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FLORIDA DESIGN

AN ULTRA-MODERN HOUSE BECOMES A HOME

Sometimes You Just Have To Be True To Your Own Style ... Especially If Your Design Plans In Naples' Port Royal Community On The Gulf Coast Call For Comfort With Modernity

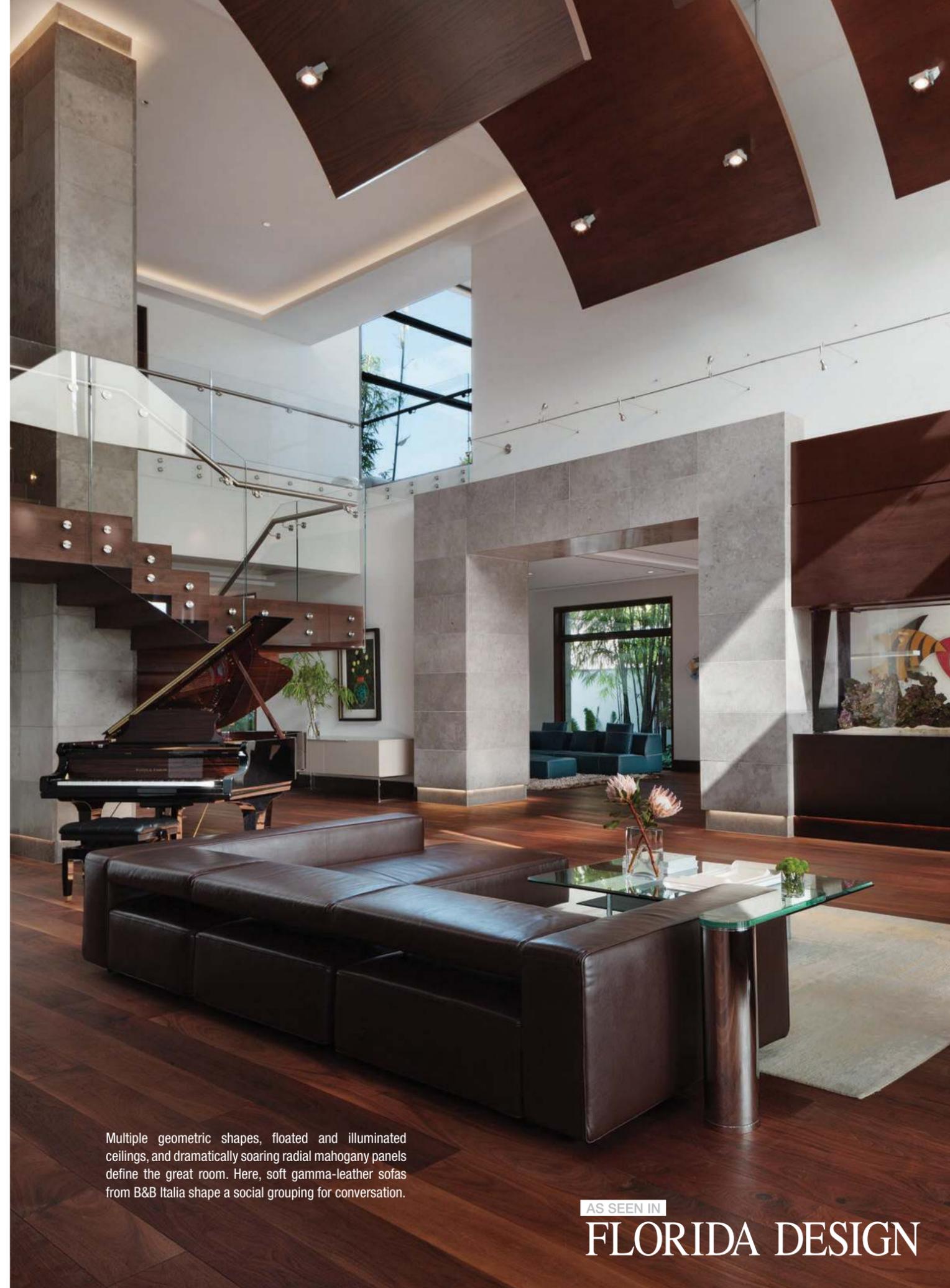


ARCHITECTURE Randall Stofft and John Cooney,
 Stofft Cooney Architects, Naples, FL
 BUILDER Joe Smallwood, BCB Homes, Inc., Naples, FL
 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Koby Kirwin,
 Exteriors by Koby Kirwin, Inc., Naples, FL
 TEXT Marina Brown
 PHOTOGRAPHY Lori Hamilton, Naples, FL

ABOVE: As light is introduced to thick, decorative glass doors, custom designed and crafted by Todd Baker at Aspire Design to depict bamboo, the elements of air, luminescence and natural beauty combine to create a serene Zen-like entry courtyard. Beautiful sculpture from homeowners Jessica and Nicholas Bosworth's collection welcome guests.

LEFT: Though the architectural guidelines were strict, architects Randall Stofft and John Cooney designed an ultra-modern home in Port Royal. Even as the house asserts its modern lines set within lush landscaping by Koby Kirwin, the facade's organic surfaces blend with its natural locale.

“With large volumes lighting is always a challenge,” architect John Cooney says. “We brought sunlight into the interior from the children’s lounge, down the stairway, where it floods the great room.”



HOMEOWNERS JESSICA AND NICHOLAS BOSWORTH DECIDED THAT relocating to a warm Florida locale would be perfect for their family. Once the desired Port Royal lot in Naples, Fla., was secured, the couple launched into a three-year adventure in residential creativity.

