

## SAN ANTONIO

TEXAS

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OCTOBER 14, 2015 | 4 NOTES

## HOW TO: FLORAL ART AND INTERIORS BY MELISSA MORGAN

A change of season and color are felt within the tucked away space of M Interiors. We're greeted by a *four-foot-from-the-floor* evergreen bird cage and across the way, next to a rectangular painting of a yellow-green landscape, an arrangement of Chinese, orange hues of flower and French accents. As always, we are completely charmed and mesmerized by the cultural influences here. Melissa Morgan is intuitive, almost magically, to understand the chemistry between structures, tips for creating space & grandness, as well as color study.

A vintage *Floral Art in America* coffee table book we picked up and collected a few weeks ago inspired the project. It was an easy match, to ask Melissa to arrange a fall floral guide:

## Forage for Foliage

- 1 bunch of Micro Eucalyptus
- 1 bunch of Red Gum Eucalyptus
- 1 bunch of tinted Solidago
- 1 bunch of Ilex Berry
- 2 bunches of Tulips



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Melissa handed us her list from SA Flower Co., and explained the floral art by a direction of color: the blue-green shade of the Eucalyptus, two different kind. She touched, and felt, and reminded herself of the process, something trickier to recall than to do, for her. A harvest of warm solidago at the top, and a mixture of interesting orange ilex berries, normally red. We learned a simple color palette is what contributes to richness, and that difference is more dimensional in height and texture. The list wasn't so long, and the price wasn't so high. It was affordable, and all very approachable.

### Create the Arrangement

*"Don't use a flower vase."* Melissa enlightened our imagination to pick up something extraordinary from around the home, unique, like her wide porcelain vases. And encouraged that if the vase wasn't tall enough, thick books will do underneath. She loosely combined the autumn foliage of berry and 'floppy' eucalyptus into the taller vase to add height on top of her antique furniture. A trick to the expansive beauty: Careful placement of the flowers in front of the mirror to broaden the entire arrangement. The tulips, a special, bright touch, complimented the larger autumnal theme delicately.



We lingered to sit and admire a cohesive style, while she described her appreciation for something green and gardened, to liven up a room. Another recommendation for easy refresh and replenish: orchids, or accessible: bringing in something from the backyard, a handful from your pittosporum hedge.

Melissa Morgan is working on several installations through the end of this year, and traveling as always for special pieces only she discovers. Look for M Interiors in our Volume 2, launching this November.



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