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#### INTERIOR DESIGN Frances Herrera PHOTOGRAPHY Frances Herrera

he Exotic Elegance project started with my clients purchasing a new 4 bedroom, 4 bath 2500 sq. foot apartment in a luxury condominium in New York City's Upper West Side. My clients have 2 young children and were looking for a designer that would translate their love of travel, art and spending quality family time, into a home that was comfortable yet elegant.

The goal was to capture their passions which included traveling to exotic locations, photography, and a sophisticated neutral space that would not compete with the incredible New York City skyline views. We layered rich fabrics in earthy monochromatic tones that allowed the owner's art collection to be the focal point. Utilizing durable fabrics made the spaces comfortable and livable so the kids can enjoy every space in the apartment.

In the living area, a custom sectional sofa is the perfect piece to encourage family movie or video game nights. The custom ottoman is the perfect place to kick up your feet and lounge. A reading area was created for my client who loves curling up in the mornings with a good book. It was a perfect spot for the children to read as well.

- continued on next page -



The glass dining table was chosen to keep the space airy and enhance the incredible views. The dining chairs were upholstered in a faux ostrich leather which makes it practical and perfect for everyday meals, yet still elegant. The sleek buffet adds visual interest to the space while complementing the modern skyline views.

SOURCES <u>Living Room</u> Furniture: Custom designs by Frances Herrera Rug: Tufenkian Carpets Window Treatment Fabrics: Robert Allen Bookcase and Dining room buffet: Lexington Furniture <u>Dining Room</u> Dining Table: Artistica & Chair fabric: Duralee Fabrics <u>Master Bedroom</u> Drapery fabric: Robert Allen Bed and nightstands: Custom designed by Frances Herrera Bed linens: Barbara Barry for Bloomingdales Chandelier: mported from Morocco Window Treatments fabrics: Robert Allen



The master bedroom is layered with rich neutrals in luxurious fabrics in the drapery, bedding and area rug. The Moroccan chandelier is the focal point which was chosen for it's beautiful architectural shape and exotic flair that captures the client's love of travel to exotic locations.

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#### INTERIOR DESIGN Joseph Fava, Fava Design Group, Fort Lauderdale, 786.536.5380 www.favadesigngroup.com PHOTOGRAPHY Craig Dennis, Miami, FL

Situated off of Las Olas, this penthouse proved to be the perfect new home for a busy family of five. Wanting to move east to be closer to the water and their boat, the couple fell in love with the expansive space and the spectacular views of the ocean to the east and the cityscape of downtown Fort Lauderdale to the west. With a time line of three months, Fava transformed a blank canvas into a spectacular contemporary space.

- continued on next page -



The elevator vestibule (left) provides the first impression to all who enter, and Fava wanted to make the most of that impression. Picking a bold purple for the walls, the color provides the perfect back drop for the reclaimedwood console and the oranges and yellows in the client's art work. The contrasting colors in the wood create a striped effect on the base of the console, adding more interest to the space.





A brightly-colored abstract painting provides the focal point of the dining room. Allowing the colors of the painting to command the attention, the designer selected mushroom-colored opened back dining chairs because of their simplicity. Two linear crystal chandeliers, installed staggered, highlight the length of the table.

The living room provides the perfect view of the water and is a favorite place to watch the sunset. The homeowners wanted to keep the space light and airy while maintaining a contemporary and clean look. Simple sheers were installed on the floor to ceiling windows and glass sliding doors to soften the walls of glass. The Italian leather sofa is cream colored, keeping the warm- contemporary vibe that the client's requested. It serves as the perfect place to add touches of brown and purple in the throw pillows, for just the right amount of color. A linear silk area rug from Stark creates added warmth to the room, while the geometry of the cocktail table mimics the curved wall of windows.

