

# FLORIDA DESIGN

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Artist James Brantley's "Interior Two" hangs above a leather sofa in the living area. In the hallway is "San Pablo #25" by Lee Lippman; to its left, "42nd Street" by Donald S. Foster.



## TROPICAL SLEEK

*An Oceanfront Residence Subtly Blends Modern Furnishings With Striking Art*

INTERIOR DESIGN Steven Weixler and Marcello Luzi, Weixler, Peterson and Luzi, Inc., Philadelphia, PA

TEXT Barbara Marshall

PHOTOGRAPHY Kim Sargent, Palm Beach Gardens, FL



Immediately bewitched by views of the sky and sea, the owners of this Highland Beach condominium sought to sustain their initial delight by subtly blending the interior with the beach environment. To do so, they retained designers Steven Weixler and Marcello Luzi. "Being northerners, they wanted to hold onto the wonder they first felt at seeing the ocean at all times of the day," Weixler says. "They also wanted a look completely different from their primary residence on Philadelphia's Main Line — a very traditional house with 18th-century furniture, Oriental rugs and hand-blocked wall coverings."

Using the couple's growing interest in contemporary art as a starting point, the designers adopted a reductionist approach and banished all extraneous details from the oceanfront apartment. "My goal was to strip it down architecturally, so we had that clean, almost bare feeling, which makes furniture and art stand out that much more," Weixler explains.

As a result, the open floor plan alternately conceals and reveals. "These walls don't run all the way out and make a doorway," Weixler says. "They stop and allow space to seep around the corner, into the dining area and den, so you actually get more room than you would in a more traditional plan."

The owners specified furnishings that could withstand a bit of sand tracked in from their frequent walks on the beach. Opting for a warm and welcoming minimalism, Luzi selected a creamy sand-colored paint for



RIGHT: The mirrored, angled wall in the foyer reflects the calming view of the ocean and sky. Designer Steven Weixler specified wire-mounted halogen lighting high on the ceiling to minimize the nighttime reflection in the living and dining areas.





ABOVE: In the breakfast area of the kitchen, pendant lights with three different colored shades hang in staggered lengths above the table. For versatility when entertaining guests, the chairs are companions of those in the dining area.

LEFT: In the den, Donald S. Foster's painting, "Chicod," illuminates the wall behind the sofa. Gary Weisman's torso sculpture, "Center," contrasts with light-colored walls for visual impact.

the walls and floated sleek, handsome furniture in the center of the living area.

Keeping the living area as comfortable and simple as possible, Weixler and Luzi chose sofas and chairs in softened geometric forms, which allow the ocean view and artwork to take precedence. Color is restricted to the bright paintings; the rest of the room is dressed in soothing shades of blush and medium cherry wood.

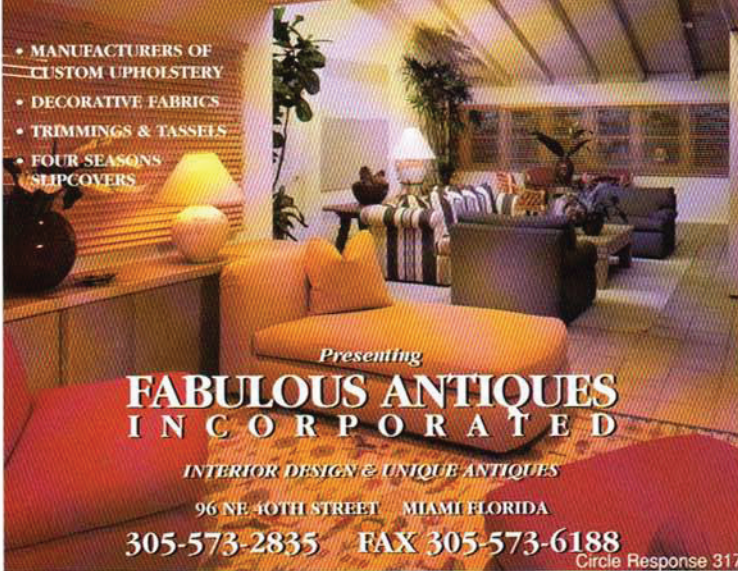
Weixler takes full advantage of his lighting expertise to create an exacting flow of lights throughout the main living areas. Suspended from the ceiling, tiny halogen fixtures in Modern shapes float like miniature pieces of sculpture.



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### SOURCES

#### Living Area

Sofas - Cassina, OLC, Philadelphia, PA  
Fabric - Spinneybeck, OLC, Philadelphia, PA  
Lounge chairs and ottoman - Fre-Wil, The Baer Group, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Fabric - Manuel Canovas, Inc., Matches, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA  
Armchair - Donghia Furniture, The Baer Group, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Fabric - Manuel Canovas, Inc., Matches, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA  
Cocktail table - Roche Bobois, Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Occasional table - Nancy Corzine, Matches, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Corner table - Custom designed by Weikler, Peterson and Luzi, Inc., Philadelphia, PA  
Fabricated by R.W. Langner, Inc., Philadelphia, PA

Lamp - Nancy Corzine, Matches, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA  
Paintings - James Brantley, Lee Lippman and Donald S. Foster, Sande Webster Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

#### Dining Area

Table and chairs - Cassina, OLC, Philadelphia, PA

#### Den

Sofa - Roche Bobois, Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Fabric - Manuel Canovas, Inc., Matches, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Chair - Ligne Roset, OLC, Philadelphia, PA  
Cocktail tables - Harrison Van Horn, Matches, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Occasional table - Henredon, Beacon Hill Showrooms, Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Lamp - Donghia Furniture, The Baer Group, Inc., Marketplace Design Center, Philadelphia, PA

Sculpture - Gary Weisman, Sande Webster Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

Painting - Donald S. Foster, Sande Webster Gallery, Philadelphia, PA

Kitchen/Breakfast Area

Table - Ligne Roset, OLC, Philadelphia, PA  
Chairs - Cassina, OLC, Philadelphia, PA

Cabinetry - Custom designed by Weikler, Peterson and Luzi, Inc., Philadelphia, PA

Fabricated by Scott Fink Contractors, Delray Beach, FL

Countertops and backsplashes - Aztec Limestone, OLC, Philadelphia, PA

Pendant chandelier - Av Mazzega, OLC, Philadelphia, PA

Throughout

Window treatments - Luminette Privacy Sheers by Hunter Douglas, Florida Window Fashions, Boca Raton, FL

Lighting - Translite Systems, OLC, Philadelphia, PA