

PURE MIAMI



BRAZILIAN ARCHITECT AND DESIGNER RAQUEL MOTHE CREATES A MODERN VACATION HOME IN MIAMI WITH LOCAL FURNISHINGS AND MINIMAL DESIGN

DESIGN BY **RAQUEL MOTHE, MOTHE DESIGN, INC., MIAMI, FL, AND CDG, MIAMI, FL** TEXT BY **KATHERINE WEST** PHOTOGRAPHY BY **EMILIO COLLAVINO, MIAMI BEACH, FL**

ABOVE: A powerful design element, white-lacquer wood paneling covers the expanse of the hallway that begins in the entry and leads the way to the main social areas.



E nvisioned as a magnificent glass sculpture and boasting scenic views of the Atlantic Ocean, South Beach and Miami's cityscape, a Marquis residence has a little bit of everything. And with a home base in Seattle, Wash., that's exactly what investor Jon Anderson was looking for in a peaceful vacation retreat filled with the famed flavor of the "Magic City." When architect and designer Raquel Mothe took on the task of styling his 1,980-square-foot getaway, she did so with her client's masculine sensibilities in mind.

"I really wanted something very modern, very contemporary and something very obviously Miami," Anderson says. Given carte blanche, Mothe's intentions are clear: this modern apartment is all about a clean, linear interior that necessarily complements its floor-to-ceiling water views, and captures the unique feeling of airiness and peacefulness elicited by her designs. "I envisioned the space with all the different views," she says. "And I realized walls needed to come down to create a brighter, more expansive space where every room opens up to the water."





"THE CONCEPT OF THE PROJECT IS SOMETHING VERY MASCULINE," DESIGNER RAQUEL MOTHE SAYS. "WITH A BLACK AND WHITE INTERIOR SCHEME, IT'S A LOT OF CONTRAST BUT NEUTRAL AT THE SAME TIME ... JUST SOMETHING VERY MINIMAL AND VERY CONTEMPORARY."

First impressions are everything and this home makes a memorable one as elevator doors open and the eyes are instantly drawn through a monochromatic dining room to the city lights beyond. "This was a major concern," Mothe says. "The space needs to make a bold statement." And that it does with a stark black accent wall that provides drama as it slightly wraps the ceiling to give the appearance of floating, while flat metal baseboards shape the space with a modern flair. Large original paintings lighten the look.

White lacquer wood paneling enlivens the entry hallway grounded with luminescent white glass tile that flows through to the main social areas. Here, Mothe worked with Anderson and the contractor to open up the overall living space. "I love the way that she opened up the living room and the bedroom so you either can have the privacy of a bedroom or you can have this very large open space for entertaining," Anderson says. "There's room for people to move and enjoy the view from different vantage points. It ends up being functionally a much larger place than it truly is in square footage."

Open and airy, walls of glass reveal panoramic views while artistic illusions command attention in the living room fashioned with furnishings that appear to float away from the glass. An area rug grounds the space, its shaggy black hue playing against the polished sheen of the simple white flooring.

Geometry takes precedence in the kitchen with an interfacing of glass, stainless steel and brilliant white rectangular surfaces that continue the fluidity found throughout the home. Encompassing one wall, a mirror opens the area visually and brings "a certain order to the space," Mothe says. Modern barstools in steel and leather pull up to glossy zebra wood cabinetry topped with quartz to finish the sleek look.

A mirror backsplash opens up the kitchen to create a harmony with the zebra wood cabinetry and quartz countertops. Seated at modern barstools from Anima Domus, guests enjoy the reflected seaside setting.



So open it can actually be viewed from the living room, the master suite posed a unique design challenge for Mothe. One side of the bed features a classic bedside chest and a small table lamp, while the other side — the one on display from the living room — creates the clever illusion of a neutral space with an occasional table and floating lamp. Mirrored walls reappear to lead the eyes around the master bath and back through the bedroom to stunning water vistas beyond. And when Anderson is ready to retreat at day's end, the ocean views offer serenity within as sliding doors of frosted glass close to offer luxurious privacy.

A pure Miami aesthetic and uncomplicated style makes this home the perfect getaway spot. "You just walk into this magnificent space and enjoy it," Anderson says. "It's a spectacular vacation home that makes you feel comfortable and at ease ... and looks great doing it."

SOURCES

DINING ROOM Dining table and chairs - Artefacto, Coral Gables, FL Chandelier - Bocci, Luminaire Lab, Miami, FL Artwork - Giovanni Rossi Fine Art, Dania Beach, FL FNTRY Wall treatment fabricated by Elyro's General Service Corp., Miami, FL LIVING ROOM Sofa - Poltrona Frau Group Miami, Miami, FL Cocktail table - Baltus, Miami, FL TV - Owner's Collection Artwork - Giovanni Rossi Fine Art, Dania Beach, FL Drapery fabric - RT Decor, Miami, FL Area rug - The Carpet Boutique, Miami, FL KITCHEN Mirror backsplash - Pembroke Pines Glass, Miramar, FL Barstools - Anima Domus, Miami, FL MASTER SUITE Bed, bedside chests and headboard wall covering -Javier Ocampo, Miami, FL Bed covering and accent pillows - Bloomingdale's, Aventura, FL Table lamp - Kartell, Miami, FL Hanging lamp - Ylighting.com Area rug - The Carpet Boutique, Miami, FL Mirror - Pembroke Pines Glass, Miramar, FL THROUGHOUT Accessories - Daniela Pimenta Interior Design, Miami, FL Interior construction - Finish My Condo, Sunny Isles Beach, FL M

