

MODERN LUXURY

Interiors

SOUTH FLORIDA

**MIAMI
GLAM**
KAKAR HOUSE
OF DESIGN'S
LATEST
PROJECT

**PALM
BEACH
POSH**
THE BRAZILIAN
COURT'S NEW
LOOK



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HAUTE DESIGN
OPENS A MIAMI
SHOWROOM



HOME FRONT

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ABODES TO
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VINTAGE GLAM

Interior designer Anil Kakar of Kakar House of Design remakes a Miami mansion into a globally inspired second home for Caribbean jet-setters.

By Kara Franker // Photographed by Kris Tamburello

Clients of Kakar House of Design, a former prime minister of a Caribbean nation and his wife chose a Miami glam vibe for their second home.



In the breakfast room, Kakar hung an eye-catching faux tortoise lamp and sourced an antique round table and chairs.



To make a bold statement, Kakar wove pop art throughout the residence.



“I don’t have just one design aesthetic,” says Anil Kakar of Kakar House of Design. “I design for my clients, so each project is unique.”

When a former prime minister of a Caribbean nation and his wife came to Anil Kakar of Kakar House of Design to transform their Miami abode, the renowned interior designer relished the opportunity. Known for his ability to weave classic and eclectic elements into a comprehensive design that reflects the personalities of his clients, this project would end up being one of his favorites.

The homeowners are well-traveled, so Kakar knew international wares and vintage pieces would play a big role in the overall design of the five-bedroom, six-bathroom home in Miami’s gated Bay Point neighborhood, located on the Upper East Side along the waterfront. The clients asked for a glamorous modern midcentury

look and feel with a dash of old Hollywood woven throughout the home. They often entertained celebrities and dignitaries, so they wanted a stylish place that had a wow factor, but that was also family friendly and comfortable.

“I loved working with these clients. They were open to a wide range of selections, colors and patterns,” says Kakar. “The challenging aspect of this project was to combine so many different design elements and make them cohesive, but that is exactly what we specialize in doing.” Kakar has an interesting backstory. After graduating from the University of Miami with his MBA, he spent a decade as a banker and wealth adviser. He completely changed careers in 2012, when he opened Kakar House of Design, including both a showroom and an interior design firm. It turns out his original career in finance set him up to be a successful business owner and opened up the opportunity to channel his true passion.

Known for mixing classics with edgy works of art, Kakar designs each project specifically for the client, and he manages to work in pieces from all over the world. “I don’t have just one design aesthetic,” says Kakar. “I design for my clients, so each project is unique.” At his showroom on Biscayne Boulevard, Kakar and his team restore vintage and antique furnishings that he finds in marketplaces on his extensive travels—some of his best sellers include handmade Indian inlaid bone and mother-of-pearl pieces.

In the Bay Point project, Kakar worked in pieces he found in Morocco, France, Italy, India, Brazil, Japan and Tibet. For the music



In the piano room, Kakar used a mix of vintage pieces his team restored along with handstitched Moroccan poufs, a custom plush rug from Mongolia and wallpaper by Edge Collections.



For the bar area, Kakar chose a sculpture by a Central American artist and sourced one-of-a-kind vintage pieces including Lucite and wood stools, barware and decanters.

room, he strategically placed handmade Moroccan poufs around a grand piano that has been played by a variety of celebrities. He topped the room off with a Murano chandelier above the piano, custom gold wallpaper by Edge Collections, antique crystal sconces from Italy and a variety of vintage furnishings refurbished by his design team.

Also built for entertaining guests, the living room has an ode to old Hollywood vibe with various works of pop art and a 1950s-era sofa and coffee table, both restored by Kakar House of Design, sitting atop a plush rug from Tibet. The crystal chandelier with custom gold leaf lamp shades is from Austria, and Kakar's team restored vintage header chairs with fabric from Uzbekistan. The silk rug is from India.

Another piece artistically refurbished by his team, the custom sofa in the media room is covered with an aubergine velvet fabric and sits atop a chevron cowhide rug from Brazil. His team also crafted a vintage bone coffee table for this space and hung a



From top: Using art and furnishings from all over the globe, Kakar set out to create spaces that reflected the client's personality. Kakar chose a vintage Austrian crystal chandelier with custom gold leaf shades to hang above the dining room table.

custom black and gold glass Murano chandelier. Throughout the home, all the custom window treatments are courtesy of Miami-based Brown Design Inc.

In the kitchen, Kakar hung vintage art from the 1960s, an eye-catching faux tortoise lamp and sourced an antique round table and chairs. Featuring a sculpture by a Central American artist, the bar area features vintage Lucite and wood stools.

The result was an eclectic home that reflected the glitz and glam that his clients sought. "The sexy vibe and appeal of this Miami house is a true reflection of the owners," says Kakar. "By incorporating one-of-a-kind vintage pieces throughout the home, we really set out to inject their personalities in every custom detail." Mission accomplished. ■



For an extra boost of color in the bathroom, Kakar chose green Italian marble with veining and wallpaper by Edge Collections.

DESIGN DETAILS

KAKAR HOUSE OF DESIGN
Interior design
kakarhouseofdesign.com

BROWN DESIGN INC.
Window treatments
blindsformiami.com

BERBER DESIGNS OF MOROCCO
Moroccan furniture and textiles
berbertrading.com

EDGE COLLECTIONS
Custom-made artistic wallpapers, tiles and textiles
edge-collections.com

KAYMANTA
Custom exotic rugs
kaymanta.com

ORIENTAL RUGS INC.
Rugs
orientalrugscompany.com

REINER INTERIORS
Custom upholstery
reinerinteriors.com