Enter architect Randall Stofft and his partner John Cooney, who recalls the pair coming in with architectural photographs from their world travels. “They had a very clear idea of the spare lines, the absence of clutter, and an absolute comfort with modernity that jibed with my own thoughts,” Cooney says. “It was an excellent collaboration.”

The 10,000-square-foot house is built on a wide western-facing canal. Six bedrooms, a clubroom, a children’s lounge, an office and a full guesthouse are all consolidated in a stacking of rectangular cubes. That geometry plays out throughout the architectural plan.

Cooney acknowledges that the hard surfaces can feel cold if not juxtaposed with other, more organic elements, and from the front entrance he corrected any such interpretation. “There are three surfaces used in the residential motif: limestone, stucco, and glass,” he says. Add to that the rich

Multiple geometric shapes, floated and illuminated ceilings, and dramatically soaring radial mahogany panels define the great room. Here, soft gamma-leather sofas from B&B Italia shape a social grouping for conversation.



FIGURED SYCAMORE CABINETRY FROM ALLI KRISTE DEFINES THE SLEEK, CULINARY SPACE, WHILE NEARBY, A CUSTOM WALK-IN WINE ROOM HOLDS UP TO 600 BOTTLES.

mahogany and walnut that is present in every room, the greenery that is cached beyond each window, and the water that reflects on the walls and soaring ceilings, and concerns of sterility begin to disappear. Just beyond thick decorative glass doors depicting bamboo, a large, verdant courtyard leads to the front entry and actual foyer beyond. It is only then that the magnitude of the home's volume looms.

In the great room's open, nearly square space with a ceiling that reaches 22 feet high, the home's most dramatic feature doesn't hold back. Seeming to grasp the limestone-veneered column, massive oil-rubbed American walnut wood stairs float up and around the supporting pillar. "The glass and stainless handrails give it a certain elegance, while the stairs themselves are at once organically soft and dynamically strong," Cooney says.

Light flows into the interior of the house from the children's lounge and its "tower wall" of windows. "With such high ceilings, lighting was always a consideration," says Cooney, in reference to the great

Glass is a key element in Cooney's architectural design, as seen in the kitchen with its glass-coated porcelain backsplash and pendant lamps from Artemide. Figured sycamore cabinetry from Alli Kriste defines the space.

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A frisky fish — a family favorite — brightens the wall of the clubroom. Soft gamma leather stools from B&B Italia surround high-top tables mounted with custom blue glass ... also found atop the bar cached in the corner.

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room circled by a track of LED illumination. But the architect had yet another solution: what may be called sails or baffles. "The massive radial mahogany panels suspend from the ceiling to give the room a kind of cathedral's grandeur," he says. "It was also a way to bring illumination lower into the room."

Though some may have found the challenges in fitting and hanging the unique mahogany sails daunting, not so for the builder of the home, Joe Smallwood. "I do love working with wood and the construction of unique elements," he says. "And there are plenty in this home." Nearly every room has floated ceilings that define spaces, floated cabinetry, or floated limestone veneer, illuminated from above and below.

Meanwhile, Jessica, who acknowledges she is not a professional designer, decided along with her husband, that the interior choices they were making were good ones,

ABOVE AND RIGHT: For additional fun, the clubroom sports a beautiful walnut and marble billiard table designed by Mitchell Custom. And when the homeowners can't miss a moment of the "big game," a television descends in the great room in front of the aquarium.





LEFT: Treasuring their views, the Bosworths worked with Cooney's architecture to keep visual interruptions to a minimum in the master suite. Lighting is tucked into soffits and ceiling elements leaving expanses to the pool and water unobstructed. A brilliant Chihuly print, *Forsythia Spark*, dots the wall.

as well as personally appealing. Sleek, streamlined furnishings from Luminaire shape the social spaces throughout. In the upstairs children's lounge, which separates two pairs of bedrooms, she chose happy, vibrant colors ... oranges, blues and chartreuse ... and added a flower burst of illumination from the colorful, hand-blown glass chandelier.

The beautiful Mason & Hamlin piano goes right beneath the stairway, while the living room's fun aquarium can be covered by a descending television. Nearby, the kitchen is styled for culinary enjoyment. At 24-feet-long with a seven-foot-long galley sink, the figured sycamore island cabinetry topped in solid quartzite easily seats seven. And separated from the great room by a double-sided aquarium built into the wall, the clubroom is a favorite for adults with its custom-designed billiard table and a tiny bar tucked in the corner.



LEFT: An Arco metallic lamp arches over B&B Italia sofas in the highly accessible study, where a bold orange cocktail ottoman adds a bit of spice. A collection of Loet Vanderveen's bronze sculpture decorates the niched shelving, while Shoji-style doors pull open to the pool area beyond.

The entire rear of the home has electronic screens which drop down to enclose a summer kitchen and dining space. With water features abounding, a silver wind-spinner sculpture from Random Acts of Art stands tall poolside, while the homeowner's favorite color, orange, appears in frequent bursts.



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In the master bedroom, a floated mahogany cabinet, wall and ceiling seem to hover weightlessly while wrapping the space in warmth. Bosworth selected a white resin chaise from B&B Italia for a sculptural note and orange, her husband's favorite color, for the bed coverings. The couple's study lies immediately off the bedroom. With picturesque views to the pool and canal beyond, the Bosworths can watch the ripples on the pool sparkle or the evening stars twinkle.

Outside on the patio decked in lavastone and Ipe wood, it is possible to see the multiple variations on the symmetrical theme created by Cooney: from the custom-sized Tischler und Sohn windows and the rooms' modular arrangements, to the five water venues. There is a 75-foot-long Olympic-size lap pool; the beach pool that adjoins it; a wet shelf; the firewall with water cascading behind; a detached hot tub and the wading pool for tikes ... a perfect venue for family fun. ♦