

FLORIDA DESIGN

SEAGLASS AWARDS 2023

Florida's Top Design Talents



**BEST USE OF COLOR
& WINNERS IN 40+ CATEGORIES**

INTERIOR DESIGN RODRIGO ALBIR, STUDIO RODA, MIAMI, FL
DESIGN & ARCHITECT CONSULTANT JOEB MOORE & PARTNERS, GREENWICH, CT
TEXT JEANNE DE LATHOUDER
PHOTOGRAPHY KRIS TAMBURELLO, MIAMI, FL

A PERFECT UNION

A DESIGNER'S UNDERSTATED AESTHETIC AND WELL-STUDIED EYE COME IN
HANDY AT A TWO-IN-ONE SKY RESIDENCE IN MIAMI BEACH

Stepping out of the vestibule area of this stunning Miami Beach condominium, guests are greeted with breathtaking views of Biscayne Bay and Miami's signature downtown skyline. Well-positioned to entertain, Studio RODA's custom solid oak dining table draws inspiration from Japanese torii gates and joinery.

The living room's quiet neutral palette elevates a sensual contemporary abstract by Loie Hollowell. Warm white Reid sofas from Design Within Reach complement the gray bouclé upholstery covering a walnut-based Rua Ipanema lounge chair from Avenue Road.



SOMETIMES, A DESIGNER'S WORK speaks for itself. That's what happened to a couple of Northeasterners when they encountered Studio RODA's signature in the Miami Beach home of their neighbors during a casual gathering.

"The couple already owned a place in the building and lived on the same floor as our clients," says Rodrigo Albir, Studio RODA's founder. "As they walked in, they immediately fell in love with the interior design, and that same night they contacted me saying they

were going to look for a similar unit and would love for Studio RODA to renovate it."

A few weeks later, the couple had closed on two adjoining residences two floors down that yielded a total of 3,100 square feet, and, as promised, they called on Albir again. The project's scope was a complete renovation in which both apartments needed to be joined seamlessly and not feel like separate units. One of the design team's main challenges was to create a floor plan with effortless circulation flows within both apartments that

Designed in collaboration with Interius, the kitchen features sleek Ernestomeda cabinetry with a matte champagne metal lacquer finish that complements the off-white walls. The crystalline Lumix quartzite countertops and backsplash reveal subtle golden tones echoing the cabinetry.



focused on the breathtaking views of Biscayne Bay. Homeowners and designer decided the larger apartment would house the entertaining areas and guest quarters, while the adjacent space would contain the primary bedroom suite and a home office/library. Studio RODA partnered with Joeb Moore of Joeb Moore & Partners Architects, who became the project's mentor collaborator. "Joeb has known the clients for years," says the designer, "so it was a pleasure working with him to fine-tune the details to befit the owners' lifestyle."

Passionate about contemporary art, the couple has amassed an essential collection of established artists and continues seeking new rising talent to support as patrons. Hence, their request for quiet, monochromatic furniture and decorative accents that permitted the artwork to shine was a top priority.

"We conceptualized a look composed of subtle architectural details in soothing tones of natural oak, warm whites, and grays," says Albir. "We mixed in pale shades of cream and taupe with hints of champagne and black metal accents. The overall vision was to create a timeless design emitting a soft, casual elegance that allows the views and the art to become the showstoppers."

Perhaps one of Albir's most innovative solutions appears in the living area, where,



ABOVE: The study dazzles the eye with floor-to-ceiling windows framing downtown Miami. A pair of vintage 1970s Angelo Mangiarotti Tre wood and leather chairs combine with a Kops Slim table base with a powder-coated steel base and a solid blackened-oak top designed by Marlieke van Rossum.

LEFT: Inspired by the beautiful hues from a mixed media collage by Deborah Roberts, the powder room features an elegant black Murad quartzite stone sink and vanity. The dark hues bring an element of drama to this small yet dynamic space.



An area leading to the study spotlights a John Chamberlain metal sculpture mounted on a custom base designed to blend in with the walls and reiterate the subtle flushed reveal detailing of the baseboards. A Robert Irwin light sculpture in avocado and mineral green hues draws you into the space.

during the construction process, they discovered an uncovered H-shaped water stack. After a few iterations, Studio RODA created a sculptural enhancement with a floating wall clad in mirror-polished stainless steel inspired by Mies van der Rohe's chrome-plated columns on the Barcelona Pavilion. "It reflects everything around it and becomes a statement unto itself," says Albir.