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In the kitchen, the cherry cabinets and black absolute counter tops are enhanced by the multi-colored glass mosaic back splash. The barstools are covered in a brown vinyl, for easy clean up. To add texture a metal sculpture was installed on the kitchen wall. The den with its brown walls and contrasting white lacquered furniture, has become the family's favorite place to relax and enjoy playing games and watching movies. "My clients wanted this space to be a fun place for their 3 sons to have friends over to watch movies and sports events, so we decided on chocolate walls and white furniture to make this cozy space sizzle". A contemporary canvas in varying shades of teal, paired with bright accessories, completes the look.





The master bedroom proved to be a design challenge that Fava handled with ease. The abstract stained glass, covering all of the windows in the master bedroom, can not be ignored. Fava's challenge was to work around these bright hues without fighting with the colors. "I believe that a master bedroom should be a peaceful, restful space and these brightly colored windows provided more color that I usually use in a master. I opted to use a lot of white to maintain a sense of tranquility. I chose wood furniture, the color of the hard wood floors, to balance the sleek windows and white found in the drapery fabric, walls and bedding. An orange and purple diptych hangs over the bed, adding a splash of color to the large white wall. Missoni pillows add a dash of color on the contemporary chairs. **- continued on next page -**



The roof top terrace is the perfect place to entertain guests while taking in the view of the ocean. An outdoor kitchen allows the family to cook out and take advantage of the Florida weather. A large round sofa is ideal for curling up to a good book or for taking a late afternoon nap. "This is one of my favorite projects. The clients were ideal. They knew what look they wanted, and allowed us to run with it, without micro managing the process," says Fava. "They made quick decisions and allowed us to experiment with colors that were out of their comfort zone, which is something I love to do. The were thrilled with the end result which makes the effort all worth while".





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#### SOURCES

Living Area

Sofa - Gamma Arredamenti, Addison House Furniture, Miami, FL Accent pillow fabrics and pottery - Domicile Furnishings, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL Armchairs - Artefacto, Fort Lauderdale, FL Cocktail table - Lorca Furniture, Addison House, Miami, FL Entertainment unit - Pianca Furniture, Addison House, Miami, FL Area rug - Stark Carpet Corp., DCOTA, Dania Beach. FL Kitchen Mosaic tile backsplash - CLAD Tile & Stone, Fort Lauderdale, FL Barstools - Pianca Furniture, Addison House, Miami. FL Pendants - Access Lighting, Farrey's

Wholesale Hardware Co., North Miami, FL Dining Area

Dining table – Environment Furniture, Addison House, Miami, FL Chairs - Costantini Pietro, Addison

House, Miami, FL Light fixture - Nuevo Living, Island City Traders, Wilton Manors, FL Master Suite

Bed, bedside tables and chest – Creative Elegance, Judith Norman Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL Side chalrs - Innovation USA. Inc., Addison House, Miami, FL Patterned accent pillow fabric - Missoni

Fabrics, Ensemble Collection, Inc., Fort Lauderdale. FL Side table - Decades, Wilton Manors, FL

Table lamps - Arterlors Home, Dallas, TX Fan - George Kovacs, Farrey's Wholesale Hardware Co., North Miami, FL

Area rug - Carpet Source, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL Throughout

General contractor - AFG Construction. Boca Raton, FL

Drapery fabric - Arabel Fabrics, Inc., North Miami Beach, FL; fabricated by

Drapery Castle, Delray Beach, FL Painting - Wall Design Faux Finish, Boca

Raton. FL

Floral arrangements - Mystique Flowers, Inc., North Miami, FL

Artwork-Rosenbaum Fine Art, Boca Raton, FL.

Area rug installation - Laws Flaws, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL





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## TRANSFORMING A SPRAWLING BOCA RATON ESTATE HOME

INTERIOR DESIGN Sheri Kesten SKD Inc. PHOTOGRAPHY Gabrielle Cohen 101 Plaza Real South #528 Boca Raton, FI 33432 (954) 980-2555 www.sherikestendesign.com This magnificent single-family Boca Raton estate home is located in the prestigious Grand Oaks section of Broken Sound Country Club. An unparalleled quality of design is evident throughout the home. The home was totally remodeled with contemporary topof-the-line finishes and designer-quality interiors. This 4-bedroom, plus library, 5-1/2 bathroom home showcases seven different species of natural exotic stone used throughout the home.

