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# GLOBAL GEM

FOR THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL DINING BY DESIGN EVENT FOR DIFFA (DESIGN INDUSTRIES FOUNDATION FIGHTING AIDS), THE TEAM FROM DEKAR DESIGN DREAMED UP AN ITALIAN PALAZZO-INSPIRED LOUNGE THAT LET GUESTS FEEL RIGHT AT HOME.

WRITTEN BY ELIZABETH HUEBSCH

**Tell us about your dining space.** Inspired by the late architect and designer Renzo Mongiardino, we created a dining room that evokes the mood of his Baroque palazzo in Genoa, Italy, but with our own modern twist. Our goal was to make the space feel like you were entering someone's home. We achieved this through the layering of Italian and Indian patterns amongst the more modern elements of the space. Mongiardino said it best: "Illusion comes into being as part of the pleasure."

**Let's talk about the furnishings and fabrics that you sourced.** The jumping-off point for this warm, moody space was a multi-textured dining table expertly crafted in leather and stone by the natural quartz experts at Cambria. Next, we turned to [Arte International](#) for the wallcovering to add depth and a feeling of extravagance. Our friends at Kravet provided an assortment of exotic textiles for upholstering the pillows, banquette and canopy, while Hubbardton Forge lighting helped contribute to the overall jewel-box effect.



Finally, a collection of artwork from Beloosesky Gallery gives the space a personal touch.

**And those table settings?** Essential to the design was making the tabletop feel layered, so we mixed octagonal chargers with cabbage plates for a vintage feel. The brass flatware and glassware with a gilded edge also nod to an old-world aesthetic.



Designers Caroline Grant (above, at left) and Dolores Suarez created a space for this year's Dining by Design event that was both welcoming and stylish. Place settings by The Tabletop Company (far left) and a banquette by Cambria (shown left with pillows in Kravet fabric) helped create the refined yet whimsical look.

**There's such a level of polished sophistication in this design, as well as comfort.** Details are what give a design authenticity and character. The wraparound banquette in concert with the patterned pillows does just that while still being functional for dining. We always look to create authentic spaces that feel lived-in. The idea was to create an environment and backdrop for a fabulous dinner party.