

MODERN LUXURY

# OCEAN DRIVE



MIRANDA KERR



# july/august

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Taking care not to detract from the residence's panoramic Miami ocean views, interior designer and architect Phillip Thomas created a space focused on art and minimalism.



ON THE COVER  
Photography: Russell James





Centering everything on the incredible Atlantic Ocean view, Phillip Thomas kept the interiors a minimalistic white. Opposite page: Every room in the apartment has a different view of the water.







PHOTOS BY KRIST TAVIBURELLO



# BLANK CANVAS

Taking care not to detract from the residence's panoramic Miami ocean views, interior designer and architect Phillip Thomas created a space focused on art and minimalism.

**BY KANIKA TALWAR**

Proximity to water is everything in Miami. Phillip Thomas, no stranger to this fact, wanted to make the ocean the focal point of his apartment project in the new Richard Meier-designed tower of The Surf Club. To ensure that over-the-top colors and designs would not take away from the stunning view, Thomas took the concept of white-on-white

to heart. Completely ignoring the building architect's original floor plan, Thomas and his client worked closely together in planning the layout of the apartment before the new Surf Club residential tower was even built. Thomas says he "reoriented the entire living space to take better advantage of the Atlantic views."



From left: Utilization of various alabaster shades continues throughout the interiors and into the master bedroom; the master bedroom's dressing room features a Jules Olitski painting and resin paneling.

Taking into consideration that his clients are serious contemporary art collectors, Thomas smartly placed accents of colorful art, such as Hervé Nys' "Gas Can Jerry" 9-foot-tall man sculpture crafted from red gas cans, throughout. Against the various frosty shades of furniture and flooring, other focal points include a blue coffee table by Yves Klein, Fredrikson Stallard cocktail tables and paintings by Polly Apfelbaum and Mike Cloud. Thomas custom-created sofas and sectionals for the space.

Throughout the interior spaces, Thomas used unconventional methods and materials to create a distinct space for his client. Thomas says he "tore down walls and covered the floors in epoxies

creating a 'disco on the water' effect, even in the interior spaces such as the hall and bathrooms where shards of mirror were mixed with the resin coating to achieve the effect." The innovative technique required prior testing to ensure it would dry properly and achieved the desired results.

The minimalism and emphasis on art continue from the living room into the rest of the home. Breaking up the white mood, Thomas complemented the home with touches of silver in chairs, pillows, lighting and accessories to give definition to the space without detracting from the main centerpieces. Boffi cabinets and Miele appliances work together for a modern kitchen with KAWS

3D sculptures making their mark against the snowy palette. For ample seating on the day to day, the kitchen island has bar stools for a breakfast bar and an informal dining room; the main dining room boasts a circular alabaster acrylic lacquered table with gray chairs and seating for 10.

In the four bedrooms, California Closets, Jonathan Adler dressers and Bernhardt beds establish a getaway from the world after a long day. The master bedroom's dressing room features an abstract Jules Olitski painting, and resin paneling brings a nuanced touch to the space. Both the bedroom and dressing room continue the thematic white, along with silver accents on the dresser, side table and vanity table.

Having to turn the property over in less than three months and required to stay in Miami for several weeks, Thomas says the hard work was definitely worth it for the "sheer joy on the clients' part when they first walked into their home." With the primary objective of creating an exquisite home that soars above the saltwater, the architect-interior designer wanted to ensure a natural environment for casual living and formal entertaining. Because every room has an incredible view of the water, Thomas "let the backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean be celebrated—every room has glorious ocean views, so the natural beauty of the ocean and color of the water and sky has a strong presence." ■



## DESIGN DETAILS

Catering to the serious art collector clients, Hervé Nys' "Gas Can Jerry" sculpture remains a focal point.



### TYPE

Condominium

### LOCATION

Surfside

### ARCHITECTURE & INTERIOR DESIGN

Phillip Thomas Inc.  
phillipthomasinc.com

### BUILDER

Coble Builders  
coblebuilders.com

## RESOURCES

### ARTWARE EDITIONS

Yves Klein blue coffee table  
artwareeditions.com

### BENJAMIN MOORE

Paint throughout  
benjaminmoore.com

### BERNHARDT

Beds  
bernhardt.com

### BOFFI

Kitchen cabinets  
boffi.com

### CALIFORNIA CLOSETS

Bedroom closets  
californiaclosets.com

### DAVID GILL GALLERY

Fredrikson Stallard round coffee table  
davidgillgallery.com

### DORNBRACHT

Bathroom fixtures  
dornbracht.com

### FUSION FLOORS

Flooring throughout  
fusionfloors.com

### JONATHAN ADLER

Bedroom dressers  
jonathanadler.com

### LA REGENCE INC.

Custom window treatments  
nylaregence.com

### LUTRON

Motorized roller shades  
lutron.com

### MIELE

Kitchen appliances  
mieleusa.com

### STARK CARPET

Carpeting throughout  
starkcarpet.com