

LIVING

HOUSTON

DREAM TEAM

American Dream Builders star Nina Magon may have been eliminated from the NBC reality show's final episode in May, but the Houston designer still came out on top. In August, she announced her partnership with the show's winner, Chicago interior designer Lukas Machnik. "He and I were on separate teams, but we worked together several times. By the end of the show, we understood each other so well that I could finish his sentences," she says. It was a match made in heaven, both personally and professionally: "His work is the epitome of minimal and industrial, while I'm all about glamour," she says. "Together, it's a very strong combination." The dynam duo's Miami-based design firm, MN Studio, will be up and running this fo "Miami is all about color and glamou so we knew it would be a good fit," she explains. High-end residential properties, restaurants and boutique

hotels will be its focus. As far as what's next for Magon, she has a furniture line in prototype that will debut in spring 2015. The 16-piece collection of mixed metals and wood is made to order in Los Angeles, and is inspired by spectacular pieces of statement jewelry. Products can run upwards of \$3,000 and have a lead time of six to 12 weeks. Magon plans to launch the line in Texas before then expanding to other markets. In addition to furniture, the Canadian-born designer, whose parents are from India, is working on a 12-piece fabric line that draws inspiration from her heritage. "It'll have a glamorous, modern aesthetic with lots of jacquard weaves and luxurious fabrics," she says. Lastly, she's talking to publishers about penning a design book. The reality competition may be over, but Magon's show has just begun. By Rebecca Sherman, Photo by Laurie Perez

GOLD STANDARD

Nina Magon is a Texan through and through; she plans to split her time between her Miami office and her Memorial-area Contour Interior Design firm (contourinteriordesion.com).