This resale was a true designer's challenge. Extensive high ceilings once obfuscated were enhanced by Kesten's remodeling of low archways into sweeping high architectural openings, and corrective LED lighting throughout the house. Hence, a complete transformation evolved from a dark, choppy environment into bright open airy spaces. Kesten's goal was to create a neutral palate with a sleek, minimalist style to showcase her client's extensive contemporary art collection. esten had to work with numerous pieces of art ranging in multiple colors and sizes. She established a neutral palate to complement the art, consisting of grey, white and silver. Her design focus was minimalistic, utilizing unique custom designs from oversized furnishings to floating built-in media centers and back-lit countertops.

"When working on a large residence of over 5,000 square feet, the clients must be given the best options in which to create a comfortable living space while remaining cost efficient," says Kesten. As well, she purposefully chose to use all stone floors throughout the residence, fashioning an expansive look and opening up the formerly closed floor plan. This type of updated renovation instantly adds resale value to the home while providing a great overall aesthetic appeal. The massive living room was furnished with dual seating areas and oversized glass sliding doors enhanced the beautiful golf course view. A re-styled living room sofa taken from the client's own collection created 138 inches of luxurious seating detailed with polished stainless steel square legs making for a sleek bold contemporary statement. Reupholstered in a charcoal brushed velvet with one large seamless single cushion seat simply spells elegance. The finishing touch is the three oversized silk pillows.

Strategically placed behind two coffee tables side by side helped balance this large sofa and created a sophisticated and balanced living room. Kesten refinished and reupholstered her client's own two Bergere chairs in a satin white wood frame and silver and white tweed fabric. The rug is white wool with silver thread.

The fireplace is made of a leather-finished granite layered with recessed reveals in brushed stainless steel, and is a key focal point featuring an original Keith Herring lithograph above it. To create an architectural balance, Kesten designed the other side of the living room with a refinished white heirloom antique baby grand piano and a pair of oversized highback chairs. This side of the living room complements and features original lithographs by noted artists, Dubuffet, Motherwell, and Kelly. The custom-size white wave leather bench serves as a room divide as well as additional seating creating architectural balance in the room.

Shown below are signature high-back chairs in a dark finish to serve as a contrast in front of the light wall and to anchor the artwork. As a final detail, these Adriana Hoyos chairs were placed on an accent cowhide area rug with splashes of silver metallic paint to echo the stainless steel detail throughout the home. The seat cusions are a pewter color leather with a companion fabric carefully chosen for the back cushion. Typical of Kesten's work is the use of monochromatic colors in different textures and materials, which creates continuity and fluidity...her signature.







The kitchen and family room were completely renovated to accommodate an open flow for entertainment and comfort. The artfully designed quartz island provides additional serving space appointed with refrigerated drawers and mood lighting for evening entertaining.

pantry wall of custom cabinetry, cooking appliances and a flat screen TV. This created a family room is a right arm /left arm facing natural flow from kitchen to family room embracing form and function. The kitchen cabinetry is surfaced with black Silestone counter tops enhanced by under cabinet light-

ing. The high gooseneck faucet exudes contemporary comfort and is complemented by the stainless steel hood over the cook top.

and lounging.

The custom unit in the family room features a vertical storage column and a floating wall-hung, backlit console to house media Kesten created extra space to allow for a equipment, and of course, hide all wires.

