

Collaborative Effort

WITH INSIGHT FROM TWO DISCERNING CLIENTS,
A SEASONED DESIGNER ADDS PERSONALITY AND
WARMTH TO A HOME ON BAY HARBOR ISLANDS

INTERIOR DESIGN IVONNE RONDEROS, DKOR INTERIORS, MIAMI, FL
TEXT FLORIAN JOUIN
PHOTOGRAPHY VENJHAMIN REYES, MIAMI, FL



"The expansive living room was reprogrammed into two distinct zones: one for relaxed TV viewing and another for entertaining," says designer Ivonne Ronderos. "A sculptural dome subtly anchors the cocktail area while a custom, double-sided Minotti sofa connects both spaces."



“Our approach in the foyer was to transform a previously blank wall into a dynamic, integrated feature that sets the tone for the entire home,” says Ronderos. “We extended wood wall panels to match the existing carpentry, seamlessly concealing a hidden storage door.” The hanging glass vases from SKLO introduce a pop of color that immediately catches the eye.

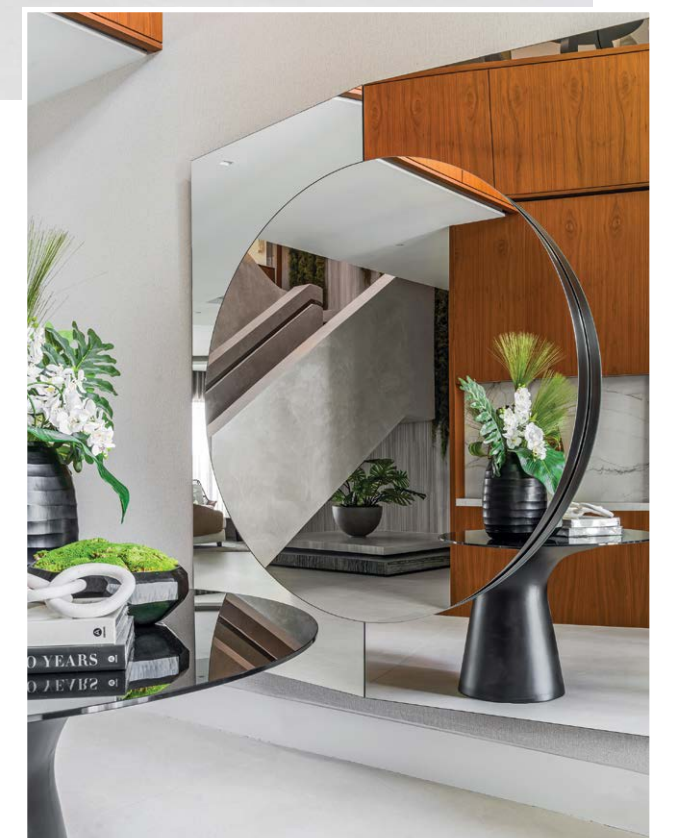


“We leaned into a modern aesthetic for the stairwell, refining it with style-forward material choices,” says Ronderos. “The floor and stairs are now unified in a soft gray tone that creates continuity.”

SHORTLY AFTER PURCHASING a 7,000-square-foot house in Bay Harbor Islands, a Brazilian couple called on designer Ivonne Ronderos and her team at DKOR Interiors to spearhead the interior design efforts at the newly built property.

“Like many Miami spec homes, the property felt more polished than personal,” says Ronderos, who had worked with the homeowners before on a condo in the Oceana tower in Bal Harbour as well as on their yacht. “The clients immediately recognized the strength of the architecture, but they also understood that the house needed a deeper layer of design to reflect the way they live.”

At the heart of the project was the homeowners’ lifestyle. The husband and wife enjoy entertaining friends regularly, as well as spending quality time with their two children, so the design needed to support both lively gatherings and everyday moments. “These clients were deeply engaged in the creative process and eager to collaborate,” says Ronderos. “They didn’t



RIGHT: Mirrors were used in the foyer to “enhance depth and create a strong visual impact.”

“These homeowners didn’t want prescriptive design,” says designer Ivonne Ronderos. “What they wanted was a team that would listen, interpret, and build alongside them.”

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That spirit of collaboration served the project well. The aesthetic of the finished home is best described as contemporary and timeless, layered with an elegant tropical sensibility. Clean architectural lines are softened by warm materials, textures, and organic influences drawn from the surrounding landscape. This is a Miami home, alright, but one with heart—sophisticated and curated yet also inviting and deeply connected to its coastal setting on Biscayne Bay.

The tone of the home was first established with the palette, which balances calm neutrals with vibrant accents. Soft taupe, beige, and crisp white create a serene, timeless backdrop. “The clients’ art collection was the starting point for the color palette and guided many of the decisions throughout the space,” says Ronderos. “We based our choices on the tones of the artworks to introduce rich, vibrant accents in shades of yellow, mustard, caramel, olive, and sage to bring warmth, energy, and personality to the interiors.”



“The dining room’s transformation focused on enhancing and elevating the existing space rather than a full redesign,” says Ronderos. “We retained the homeowners’ table and chairs and introduced new lighting from Hammerton Studio, window treatments, and artwork to refresh the aesthetic.”



The home's movie theater offers a relaxing, comfortable atmosphere with seating from Cineak, layered textures, and carefully chosen lighting.



As the residence leans monochromatic, the design team relied on textures to convey the homeowners' appreciation for art and design. "One example of this was our approach in the primary bedroom," says Ronderos. "While the space incorporates striking materials, including marble on the bed's headboard and wood accents throughout, these elements remain soothing as they are expressed through texture and dimension."

As far as lighting goes, the goal was for an inviting atmosphere, which is why LED lighting is paired with decorative fixtures throughout the home. This approach highlights the architecture, adding interest and depth.

To further establish an approachable vibe, new furniture was integrated with pieces from the owners' previous residence. In the living room, Minotti's double-sided Daniels sofa offers movement and balance, while the brand's textured Prince "Cord" armchairs evoke an outdoor feel.

"The owners loved the final result and immediately fell in love with the home, and I think that all had to do with involving them in the process," says Ronderos. "We gave them the room and guidance to shape the design while supporting them with a clear, organized process. Overall, the project had a strong sense of synergy and collaboration from start to finish."

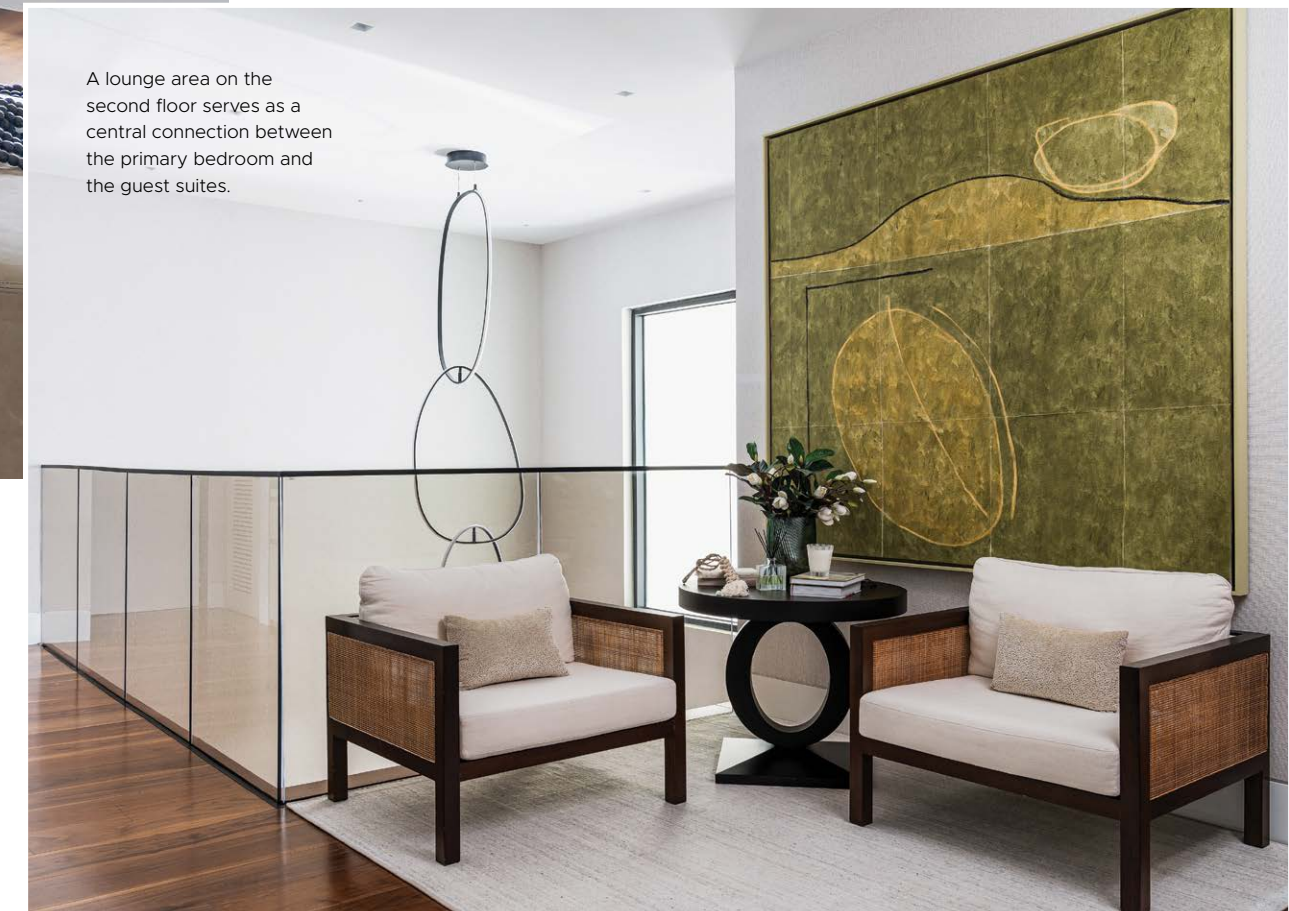
LEFT: "Our approach in the powder room was simply to decorate," says Ronderos. "We complemented the existing elements with the right accessories and lighting from Siemon & Salazar."



The wife's office does double duty as a meditation space. "We designed it as a serene, Zen-inspired retreat," says Ronderos. "The calming tones and wood accents create a minimalist, timeless atmosphere and an elegant, private sanctuary for relaxation and focus."



ABOVE: A morning bar was installed to serve all five bedrooms on the upper level, so guests don't need to venture downstairs for coffee or refreshments.



A lounge area on the second floor serves as a central connection between the primary bedroom and the guest suites.

ABOVE: "The primary bedroom suite is all about comfort and effortless flow," says Ronderos. "We chose soft neutral tones combined with layered natural textures to create a space that feels luxurious and serene, allowing the architecture, furnishings, and views to take center stage, while maintaining a calm atmosphere."

SOURCES

LIVING ROOM
Sofa grouping, chairs, and cocktail table – Minotti, Miami, FL
Round table – Designed by DKOR Interiors, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Grafton Furniture, Miami, FL
Drink tables – Addison House, Miami FL
Wall fabrication – Artec Miami, Miami, FL
Area rug – Obadashian, Miami FL

ENTRY
Stairway fabrication – DecoFinish Oikos, Miami, FL

DINING AREA
Table, chairs, and artwork – Homeowners' collection
Lighting – Lumens, lumens.com

THEATER

Sofa and chairs – Cineak, cineak.com
Knot ottoman – DWR, dwr.com

OFFICE
Desk – Design by DKOR Interiors, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Artec Miami, Miami, FL
Chair – Herman Miller, hermanmiller.com
Lighting – Homeowners' collection

PRIMARY BEDROOM
Bed – Arravanti Contemporary Interiors, Miami, FL
Bedside chests – Homeowners' collection
Pendant lighting – DDC, ddcnyc.com
Lounge – Adriana Hoyos, Miami FL

Ottoman – Designed by DKOR Interiors, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Grafton Furniture Co., Miami, FL
Side table – Arteriors, arteriorshome.com
Chandelier – Henge, henge07.com

UPSTAIRS LANDING
Chairs, table, and artwork – Homeowners' collection
Hanging lighting in stairway – Sonneman, lightology.com
Area rug – Obadashian, Miami, FL

THROUGHOUT
Construction – CH Construction, Miami, FL
Furniture and lighting – DDC, ddcnyc.com
Office doors – Rimadesio, rimadesio.it
Millwork – Artec, Miami, FL