

MODERN LUXURY

Interiors

SOUTH FLORIDA

COMMAND CENTRAL

17 PAGES OF BOLD KITCHENS & BATHROOMS ACROSS SOUTH FLORIDA
FLORENSE, SNAIDERO, EGGERSMANN, ANN SACKS, STONE FOREST, ORNARE & MORE

PLUS

DREAM HOMES BY SDH STUDIO, MONROE SHERMAN & DUNAGAN DIVERIO

MIAMI STYLE: THE LATEST FROM BAXTER, ROCHE BOBOIS, LUXURY LIVING GROUP & VONDOM

CONTROVERSIAL LE CORBUSIER: THE CREATOR OF FAMOUS CHAIRS DID IT HIS WAY

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NOTE FROM THE BATH

I've been thinking a lot about ... tile. That kind of thing happens when you have a ground-floor condo on a barrier island in the Atlantic Ocean and it's hurricane season. You start dreaming about water-repellant flooring when the wood planks that were shiny, perfect, even and flat four years ago are now starting to feel, in places, like mini skateboard ramps. And you especially start thinking about tile when you introduce a panel at the Home Design and Remodeling show at the Miami Beach Convention Center and every guest speaker enthuses about porcelain. It can look like driftwood! It can look like oak! It can mimic marble! Sign me up.

Coincidentally, given the close call we had with Irma just as we were closing this issue, these pages pay a lot of attention to watertight surfaces. The bathroom is my favorite room in the house—not necessarily in my house, but in the homes of others, and in some memorable hotel suites and villas I've stayed in and written about. I asked our contributors just what makes a dreamy bath sanctuary. Our house photographer Brett Hufziger and I experienced a mind meld: He fondly remembered the shaving mirror embedded in the wall of a shower he once shot in Key Largo, and I immediately recalled the same simple but indispensable feature that impressed me in a hotel long ago. In fact, it was so long ago that at this point I don't know why more homes and hotels don't have fogless mirrors set between their shower tiles. Or freestanding "fill from the ceiling" pedestal tubs like those in Hotel 1000 in Seattle.

I also have an outré predilection for tubs that rest at the foot of the bed, like those I've experienced at the Setai Hotel in Miami Beach and at the W Fort Lauderdale—the latter appears in the Real Estate section of this issue. And I'm thrilled to also include a luxurious soaking tub set right up against the windows of a high-floor bathroom ("Surface Study"). For this installation, Dunagan Diverio's clients wanted their penthouse to be as stylish as a hotel suite, and it is. The configuration reminds me of the tub-with-a-view that is a signature feature of the Mandarin Oriental brand.

My point is that the things you love about hotel bathrooms can and should be replicated in your own home, where you do, after all, most of your life's bathing. I might not be able to install the kind of outdoor shower I loved in Bali, but trust me, when I finally have my Ann Sacks shower tiles put in, I'm leaving space for a mirror.

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This bathroom, designed by Dunagan Diverio Design Group, is featured in "Surface Study."



For the master bedroom of a 4,000-square-foot Miami Beach penthouse, Dunagan Diverio Design Group elevated the bed by Monica James & Co., and installed a recessed projection screen that can be lowered when in use.





The open living space features a white leather sectional sofa from E.M. Soberon, while a Moooi chandelier hangs above a refinished dining table.



“The clients had a vision of a condo that looked like a high-end hotel but felt like a home.”

—DESIGNER CHARLOTTE DUNAGAN

When Charlotte Dunagan’s clients, a retired New York City judge and his wife, learned that the 4,000-square-foot penthouse in their Miami Beach condominium was available, they quickly purchased it, upgrading their newfound leisurely lifestyle to a home 18 stories high with 270-degree wraparound views spanning the Atlantic Ocean and Biscayne Bay.

They moved to Miami to be close to their two adult sons—that choice was easy. But their biggest challenge was that the penthouse’s narrow footprint and original floor plan did little to honor the view. “A hallway spanning the entire home created a long, dark corridor and felt disconnected,” says Dunagan, principal of Dunagan Diverio Design Group. “It was cold and flashy with no flow.”

“The clients had a vision of a condo that looked like a high-end hotel, but felt like a home,” Dunagan says, so along with her partner Thomas Diverio, they started fresh with a gut renovation, transforming the five-bedroom unit into a three-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath home with an office and an open living room. They employed glass walls in both the home office and master suite to optimize the view and create a floating effect. “After knocking down walls, they were blown away by the amount of natural light,” says Diverio.

The penthouse is accessed by a pair of private elevators. Here, the designers took

The wraparound terrace 18 floors above the beach affords peeks through the floor-to-ceiling glass doors—and into the sleek Sub-Zero and oak kitchen.

a cue from hotel design by creating a warm, lobby-like vignette with dark oak paneled walls. A large-scale, pop art triptych portrait (by Deborah Kass) of the wife greets guests in panels of red and silver. On one side, the home opens up to the common areas for entertaining, while the bedrooms and personal spaces are off to the other. Dunagan took advantage of the penthouse's long, continual wall to showcase the couple's treasured art collection in a gallerylike setting with recessed architectural lighting.

