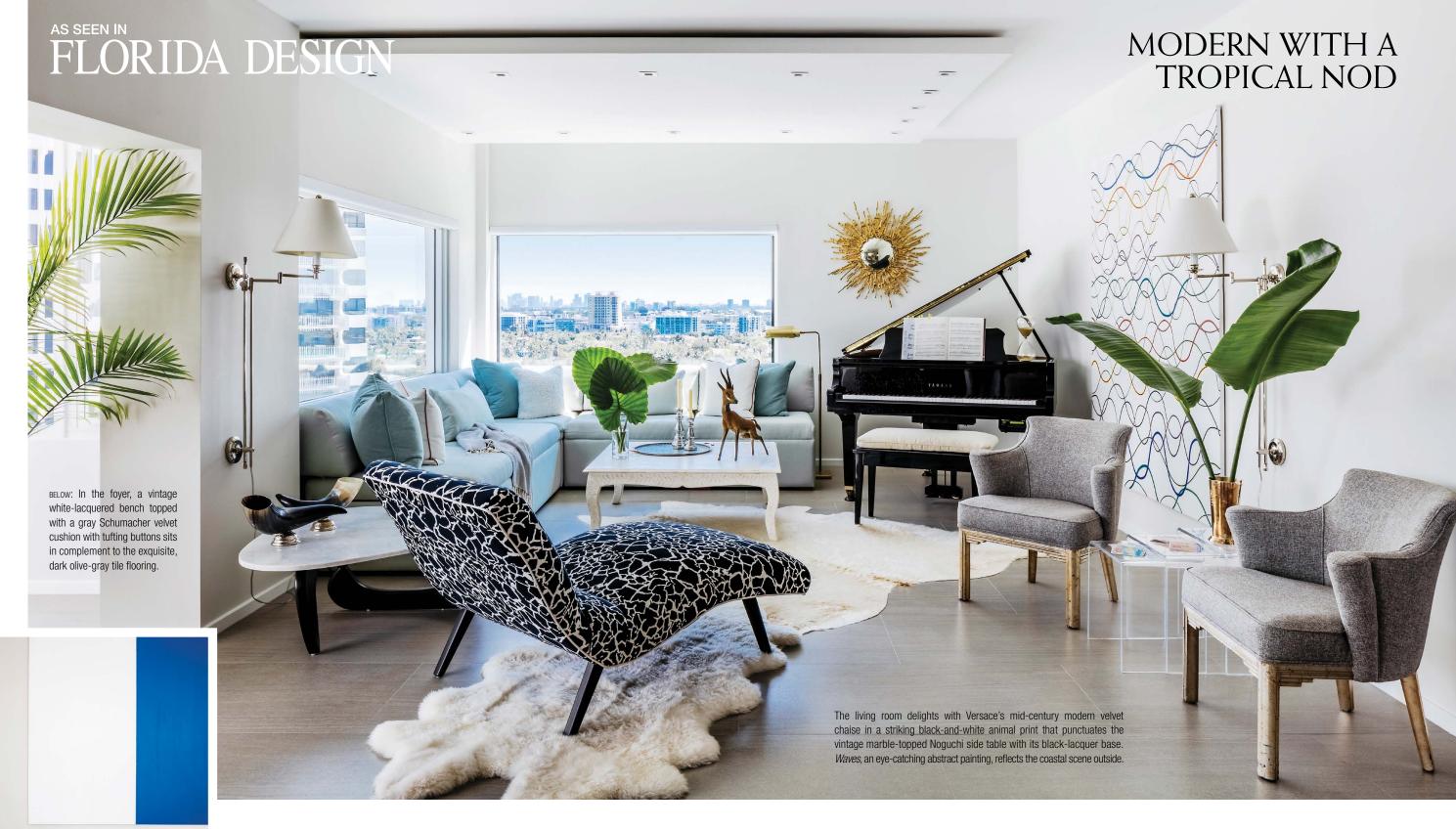
## FLORIDA DESIGN

THE MAGAZINE FOR FINE INTERIOR DESIGN & FURNISHINGS





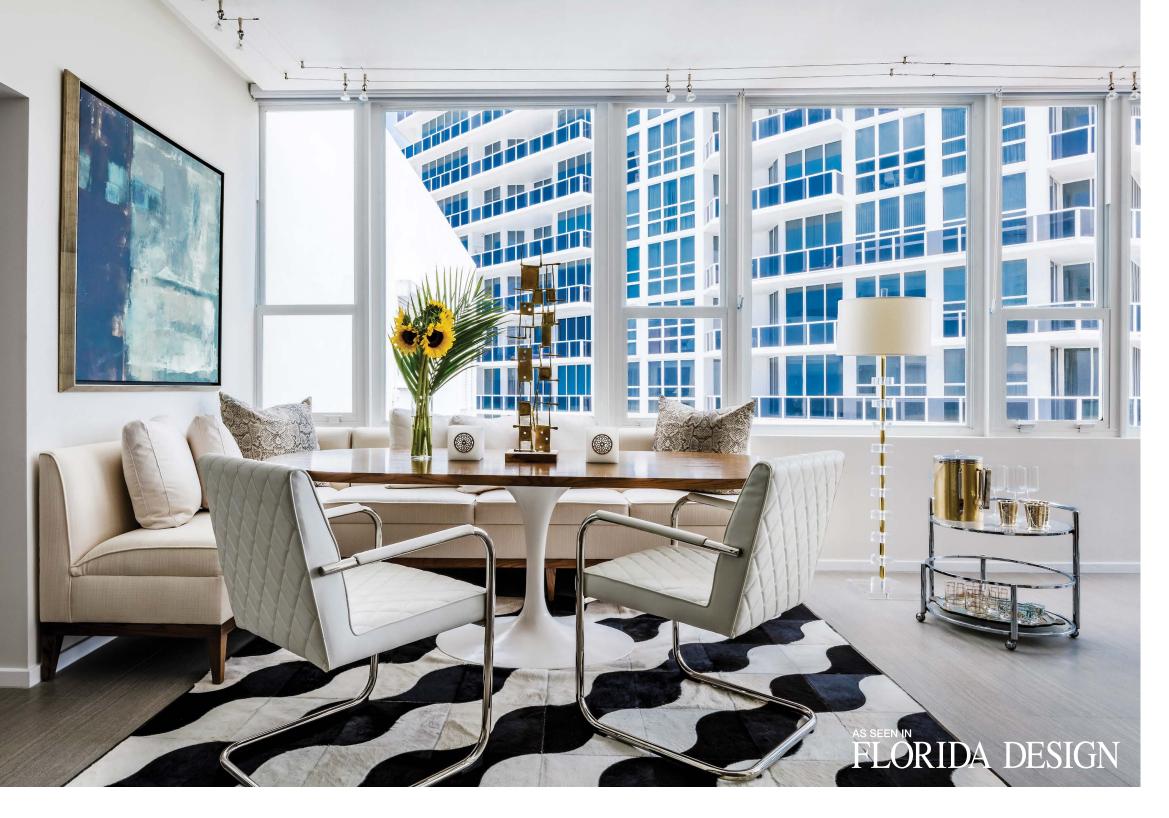
With a mix of custom furnishings and colorful art, designer Anil Kakar transformed this waterfront Bal Harbour condominium into a series of stunning vignettes ideal for lively musical parties or intimate family time

DESIGN Anil Kakar, Kakar House of Design, Miami, FL TEXT Linda Marx PHOTOGRAPHY Kris Tamburello, Miami, FL

## DESIGNER ANIL KAKAR MET THE OWNERS OF THIS BAL HARBOUR

condo when they entered his Miami showroom looking for inspiration. The couple wanted to gut their 2,000-square-foot residence, add hurricane windows and create interior spaces that took advantage of the beautiful water views. "The wife was designing the space herself but we instantly hit it off," Kakar says. "While she has a good eye, we decided to collaborate using a mix of custom pieces from my showroom with lots of art and sculpture."

