

Bali High

A BALINESE-INSPIRED RESIDENCE ON MIAMI BEACH'S SAN MARINO ISLAND MAKES A JETSETTER RECONSIDER HIS GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

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The corner property affords sunrise and sunset vistas, and offers ample space for the homeowner's large parties. The pool's slate gray Balinese tiles change color to an ethereal green when wet and were imported at the owner's request. A custom Italian porcelain overhang mimics the look of wood, and frames the home's floor-to-ceiling windows.



While an unobstructed Biscayne Bay view that extends to downtown Miami—and Key Biscayne on clear days—takes center stage, the living room offers its own charms. On one side, Fragali created a large open space with multiple conversation areas. On the other, a custom acrylic cocktail table by Rotsen Furniture creates a centerpiece that reflects water and sky.

GLOBAL PANDEMICS HAVE A FUNNY WAY of altering plans. When a Brazilian businessman purchased a 7,500-square-foot house on a sweeping corner of San Marco Island in Miami Beach, he was thinking of the property solely as a solid investment—a minimalistic, two-story, six-bedroom residence that would surely sell fast in Miami’s hot real estate market. But as Covid-19 began to change life as we know it, he suddenly reconsidered and began to think of the house as home. Not that he was compromising by any means. The jet-setting client had tapped Luciana Fragali from Design Solutions to spearhead the interior design, and when he saw her 3D renderings and heard her vivid descriptions of what she had planned, he decided Miami Beach would be a fine place to set roots in.

Who can blame him? Fragali had pulled out all the stops—just as the property demanded. “With open views of Biscayne Bay and Key Biscayne, this location took my breath away,” says the designer.

RIGHT: Interior designer Luciana Fragali chose Balinese stone for the home’s exterior “to give warmth to the architecture of the house” and is “obsessed” with the bronze glass and metal garage doors that hide exotic cars.



The home theater is not some subterranean lair, but rather a room that can also serve as a living area. The media unit is mounted on a textured slab of Armani Grigio marble that's so heavy, it had to be double-reinforced on the back wall. To keep the room dark, charcoal Arte wallpaper provides an apt backdrop for the painting *Bubble* by Noel Dobarganes from the client's own collection.



ABOVE: In the powder room, a backlit mirror casts a glow on Sicilian volcanic stone that covers all four walls and creates a one-of-a-kind experience.

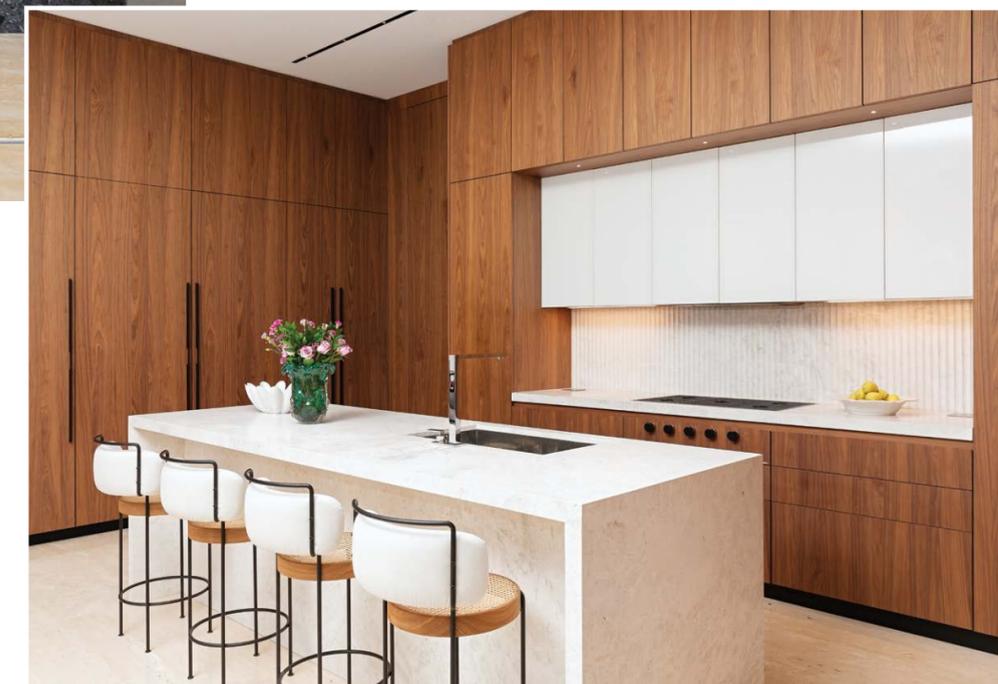
"I've done a lot of homes and I've never seen a vista like this."

Emboldened by those views, Fragali set out to compose a masterpiece, and her client insisted it'd be priceless. He demanded pool tiles from Bali, a master bathtub with room for four, enough space to dock more than one yacht, a variety of open areas, abundant natural light, plenty of wall space to display his art collection and, first and foremost, a fuss-free layout made for entertaining.

"This house was built for a gentleman who loves Miami, and wants to bring the outdoors in; a contemporary home that's inviting, where friends and family can feel free and relaxed," says Fragali, who bulletproofed every piece of furniture with CleanNew shielding to ensure no celebration mishap would ruin the furnishings. "He's known for his soirees, and he warned me many times, 'I'm going to have many parties here,'" says Fragali. "In the past there's been 400 people in the house at one time, from models to royalty. He also docks his yachts here, works out every day, rides his bikes, and lives life to the fullest."

