



SOFT SURROUNDINGS

This lush design features an array of premium flowers (including oft-requested garden roses and ranunculus) in a soothing palette of blush, peach, celadon and cornflower. "It's a perfect way to say congratulations for a special celebration, such as a new job, house or baby," Gang said. "It's also a great 'just because' gift." Recreating this design this summer? Gang recommends subbing the hyacinth with a pastel dahlia. Design time: 20-30 minutes. Wholesale costs: \$63. Suggested retail price: \$275.

CALIENTE COUTURE

An example of Tropical Nouveau, this design blends romantic 'Free Spirit' roses with more exotic-looking blooms, such as Monstera leaves, Robellini palms and a Phalaenopsis orchid. "We love this style for a corporate lobby or event," Gang said. "We also have a lot of clients with sleek and modern homes," she added. "It would be perfect for them." Design time: 20 minutes. Wholesale costs: \$88. Suggested retail price: \$380.

CELEBRATORY CENTERPIECES

> No doubt about it, this is an uneasy, bewildering time. At press time, the threat of COVID-19 brought normal life to a halt, canceling all gatherings with more than 10 people, closing schools and businesses and introducing a new phrase into the national lexicon: social distancing.

But as the adage goes, this too shall pass. When it does, there will be celebrations galore. Weddings will be back on. Babies will be born. There will be birthday and anniversary parties, bar and bat mitzvahs, fundraising shindigs, corporate events and countless dinners with friends and

family who were forced to be apart for way too long. Be ready for the merriment with some fashionable floral arrangements that clients won't be able to resist. Here, Rachel Gang, owner and CEO of Helen Olivia Flowers in Alexandria, Virginia, shares two of her shop's best sellers, which she plans to resurrect once normalcy returns. 🌸

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