

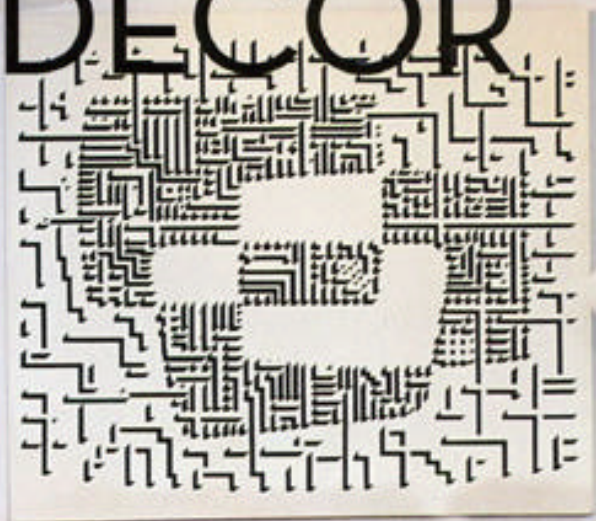
FLORIDA DESIGN'S

# MIAMI

## HOME & DECOR

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# INTO THE MYSTIC



Striking architectural features and a beach-front setting on the Atlantic Ocean distinguish this Key Largo retreat. The loggia faces a square stucco arch with billowing draperies, while a pair of daybeds in Sunbrella fabric offer elegant relaxation. A desk and chair, right, turn the beach into an outdoor office.



ONE COUPLE  
ESCAPES THE  
CITY LIFE WITH  
AN EXOTIC OASIS  
OF BEAUTY ON  
THE ATLANTIC

INTERIOR DESIGN

Martín Martínez,  
M Interiors, Miami Beach, FL

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PHOTOGRAPHY Tim Ribar,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

located where the Florida Keys begins, Key Largo is just a 60-minute drive from Miami International Airport. But for a couple who bought a beach house there, it's in a land far, far away. Boasting a magnificent waterfront setting on the Atlantic Ocean, this private retreat indulges the senses with its exotic mystique.

"We wanted to create a unique place that provided an escape from city life, so we named our home 'The Oasis,'" the owners say.

Familiar with interior designer Martín Martínez's innovative design approach, the owners asked him to incorporate their personal collections into the serene aesthetic they desired for the home's interior.





White silk seating blends with neutral walls in the living area, while the owners' collection of sculptures adds interest to the space, including a gymnast, top right. In the dining area, left, the dark finish of the table and chairs contrasts with the bamboo flooring.



"We planned to use accessories, works of art and pieces of furniture that we had acquired from overseas," the owners say. "We called on Martin to continue the magic we had started."

To conjure up the mood of a spa, Martinez looked to the home's setting for inspiration. "The beach location is very commanding. I felt the interior should be minimally decorated for the environment to play a vital part in the decor of every room," he says. "I started my design from the outside and brought it inside, keeping all the elements very simple."

He also took into consideration the owners' theme for the outdoor areas: water, wind and fire. Water and fire symbolically appear in the form of a torch found at the center of the pool. At the farthest end of the pool, a towering square arch with billowing white draperies alludes to the wind.



From this arch, the pool flows to meet and surround the loggia. Here, the home's support columns symmetrically frame a pair of romantic daybeds. "The straw ceiling captures the Asian look the couple wanted in this area and the sisal rug echoes the color of the ceiling," Martinez says.

For the main living areas on the second level, the owners wanted a neutral palette that would allow the colors of the ocean, sand and sky to take precedence. Throughout the living and dining areas, honey-toned bamboo flooring contrasts with dark wood pieces, such as the bamboo-and-wenge-wood sofa table in the living area, and table and chairs in the dining area. A mix of coconut shells gives the table and chairs their unique pattern.

In the living area, white silk seating gathers around two coconut-shell cocktail tables. Leather Moroccan pendants radiate an exotic glow, while votives light up a series of square niches above the space.