For a home that obviously serves as a bachelor pad, this residence bears none of the cliché trappings

RIGHT: The home's custom design began with the kitchen's book-matched 11-foot MiaCucina walnut cabinets, crafted to hide most appliances. The wavy Calacatta gold-honed marble backsplash is one of the room's most striking elements because of its delicate pattern.



“WITH OPEN VIEWS OF BISCAYNE BAY AND KEY BISCAYNE, THIS LOCATION TOOK MY BREATH AWAY,” SAYS DESIGNER LUCIANA FRAGALI. “I’VE DONE A LOT OF HOMES AND I’VE NEVER SEEN A VISTA LIKE THIS.”



To accommodate the client’s minimalistic tastes, a custom-made Sharron Lewis bed in gray suede is the primary bedroom’s centerpiece. Custom oak panels manufactured by Oliver Luxury Millwork run the length of the room and cleverly hide a television projection system behind the bed.



that term implies. Fragali opened walls to maximize light, created new entrances, enlarged the living area, installed an outdoor pool bath, covered 11-foot-high walls in book-matched oak for warmth, and hid lighting, sound systems, and air vents to elevate aesthetic beauty. In terms of ornamentation, everything in the Balinese-inspired house was painstakingly sourced, curated or crafted for its rarity and richness. Upon entering the residence, one is greeted by two Moooi Meshmatics chandeliers made from layers of delicate galvanized steel mesh netting (the brand makes only two of these a year). Light glows on the surrounding wood panels, one of which hides a door that reveals a Sicilian volcanic rock powder room (the only one in the world, as Fragali happily notes). Hidden doors are also prevalent in the kitchen where custom walnut cabinets hide virtually every appliance. In the home theater, a 13-foot Armani Grigio undulating marble wall is more captivating than anything playing on screen. In the second-floor living room, the owner’s gregarious nature is further revealed by a permanent DJ table grouped next to Ricardo Fasanello Esfera lounge chairs and a violet Ligne Roset daybed, the ideal perch for weary dancers to alight. And down the hall, the home’s pièce de résistance may very well be the master bathroom’s 59-inch-square marble-framed bathtub that overlooks a light-filled sunroom and Biscayne Bay. Throughout the entire residence, enormous white travertine slabs clack underfoot.

ABOVE LEFT: In the bathroom, the 59-inch marble-framed bathtub is what bubble bath dreams are made of. His and hers MiaCucina walnut vanities run the length of the room.

RIGHT: Dedon’s MBrace lounge chairs by Sebastian Herkner anchor a comfortable sunroom that extends from the primary bath while Patricia Urquiola’s iconic Crinoline chair for B&B Italia serves as an artistic element in the corner.



Outside, the idea of entertaining is solidified with a MiaCucina kitchen that cleverly hides its grill, refrigerator, ice marker, and storage beneath Pietra Grey porcelain. Finished in June 2021, the custom home took exactly two years to complete. During Covid's migration frenzy, when thousands of New Yorkers and Westerners decamped to Miami to escape taxes and disease, people motored by on boats and shouted offers, although the house was never put up for sale. At the very best, they received a party invitation.

SOURCES

LIVING ROOM

Sofa – Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Fabric – White Linen, Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Lounge armchair – Espasso, Miami, FL
Cocktail table – Rotsen, Miami, FL
Side table – Jader Almeida, Brazil
Lounge – Prado, Ligne Roset, Miami, FL
Artwork – Manolo Valdes
Drapery fabric – White Linen, Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Area rug – Oriental Rugs, Miami, FL

HOME THEATER

Sofa – Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Fabric – Greige Linen, Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Lounge chair – Luminaire, Miami, FL
Cocktail table – Baxter, Miami, FL
Drink table – Baxter, Miami, FL
White sculpture – Giuseppe Penone
Artwork – *Bubble*, Noel Dogarganes
Wallcovering – Elltis, Miami, FL
Wall unit designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Area rug – Oriental Rugs, Miami, FL

POWDER ROOM

Cabinetry designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL and fabricated by Oliver USA, Miami, FL
Mirror – Domicilio Home, Miami, FL
Wall covering – Maioliche Di Pietra, Lithea Tiles, Patti Me, Italy

KITCHEN

Cabinetry and island designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL, and fabricated by MiaCucina, Miami, FL
Stools – Iaiá Stool, Gustavo Bittencourt, Brazil

MASTER BEDROOM

Bed and headboard designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Sharron Lewis, Miami, FL
Wall designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Oliver USA, Miami, FL
Cabinetry – Oliver USA Miami, FL
Lamps – Atollo by Oluce, Milan, Italy
Bench – Poltrona Frau, Miami, FL
Drapery fabric – White Linen, Design Solutions, Miami, FL
Area rug – Oriental Rugs, Miami, FL

MASTER BATHROOM

Cabinetry designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL and fabricated by MiaCucina, Miami, FL
Stool – Addison House, Miami, FL
Tub – MTI Baths, Miami, FL

BACK EXTERIOR

Armchair – B&B Italia, Miami, FL
Dining table and chairs – Clima Outdoor, Miami, FL
Sculpture – *No Deck*, Tony Cragg, Miami, FL
Pool designed by Design Solutions, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Innovated Surfaces, Miami, FL

In the back of the home, Italian porcelain overhangs mimic the look of real wood, as do the aluminum slats. Made for entertaining, the outdoor Balinese rock-framed pool is surrounded by green lawn, enough dock space for the client's yachts, and copious B&B Italia and Dedon conversation clusters. The sculpture, *No Deck* by Tony Cragg, is from the homeowner's art collection.

