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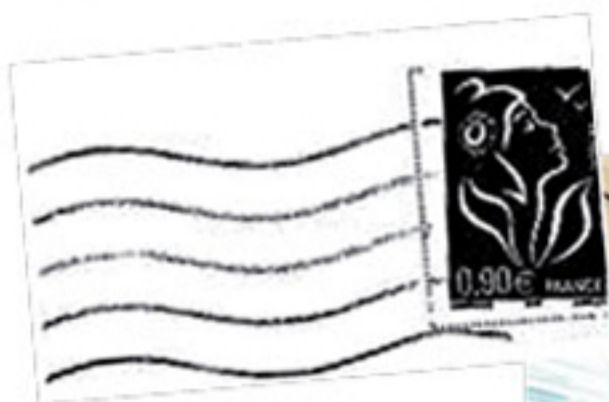
Part I of III

HOLLY CLEGG'S
SUMMER RECIPES
EASE ARTHRITIS

POSTCARDS

from the World of Design

BY RACHEL CANNON LEWIS



Greetings...

From Houston, Texas!

The heat is relentless this time of year, which got me thinking: What better way to keep your cool (so to speak) than with a calming room like this dining room by Amanda Carol Interiors? This serenely designed space is the visual equivalent of a refreshing glass of water on a sweltering summer day.

Contrary to popular belief, a monochromatic color scheme like the one shown here is not easy to execute. The designer, Amanda Eck masterfully resists the urge to bring in loud accent color, which results in a very soothing space. You'll notice that the only color in the room comes from the three manicured boxwood topiaries down the center of the table – a *genius* move on her part, as plants act as a neutral in interiors, and these not only add texture but



echo the shape of the backs of the side dining chairs.

And what about the bold stripes on those chairs? Make no mistake – they are vertical for a reason. They are all pointing to the gorgeous chandelier, which is a major statement in this room. The painted wood frame and beads repeat the driftwood color palette, and the shape continues to reinforce the circular motif of the boxwoods and chairs. The two head chairs are all business with straight lines that mimic the stripes on the side chairs, all

of which unite without committing to a set of matching chairs.

Eck skillfully steers clear of loud accessory items, opting instead to ground the room with a natural fiber rug and a gothic-inspired console. A simple coral fragment and statement mirror are all that are needed to finish out this composed space. A true study in the “less is more” philosophy, this timeless dining room is a welcome respite from the soaring heat outdoors.

Until next time...

Rachel



Known for her livable luxe interiors, Rachel Cannon Lewis focuses on reinventing classic design by maintaining an emphasis on simplicity and color. She finds inspiration in art, design and architecture from all over the world. Follow Rachel at www.pinterest.com/sohausinteriors.