







stones throw away from a city full of endless entertainment is Miami's Sunset Islands, four gated islands with the most desirable and intoxicating views. This is where owner Mathieu Massa decided to build a splendid 7,500-square-foot home with a little help from his friends. Accolades go to a strong collaborative team — interior designers Charlotte Dunagan and Thomas Diverio, architect Cesar Molina, and of course the builder, Massa himself. "We were good friends from our home country of France," Dunagan says of Massa. With every good friendship comes trust, which allowed the designers freedom to create. "I showed them my ideas and they helped me achieve my goals," Massa says.

Exotic woods punctuate this "Modern Tropical" house with expression, while an Asian flair was appointed to create imagery of a visually relaxing retreat. The pool area is paved with limestone slabs spaced with large black pebbles to accent.

ABOVE: Architectural integrity makes its way to the reflective pond with its oversized Bonsai tree. Floating limestone pads pave the way to the home's entrance, where a water garden rests beneath a canopy of wood planks — shading the path and setting the mood of tranquility.



Unique in nature and aesthetically appealing to the eye — bronze powder-coated lounge chairs with white cushions are designed to look like rope chairs. In the center, a teak wood table is meant to withstand outdoor elements. "It's like a Zen house," Massa says.

Just past the reflecting pond, Cumaru wood louvers flank the home's entry in prelude to the abundance of natural elements found within. Once inside, the eyes are immediately drawn to a keystone wall that houses dark wood shelving and a linear fireplace, and the adjacent oak wood stairway that appears to float to the second floor. A white linen-clad sofa and armchairs form a conversation grouping hearthside, while brown slipper chairs live up to signature style with an intricate weave pattern on the back — intentionally placed to capture attention upon entering the home. "I wanted to choose warm tones with touchable textures along with minimal pops of color," Massa says.

An introduction of rich oak wood unfolds in the kitchen with its cabinetry and center island. Keeping things neutral and contrasting, modish style barstools with woven seats and a bronze-metal frame pull up to the natural quartzite countertop. Beyond, a circular light pendant shapes the casual eating area that offers lush garden views. "The accent color for the space is green, brought in by the lush foliage of the outdoors," Dunagan says.

ABOVE: White matte-lacquer cabinetry pairs with rich oak wood and natural quartzite in the kitchen. Holly Hunt stools pull up to the island, while YLighting's LED pendant illuminates the breakfast area.

RIGHT: Clusters of LED candles glow in the dining room above Anima Domus' walnut table based in solid bronze that seats ten. Framing the wine cabinet, bar units with a mirror backdrop create drama.



The dining room is a sight only a visionary could create — one that reveals architectural ingenuity. A wall of wine with two built-in bar units is intelligently designed to control the temperature based on the type of wine. Fit for a banquet, the expansive Skorpio dining table epitomizes nature with a full slab of walnut wood.

Slip away to sensational slumber in the master bedroom, where a plethora of fabrics and textures preserves the soft tones of the home. Made of real engineered oak, charcoal-hued wallpaper by Phillip Jeffries with a herringbone pattern emphasizes the tufted, cream-colored suede headboard.

In the family room, a soft yet durable fabric covers the sectional sofa that boasts an invitation to an extraordinary outdoor scene. "This is one of the best views in the home," Diverio says. Mindful of the homeowner's large family, two swivel chairs join the mix smartly designed with resilient, crisp white-linen slipcovers.

"It was my vision to create and build a unique product in Miami, something modern but warm, cozy and relaxing," Massa says. It was a mission accomplished for all.





ABOVE: Views of lush tropical foliage and the pristine shoreline of Miami Beach ... what a way to awake! Positioned to take in the alluring vistas as well as the owner's favorite shows on Visual Acoustics' retractable film screen with projector, the soft and supple sofa takes on a slightly darker shade of taupe that blends beautifully with Niba's ivory wool area rug.

ABOVE RIGHT: Designed to be warm and inviting, practicality is punctuated in the family room. Here, a deep-seated sectional sofa from Monica James joins an oversized faux-leather cocktail ottoman that functions as a coffee table with its movable walnut wood tray, and MaxAlto's slipcovered chairs that swivel to enjoy the bay views and cityscape beyond.

SOURCES

LANAI AND POOL AREA

Pool fabricated by JD Pools, Miami Beach, FL
Robey chaise lounge, ottomans, cocktail table and
armchairs - Owners' Collection
Bar - CG Quality Woodworks, Hialeah, FL
Countertop - Opustone, Miami, FL
Barstools - Barclay, All Modern, North Miami Beach, FL
FOYER

Demilune console tables - BK Antiques, New York, NY Mirrors - Anima Domus, Miami, FL Hurricane lantern - Oroa LLC, Coral Gables, FL LIVING ROOM

Sofa - Monica James & Co., MDD, Miami, FL Armchairs - Verzenlloni, Anima Domus, Miami, FL Side chairs - Spencer Interiors, Vancouver BC, Canada Cocktail tables - Fede Furniture LLC, Miami, FL Occasional tables - Meridiani USA, Miami, FL Table lamps - Ralph Lauren Home, New York, NY Area rug - Niba Designs, Hollywood, FL

KITCHEN AND BREAKFAST AREA

Cabinetry and island - CG Quality Woodworks, Hialeah, FL

Countertops - Opustone, Miami, FL Table - Skram Furniture Co., NYDC, New York, NY Chairs - Flexform, New York, NY Light fixture - YLighting LLC, Walnut Creek, CA Counter stools - Mark Albrecht, Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL

DINING ROOM

Dining table - Anima Domus, Miami, FL Dining chairs - Monica James & Co., MDD, Miami, FL Chandelier - Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL MASTER BEDROOM

Bed and sofa - Monica James & Co., MDD, Miami, FL

Cocktail table - Niba Designs, Hollywood, FL Reading light - Anima Domus, Miami, FL Armchair - Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL Wall covering - Phillip Jeffries, High Point, NC Area rug - Niba Designs, Hollywood, FL

FAMILY ROOM

Sofa and cocktail ottoman - Monica James & Co., MDD, Miami, FL Striped pillow fabric - Donghia, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL Swivel chairs - Maxalto, MDD, Miami, FL Table lamps - Design Within Reach, MDD, Miami, FL Area rug - Patterson, Flynn, Martin, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL