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At Mel Bean Interiors, experience and collaboration yield personalized, engaging designs

For interior designer Mel Bean, inspiration is everywhere. Whether the play of light in nature or encounters with cultures around the world, she and the team at Mel Bean Interiors bring together keen aesthetic sensibilities and clients' lived experiences to create spaces that effuse a sophisticated, singular essence.

"Our job is to understand our clients' lives and desires and translate that into a design," says Bean. "No two projects are the same because no two people are alike."

Whether a primary residence in Oklahoma or vacation home across the country, collaboration internally and with clients is key to crafting tailored interiors, as is a refined process that ensures seamless communication from conception through completion. Establishing mutual trust often results in creativity around every corner.

A recent remodel of a historic Tulsa home best illustrates the firm's client-centric approach. "The family has an extensive art collection, and it's always evolving," says Bean. "Their home has beautiful historic details that serve as an incredible backdrop, so we approached it as art."

Integral to fusing the home's traditional bones with the clients' modern collection was identifying furniture and finishes with a contemporary yet timeless bent. An emerald green runner adorned with slender cougars climbs up the entryway stairs—"a declaration of the playfulness you'll experience throughout the home," notes Bean. The adjacent formal living room juxtaposes organic shapes with symmetrical architecture for a whimsical yet luxe air. Upstairs, the primary bedroom embodies a similar narrative, with geometric art complementing modern furniture.

"We wanted the home to be an engaging experience," says Bean. "Every selection is like an art piece that tells their story."

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: A bubble sofa and organically shaped burl wood coffee table create sophisticated whimsy in this historic Tulsa home's formal living room. An emerald green, cougar-printed runner lines the entryway stairs to continue the art-inspired motif. The primary bedroom plays with geometric shapes in the rug and lighting. Interior designer Mel Bean. Interior photos by Kacey Gilpin Photography. Headshot by Chloe Reed Photography.

