

Southern home

*Chic
Retreats*

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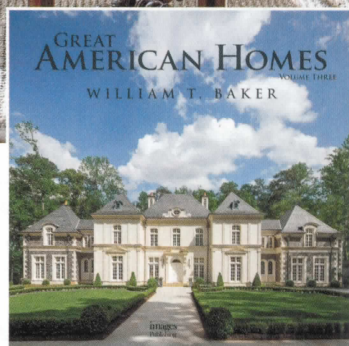
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GETAWAY HOMES
FROM BEACH
TO MOUNTAINS



American Idol

TEXT MARGARET ZAINY ROUX

IN VOLUME THREE OF HIS ACCLAIMED GREAT AMERICAN HOMES SERIES, ATLANTA-BASED ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNER WILLIAM T. BAKER SHOWCASES 14 SOUTHERN HOMES INSPIRED BY CLASSIC AMERICAN STYLE AND DESIGNED FOR CONTEMPORARY LIVING.

William T. Baker's work clearly reflects the aspirations of the proverbial American dream. With a keen eye for scale and proportion coupled with an extraordinary penchant for detail, craftsmanship, and construction, the Atlanta-based architectural designer has built his 33-year career on designing comfortable, classically-appointed homes that honor historical aesthetics while embracing the 21st-century lifestyle.

Recently, Baker released his highly anticipated fifth book, *Great American Homes: Volume Three*, the latest installment in Image Publishing's successful Classicist series. Commencing with a poignant introduction by renowned landscape architect Kenneth Lemm and culminating with a comprehensive biographical profile on Baker, this magnificent, richly photographed monograph showcases 14 distinct projects across Georgia and the South, including sprawling manors, wooded hillside retreats, historic

homes, and gracious estates. The 250-plus page hardcover features a chapter for each unique home that includes a complete floor plan and landscape plan, along with stunning interior and exterior photos. Insightful commentary describes how the architectural designer freshly reinterprets historical style while maintaining a seamless and gracious transition between indoor and outdoor spaces. In each chapter, Baker also points out how each design conceivably enhances the living experience for homeowners while complementing their personal style and their private collections of art, antiques, and furnishings.

"These special houses embody all the elements of the great American home," Baker says. "It is not size that matters, but rather the total package—a well-thought architectural plan, a cohesive interior design, and a landscape design that complements both. I am pleased to say that the houses I create will look as fresh 30 years from now as they do today. It is a real testament to their design that they will withstand the test of time and live well for their current families and for generations of families to come. Ultimately, this is the true test for architecture and great American homes."