An awe-inspiring seasonal retreat where the couple loves to entertain, the apartment's warm, modern aesthetic and expansive views make it an idyllic spot to take in the beauty of Miami evenings.

"My favorite memory is experiencing their continued happiness after living in this new apartment for several months," notes Albir. "As designers, we get so caught up in the day-to-day, it's very gratifying to realize all the energy invested in helping homeowners create a space that gives them joy and tranquility pays off. It's a great reminder of the impact design can have on people's lives."

SOURCES

DINING ROOM

Table designed by Studio RODA, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Decora Woodcraft, Miami, FL

Chairs – Eternity Modern, Irvine, CA

Decorative jars – Magnolia, Waco, TX

LIVING AREA

Sofas – Nicholas Dodziuk, Design Within Reach, Miami, FL

Swivel chair – Yabu Pushelberg, Avenue Road, Miami, FL

Cocktail table grouping – Cassina, New York, NY

Wicker stools – Wright Auction, Chicago, IL

Area rug – Woven, New York, NY

KITCHEN

Cabinetry designed by Interius, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Ernestomeda, Montelabbate, Pesaro, Italy

Island designed by Interius, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Ernestomeda, Montelabbate, Pesaro, Italy

Back splash and island top – Opustone, Miami, FL

Pendant lighting – Apure, Miami, FL

STUDY

Table – Marlieke Van Rossum, Avenue Road, Miami, FL

Chairs – Wright Auction, Chicago, IL

POWDER ROOM

Marble wall designed by Studio RODA, Miami, FL, and fabricated by HALMAC, Miami, FL

PRIMARY BEDROOM

Bed and headboard – Alivar, Arravanti, Miami, FL

Bedside table – Sangiacomo, Arravanti, Miami, FL

Wall arm sconce – Juniper, New York, NY

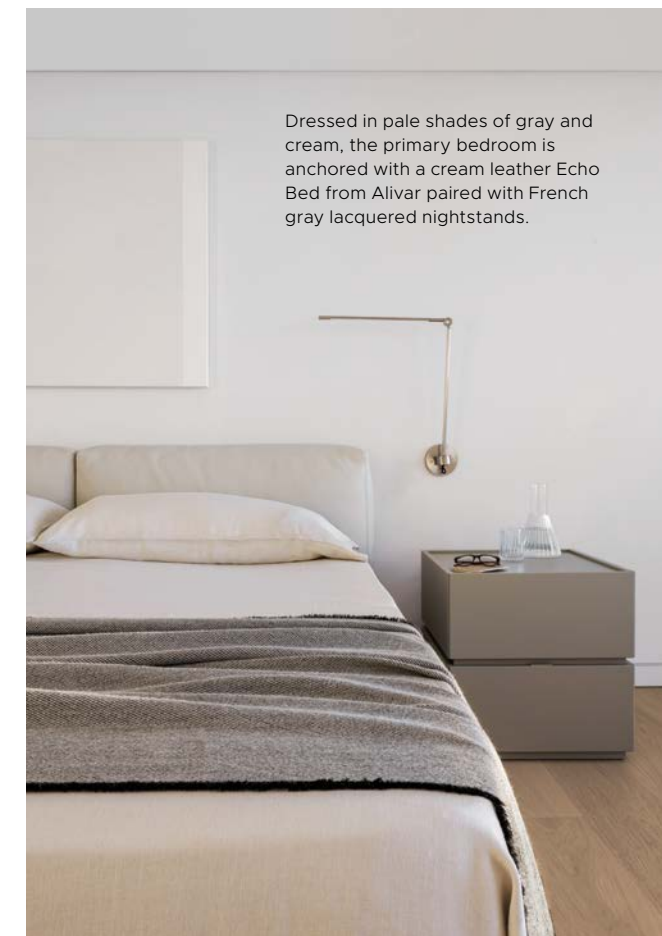
THROUGHOUT

European oak wood floors - Storia, Miami, FL

Architectural lighting fixtures - The Lighting Studio, Miami, FL

Millwork fabricator - Bon Vivant, Miami, FL

RIGHT: Purchased at an auction, a vintage woven footstool by Charlotte Perriand preludes the hallway leading into the powder room. Deborah Roberts' mixed-media collage provides the main focus and color palette for the space.



Dressed in pale shades of gray and cream, the primary bedroom is anchored with a cream leather Echo Bed from Alivar paired with French gray lacquered nightstands.

