than spend time in, so I'd encourage putting patterns on the walls, which always warms them up."

Amara console by MADE GOODS; *madegoods.com*

Fernhurst globe lantern by VAUGHAN; *vaughandesigns.com*

Holbrook director's chair by RALPH LAUREN HOME; *ralphlauren.com*

Pocket lamp No. 3 by DUMAIS MADE for NICKEY KEHOE; *nickeykehoe.com*

Squire's Topiary wallpaper from VOYSEY HOUSE VOLUME I by MORRIS & CO.; *wmorrisandco.com*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: ERIC PIASECKI/OTTO; COURTESY OF MORRIS & CO.; COURTESY OF NICKEY KEHOE; COURTESY OF RALPH LAUREN HOME; COURTESY OF MADE GOODS