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A Texas cowhide area rug, a chocolate-brown leather sofa and African zebra-skin accent pillows blend with white leather ottomans from Artefacto to give the studio a masculine feel. A Brazilian desk and chair complement the color scheme.



Photographs from the owners' travels abroad inspired the artwork that marks the entrance to the studio. California artist Sandy Young etched bits and pieces of the photographs into glass to create the three collages. An art chair nestles the space at the end of the hallway.





IN THE MASTER BEDROOM, WHITE SHEER  
CREATING A PRIVACY WALL FOR THE  
VENETIAN SILK PENDANTS



Three works of art mark the entrance to the studio, where a chocolate-brown leather sofa pairs with white leather ottomans. African zebra-skin accent pillows and a Texas cowhide area rug instill the space with a “call of the wild” feel.

On the third level, Martinez imbued the master bedroom with an aura of ancient mysticism. White sheer draperies surround the headboard and create a privacy wall between the bed and meditation area. Fabric made of natural

DRAPERIES ENCLOSE THE HEADBOARD, ANTECHAMBER AND MEDITATION AREA. ADD TO THE ROOM'S MYSTIQUE.



fibers wraps the bed and accent pillows, highlighted with a leopard print. Silk Venetian pendants hang above the bed, further emphasizing the mystical mood.

The owners were very involved in the design, which took four years to complete. "We wanted to create an oasis that dramatized the elements of water, wind and fire in the environment while displaying the art and shared humanity of different cultures," the couple says.



The "water, wind and fire" theme of the outdoor living areas is clearly visible at night. Draperies flutter in the breeze, while torches burn in the pool and alongside the loggia.

## sources

### Pool Area/Loggia

Daybeds, dining table and chairs - Home Design Store, Miami, FL

Daybed, chair and drapery fabric - Sunbrella, B.A. Upholstery, Miami, FL

Chaises - Safari Design Center, Fort Lauderdale, FL

Stucco arch and ceiling fabricated by Krieter Construction, Homestead, FL

Scones and torch - Gas Products Co., Lithonia, GA

Area rug - Pir International, Chicago, IL

Flooring - Daco Marble & Granite, Inc., Coral Springs, FL

Sculptures - Bronze Outpost, Simi Valley, CA

### Beach

Chair and desk - Home Design Store, Miami, FL

Hammock - Novica, Los Angeles, CA

### Dining Area

Table and chairs - Nusa, Los Angeles, CA

### Living Area

Love seats, borne and ottoman fabricated by Le Jeune Upholstery, Miami, FL

Pendants - Sole e Luna, Los Angeles, CA

Sofa table and art chair - Belle Décor Design Group, Inc., Miami, FL

Cocktail tables - J.D. Chamberlain, Ltd., Brookfield, WI

Sculpture on sofa table - Details, Miami Beach, FL



Figure in circle sculpture - Rosario Salazar Design, Inc., Coral Gables, FL

Collage series - Studio Y, Sonoma, CA Studio

Sofa - Belle Décor Design Group, Inc., Miami, FL  
 White leather ottomans and accent pillow fabric, desk and chair - Artefacto, Coral Gables, FL  
 Accent pillows fabricated by B.A. Upholstery, Miami, FL

Zebra-skin pillows - Wildlife, Etc., Sugar Land, TX  
 Block series above sofa - West Elm, New York, NY  
 Area rug - Owners' Collection  
 Master Bedroom

Headboard - FurnitureOnLine.com, Milwaukee, WI  
 Bed covering, pillows and meditation cushions - Bloomingdale's, Miami, FL  
 Console - West Elm, New York, NY  
 Mirrorwork - J&S Glass & Mirror, Key Largo, FL

Silver mirror - Horchow, Neiman Marcus, Dallas, TX  
 Pendants - Punctilio, Chicago, IL  
 Sculptures - Belle Décor Design Group, Inc., Miami, FL

Throughout  
 Drapery fabric and fabrication by Keys Custom Window Decorating, Key Colony Beach, FL  
 Bamboo flooring - Belle Décor Design Group, Inc., Miami, FL ■