When furnishing the home, Dunagan explains that she sought "modern pieces that feel inviting and easily integrate with the owners' antiques." In the living room, which is bordered by floor-to-ceiling windows and a terrace, a taupe leather sectional sofa is paired with an antique French period chair reupholstered with linen for "a modern flair." The space is anchored by a custom wool and tencel rug in neutral shades designed to mimic freshly raked sand on the beach, while the home's lightly stained natural oak floors balance out the wall's darker millwork.

A dining room table from the couple's New York home was stripped and refinished with a dark patina. Overhead, a celestial chandelier

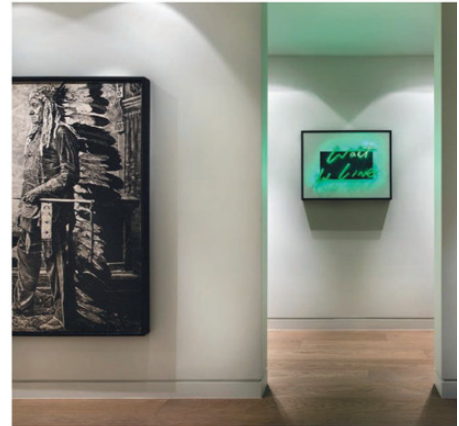








From left: The open-style Sub-Zero kitchen; pale walls and neutral oak floors allow the couple's art collection to command attention. Opposite page: Passageways are covered in oak millwork and arresting art, such as the wife captured in a triptych—in a series of dynamic moves.



designed by Marcel Wanders dangles with delicacy.

All the areas of the home flow easily into the Sub-Zero Wolf kitchen, with appliances seamlessly integrated into the space. "The kitchen takes on a cubelike element," Dunagan notes. "The wood panels open up for storage and hide utilities and electrical panels. We wanted to maximize all the available space like a boat. The design has a natural, warm feeling."

But before reaching the living room and kitchen, one encounters sliding glass doors encased in dark steel that open up to the home office. The room's floor-to-ceiling windows, with their northern exposure, complete the glass-cube-in-the-sky effect. On the wall in front of the desk, a large-format photograph by Isaac Julien of a similarly framed window creates an optical illusion and continual faux sightline. An area rug has a sharp, dark border, accentuating the room's modern lines. For a touch of whimsy and softness, the office features two French period antique chairs with swooping asymmetrical backs and rounded arms upholstered in contrasting gray velvet weaves. "They are so specific and fun," Dunagan says.

In the master suite, yet another floating glass wall separates the bedroom from the bathroom; the latter is located directly behind the bed. This choice creates the illusion of more space, extends the view and maximizes the natural sunlight that pours in through

the floor-to-ceiling windows. The suite is arranged in symmetrical fashion, with a loveseat and sitting area in front of the custom bed, which is elevated to create a crow's nest-style perch. "Everything is based on the view," Dunagan says. "You can enjoy it everywhere you are—from the bed, the sofa, the bathroom."

With the only walls in the master suite leading to his-and-her closets, Dunagan and her AV consultant, Marc Lewin of Visual Acoustics, had to get resourceful and creative with the suite's home entertainment. Rejecting a TV that would obstruct the view, they installed a recessed projection screen to be lowered when in use. As in the living room, the master suite is furnished with a blend of antiques from the owner's collection and new custom furniture. A pair of low-slung, midcentury armchairs were reupholstered and sit atop an Oriental rug. A rack of antique canes rests alongside a silver model airplane for an eclectic, personal touch.

The happy homeowners are now settled in after a lifetime dedicated to public service in New York. "Every day when we wake up, I can't believe we live here," the husband told me," Dunagan says. "He says he feels like he's living in a Zen gallery. He's so grateful." When a couple lives in a Miami Beach penthouse in close proximity to their children—who chose their city well—it would seem that good karma might have something to do with it. ■

Once the designers fitted the corridors with glass walls, their clients were delighted with the amount of sun and city lights that came shining in. The dark hallways had vanished during the gut renovation.





DESIGN DETAILS

TYPE
High-rise condo

LOCATION
Miami Beach

INTERIOR DESIGN
Dunagan Diverio Design Group
dunagandiverio.com

RESOURCES

ADOTTA
Office area rug and executive chair
adottaitalia.com

BON VIVANT
Custom millwork
bvmiami.com

E.M. SOBERON
Living room sectional sofa
emsoberon.com

JULIAN CHICHESTER
Office desk
us.julianchichester.com

MONICA JAMES & CO.
Living room custom throw pillows,
master suite bed and sofa
monicajames.com

