

BEHIND THE DESIGN

Designer to the Rescue: Dunagan Diverio Design Group

When a retired judge and his wife purchased a 4000-square-foot Miami Beach penthouse, they turned to Charlotte Dunagan and Thomas Diverio of Dunagan Diverio Design Group for a renovation that brings the stunning 270-degree views of the Atlantic and Biscayne Bay into every room.



The new open kitchen looks on to views of the Atlantic; the cooktop is by Sub-Zero, the custom hood is by Modern Aire, and the countertops are marble. Photos: Paul Stoppl.

"The biggest challenge with this project was that the penthouse was very long and narrow," says Diverio. "That gave it a 'bowling alley' feel. The interior corridor was narrow and had little natural light. And the owners love to cook and entertain, so the existing kitchen was not appropriate. We used custom millwork and paneling from Hausscape, which spans from the kitchen to the corridor, thereby integrating the kitchen with the main living area."

The expansion of the kitchen allowed the creation of a hidden butler's kitchen/pantry, so the clients can entertain without revealing the behind-the-scenes mess of an open kitchen. "This extra room is expected in a high-end home," says Diverio, "but it is completely unique to have in an apartment."

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Adds Dunagan: "The view from behind the cooktop is second to none, as you cook and look out over the Atlantic Ocean from 18 floors above."



The opposite view of the kitchen; doors on the right hide appliances, the doors on the left lead to the hidden pantry and food prep area. The kitchen cabinetry is by Leicht.



Contemporary pieces mix with items from the owners' collection of vintage furnishings in the master bedroom; a television screen retracts into the ceiling when not in use.



The bed and sofa in the master bedroom are by Monica James & Co.



The master bath walls are sheathed in marble; the cabinetry, which echoes that in the kitchen, is by Bon Vivant.