The custom charcoal leather sofa in this double chaise sectional for comfortable seating

-CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE-





The dining room was designed for comfort and luxury. This was accomplished with the use of oversized chairs done in faux leather for practicality and sophistication. The wood dining table base is a hand-made limited edition conversation piece. The glass table top is easy to maintain and exemplifies contemporary styling. The custom designed table base is made in an exotic African wood with a polyester seal coat. Ornamenting this picture-perfect scene is a 48-inch round chandelier in silver leaf and organza mesh. The oversized lighting fixture makes an architectural statement in this minimalistic chic dining room.

The master bedroom features the client's own bed, which is reupholstered in a metallic leather fabric. Bedding is custom designed with exclusive imported fabric in conjunction with restyled DKNY bedding, Bloomingdale's. The chaise is the customer's own and was reupholstered in a luxurious brand new line of brushed satin chenille with uniquely styled custom-painted silver legs. The nightstands are also the client's own, which have been refinished in an automotive gunmetal finish accented with polished stainless steel hardware.





Kesten designed a signature powder room, featuring an integrated sink of white saphire marble. Floor-to-ceiling back splash was done in an exclusive pewter porcelain Italian import. The polished stainless steel hardware is strategically wall mounted creating a sleek splash-free, low-maintenance wash area. The walls are done in silver leaf, which was hand crafted one square at a time by a well known artisan.

The banister in the foyer (right) was designed to look like a sculpture, but serve purely as a safety measure while ascending the entry stairs. The handrail is all acrylic and polished stainless steel sculpted by Michael O. The flooring, which was an 8-month wait, is exotic Italian Albastrino in sweeping 18 x 36 inch stone pieces accentuated by the strategically laid brick pattern throughout the house. The front doors are hurricaneproof Illusion Glass encased in painted metal frames with 8-foot polished stainless steel hardware.



#### SOURCES

Living Room Sofa Fabrics: Romo and Donghia, DCOTA, Dania Beach Sofa reupholstery: Distinctive Creations, Hollywood Coffee table legs: Designer Resources, Boca Raton Custom glass: Roth Glass, Boca Raton Coffee table accessories: Petal Pushers, Boca Raton; Adams Interiors, Fort Lauderdale White Bergere Chairs: Refinishing by Gam Woodwork, Miami White Bergere Chairs: COM Fabric, Jeffrey Michaels, DCOTA High Back Chairs: Adriana Hoyos; COM Fabric, Jeffrey Michaels Rugs: Tibetano, Englewood, NJ Flooring: Marbles of the World, Fort Lauderdale Piano Refinishing: Gam Woodworks, Miami Bench: NS Designs, Boca Raton; Stainless Steel Legs, Ferrous Hardware, CA. Entryway Bannister: Michael O, Miami Motorized window shades: Total Window, Dania Beach, DCOTA Kitchen Silestone Countertops: Creta Granite, Pompano Quartz Island Top: Marbles of the World; Fabrication: Allied Kitchen and Bath Cabinetry: Boca Kitchen & Bath Cabinet Hardware: Allied Kitchen and Bath Pendant lights over Island: Light Bulbs Unlimited, Boca Raton Appliances: Ferguson's, Boca Raton Family Room Two-Piece Custom Wall Unit: Gam Woodworks, Miami Sofa: Nordic Designs, Boca Raton Custom Stainless Steel Legs (leather sectional): Ferrous Hardware Cocktail Table: Stone International, Texas Area Rugs: Tibetano, Englewood, NJ Dining Room Chairs: Design 9, CA COM Fabric for chairs: Jeffrey Michaels Table base: Michael O, Miami Glass table top: Roth Glass Chandelier: Fine Art at Judith Norman, Dania Beach, DCOTA Master Bedroom Bed; leather from Maxwell Fabric; Reupholstery by Distinctive Creations Bedding: Romo Fabric from DCOTA and DKNY from Bloomingdale's Chaise fabric: Norbar Fabric, Delray Beach Reupholstery chaise: Hartlines, Ft. Lauderdale Nightstand refinishing: Gam Woodworks, Miami Rugs: Carpet Source, Dania Beach, DCOTA Flooring (36-inch square glass floors): Marbles of the World, Ft. Lauderdale Powder Room Integrated Sink Countertop: Marbles of the World; Fabrication: Allied K & B Metallic Porcelain Tile: Designer Plumbing, DCOTA Mirror: Designer Plumbing, DCOTA Pendant Lighting: Designer Plumbing, DCOTA Hardware, custom wood wall mount: Allied Kitchen & Bath, Fort Lauderdale Wall Treatment: Artisan Rita Stankus Throughout All audio visual equipment and wiring: Illusive Automatuion, Miami All stone flooring and pool deck :Marbles of the World All stone and white glass fabrication on floors and bathroom walls PFA Marble, Pompano All plumbing: Ferguson, Boca Raton All kitchen Appliances: House of Appliances, Delray All Painting, Interior and Exterior: Castle Paint, Boca Raton Crown Molding: Castle Paint, Boca Raton General Contractor: NCS Contracting, Ft Lauderdale