MOOOI
Dining room chandelier
mooi.com

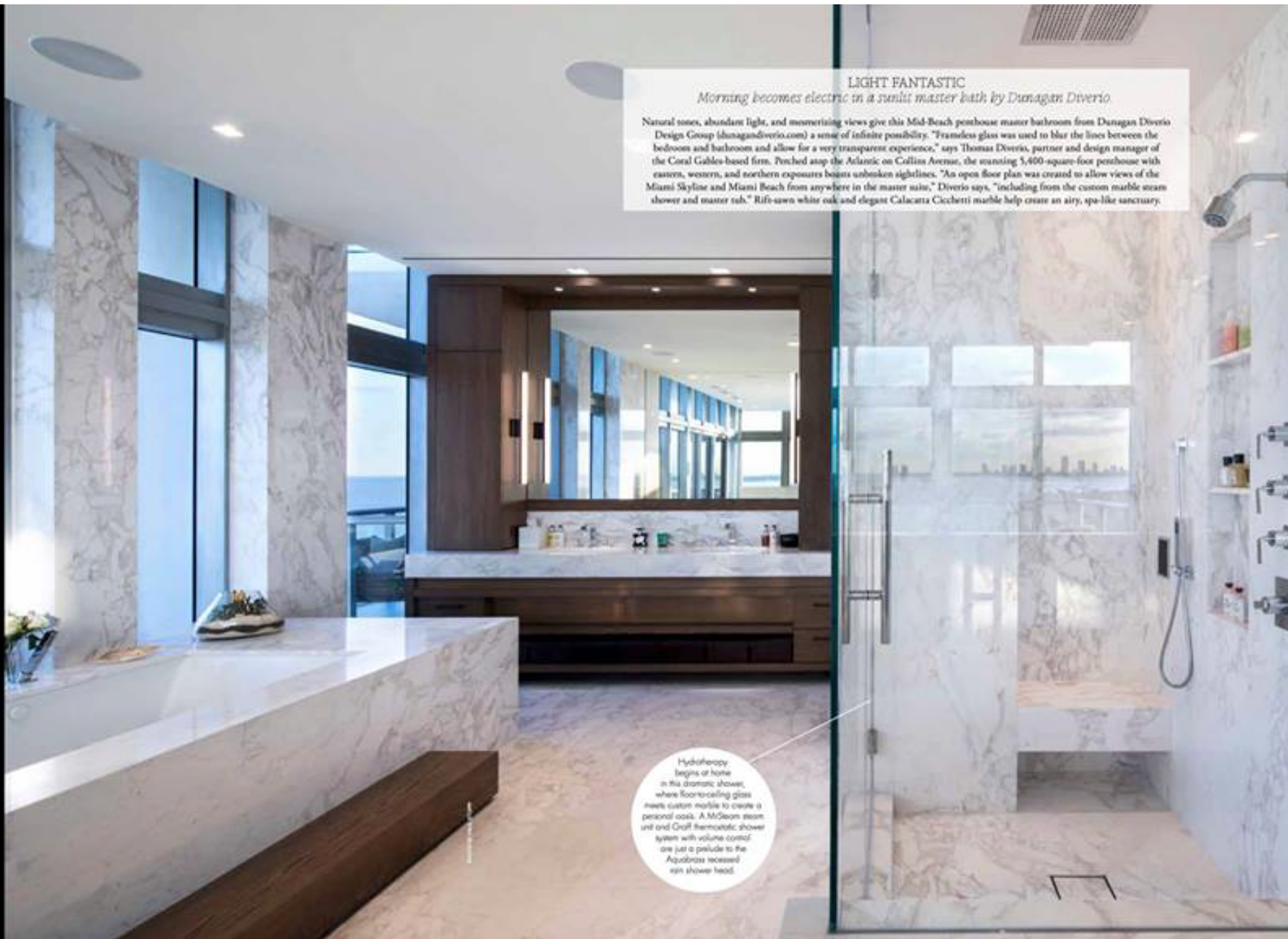
NIBA DESIGNS
Living room area rug
nibadesigns.com

SUB-ZERO WOLF
Kitchen appliances
subzero-wolf.com

When your kitchen or bathroom has views and natural light, don't select materials that compete. But in darker rooms, turn on the color and gloss.

BY VICTOR OZOLS
& DREW LIMSKY

SURFACE STUDY



LIGHT FANTASTIC

Morning becomes electric in a sunlit master bath by Dunagan Diverio.

Natural tones, abundant light, and mesmerizing views give this Mid-Beach penthouse master bathroom from Dunagan Diverio Design Group (dunagandiverio.com) a sense of infinite possibility. "Frameless glass was used to blur the lines between the bedroom and bathroom and allow for a very transparent experience," says Thomas Diverio, partner and design manager of the Coral Gables-based firm. Perched atop the Atlantic on Collins Avenue, the stunning 5,400-square-foot penthouse with eastern, western, and northern exposures boasts unobscured sightlines. "An open floor plan was created to allow views of the Miami Skyline and Miami Beach from anywhere in the master suite," Diverio says, "including from the custom marble steam shower and master tub." Rift-sawn white oak and elegant Calacatta Cicchetti marble help create an airy, spa-like sanctuary.

Hydrotherapy begins at home in this dramatic shower, where floor-to-ceiling glass meets custom marble to create a personal oasis. A M'Osom steam unit and Graft thermostatic shower system with volume control are just a prelude to the Aquabac recessed rain shower head.