Emphasizing an open plan that was both plush and user friendly for entertaining, they selected custom mid-century modern, art deco and eclectic pieces for the main living areas. They finished the walls in off-white with a touch of taupe, created lighted drop-ceiling details



for definition, and anchored the space with large slabs of gray tile. "The floors were challenging because the apartment is so vast yet had to look normal and comfortable," Kakar says. "We had many options and ultimately decided on tiles that look like a refined, elegant cement floor."

Contrasting the neutral backdrop, they chose pops of orange, yellow, blue and green instead of utilizing a typical beach theme. Blue and White by artist Jay Luiz highlights the foyer in prelude to the well-appointed living room. Here, a custom sea foam green sectional joins a pair of art deco club chairs, a lively chaise atop a cowhide area rug from Brazil, and a Yamaha grand piano to shape a social space reminiscent of an elegant coastal night spot. "The wife is learning to play the piano and wanted the living room to have a lounge feel when entertaining guests," Kakar says. "A vintage French sunburst mirror adds a glamorous splatter of gold."

ABOVE: The couple's blue and white abstract canvas in the dining room picks up the blues and whites coming through a wall of windows. The vintage Brutalist metal sculpture adds to the modernist architectural flavor.

RIGHT: Streamlined and reflective, Armadi's lacquered cabinetry with a stunning, white-glass slab countertop and backsplash shapes a contemporary kitchen. A vintage photo of a girl holding a beach ball adds diversion while continuing the stylized coastal theme.



ABOVE: The vintage Italian Lucite chandelier provides a subtle touch of drama above the lounge area styled with art deco flair. "The couple enjoys hosting after-dinner cocktails in different vignettes strategically situated around the main living spaces," designer Anil Kakar says.



White stone tiled walls add a textural touch in the master bath, where a citrus green wall punctuates the sophisticated contrast of dark and light.





Kakar chose a large banquette for the dining room — a favorite gathering spot for family members including two grown sons who visit. A vintage Eero Saarinen "Tulip" table with a custom wood top and painted white base couples with vintage chrome and quilted-leather chairs. Nearby, an artsy bar area provides extra seating as guests continue the conversation at a 1980s high top with authentic art deco stools cushioned in vibrant yellow velvet.

Yellow is repeated in the bold abstract by French artist Michele Beaujardin leading into the custom Armadi kitchen, while the family room comes alive with splashes of orange. A vintage 1970s brass cocktail table centers the deep-seated sectional and a curvaceous settee. "This social grouping creates needed intimacy in the middle of this large room," Kakar says. The bold and sophisticated Florida theme continues in the private spaces as well. "The owners were eager to bring the sunshine into their new home ... but without a cliché beach theme," Kakar says. "They loved the end result and asked me to design two more projects for them."

SOURCES

Foyer

Vintage bench - Kakar House of Design,

Miami, FL

Fabric - Schumacher & Co., DCOTA,

Dania Beach, FL

Artwork - Blue Egg Interiors,

Miami, FL

Living Room

Sectional, armchairs, chaise, cocktail

table, Noguchi side table, Lucite occasional table, mirror, accessories and area rugs - Kakar

House of Design, Miami, FL

Grand piano and artwork - Owners' Collection

Wall lamps - Crate and Barrel, Miami. FL

**Dining Room** 

Dining table, chairs, banquette sofa, floor lamp, centerpiece, bar cart, high-top table, bar stools, chandelier and area rugs - Kakar House of Design, Miami, FL

Artwork - Owners' Collection

<u>Kitchen</u>

Stool, light fixture, artwork and beach photography - Kakar House of Design, Miami. FL

Cabinetry and countertops - Armadi, Miami, FL

<u>laster Bath</u>

Vanity, sink, mirror and light fixture - Armadi, Miami, FL

Ceiling fixture, Lucite sculpture, artwork and accessories - Kakar House of Design, Miami, FL Family Room

Sofa and sofa table - Crate and Barrel,

Miami, FL Chaise, cocktail table, Lucite table, accent table, lamp, stools, mirrors, cart, accessories

and area rug - Kakar House of Design, Miami, FL Round mirror and screen - Owners' Collection

Porcelain dog - Nihil Novi, Miami, FL •