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The testimonials below are from actual customers who patronized those stores and services. This way, you get a good idea of their quality products and services before you make your purchase. It's a great new feature Florida Decor offers our readers! (Please note that all advertisers in Florida Decor are selected on the basis of excellence but we just haven't received a comment letter from them yet being that this feature is so new.) Keep watching for additional testimonial letters each issue!

Allied Kitchen & Bath. Fort Lauderdale, 954.564.1611 "We were ver impressed by Andy Fischman's work. From the beginning to the end, he su cessfully carried out this project. Advices preliminary defined, the choice right materials and his comments have been relevant when we were hesite ing. Within a short deadline, he produced attractive design drawings, close monitored the project and informed us at all stages." - A.F., Quebec Coral Springs Appliance Center. Coral Springs, 954.752.3880. "I a writing to say a very special thank you to your staff at CSAC for their profe sionalism and tremendous assistance in the purchase of my new appliances. am in a service business and know people often take the time to complain b rarely give credit when due. So I just wanted to take a moment to complime your wonderful staff and assure you that when I am in need of appliances the future your family business will be the first one I call. Thank you!" - P. Boca Raton

#### Village Vanity/Mirros Plus. Wilton Manors, 954.564.8686.

Dear Judge, You should not be selling anything! You should be teaching other how to sell. The variety of sinks, vanities, mirrors and other furniture are con plimented by your friendly helpful enthusiasm for your understanding, unusu products and ability to assist in selecting just the right items for your custome I look forward to each visit to the Joshua Tree and the professionalism you willingly exude.- Bill W., Fort Lauderdale



ery	Sherri Goode Interiors, Inc. Plantation, 954.701.6149.
uc-	Sherri Goode far surpassed our home remodeling expectations as she trans-
e of	formed our home into a showpiece. It is the perfect combination of high end
tat-	sophistication and glamour with a cozy warm feel Robert and Kathy L, Park-
ely	land.
	Blinds International, Sunrise, 954.747.9858
am	"We couldn't be more satisfied with everyone who came through our doors.
fes-	Debbie and the whole crew have been truly magnificent, professional, and ac-
s. I	comodating in every possible way."
but	- Roy & Georgina V, Fort Lauderdale.
ent	Dimensions Design Center, Cooper City, 954.533.4435
s in	"I just wanted to type a quick note regarding the exceptional service that I re-
S.,	ceived from your installers. I was very impressed with the quality of my blinds
	and the quick installation." - Oneida G, Plantation.
	Decor Secrets, Dania Beach, 954.923.4226
ers	Just wanted to say a very special thank you again to the great folks at Decor
om-	Secrets, a special thanks to Lilly, she brought new life and new fun into my
ual	home by helping me create the living room I always wanted but wasn't sure
ers.	how to achieve. Never pushy, never annoyed with my hundreds of questions,
l SO	always helpful always knowledgeable that's been my experience at Decor Secrets Janice F.

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