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Overlooking one of two pools, the exercise room to the rear and a guest casita to the left provide privacy and expansive views. Shaded by Tuuci umbrellas, Summit's lounges from Michael Taylor join la-Fête Design's white "Wave + Vibe" chaises around the lower-level pool. Blue armchairs from David Sutherland and Dedon's crisp white sofa complete the open-air setting.

# OASIS BY THE BEACH

## For The Owners Of A Triple Lot Facing The Gulf Of Mexico, It Was The Essence Of A Warm, Livable, Thoroughly Inviting Beach House That This Naples Couple Most Desired

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BUILDER Dave Rogers, Newbury North Associates, Inc., Naples, FL
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Koby Kirwin, Exteriors by Koby Kirwin, Naples, FL
TEXT Marina Brown
PHOTOGRAPHY Kim Sargent, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

OF COURSE, THERE ARE SMALL "BEACH BUNGALOWS" AND then there are "Beach Houses." But for the owners of a triple lot facing the Gulf of Mexico in Naples, Fla., the decision to move full-time to an established neighborhood would mean merging their very modern tastes with the more conservative styles seen on Florida's west coast. It wasn't long before the busy family with young children began to imagine how great it would be to live by the beach. Enlisting the talents of the award-winning firm Stofft Cooney Architects, with its principals Randall Stofft and John Cooney, and designer Jeffrey Strasser from Marc-Michaels Interior Design, the couple was ready to make their dream a reality … and the design team knew just how to do it.

Professionally landscaped and the centerpiece of a nearly two-acre beachfront property, this spectacular, 11,279-square-foot house seems married to the sea and the sky. "Although the lines are contemporary, the use of organic woods, soft

ABOVE: From its wine room to sculptural bronze tendrils on one side and the owners' antiqued wood-framed mirror perched atop Ironies' sideboard on the other, the dining room is styled to dazzle the eye. Elegant chairs dressed in a bold Vervain stripe host two Kona wood tables by Erez Talmor that easily accommodate eight each. Overhead, chandeliers from Holly Hunt appear as curled shells reflected in the wall of mirrors.

LEFT: Suspended teak beams shape the 22-foot-high stairway atrium from above, where Petta Thompson's sculpted "Orbs" cascade down in complement to the washed white oak below. The glowing organic forms crafted of paper pulp, vegetable husks and fiber soften the gallery-like space.

stone, water and natural light integrates the structure into its setting," Cooney says. And because building codes stipulate that the first habitable floor be elevated, the architects took advantage of the heightened vantage point to build in what they call transparency — wide vistas through a series of cantilevered structures essentially clad in glass. "There's really more glass to the home than wall," he says.

Both inside and out, the home's style is characterized by a unique "barefoot elegance" with a streamlined take on the family's aesthetic sensibilities, as well as their super-active lifestyle. "This house has a large, grand presence but really lives as a family home," Strasser says. "All of the spaces are meant to be lived in and enjoyed."

Pulling directly from nature, interior designer Jeffrey Strasser paired an undulating floor lamp shaded in woven reed and handcrafted driftwood table lamps from Jalan Jalan with the colorful stria of woven wicker jars.

Step inside, where the warm hue of a teak grid high above a central stairway naturally pairs with the washed white oak flooring. Windows and doors framed in quality teak from a 50-year-old single tree in Hamberg, Germany, impart continuity throughout. "We were going to place a skylight at the top of the stairwell," Stofft says, "but there was so much light from the main living areas that it wasn't necessary."

ABOVE: In the family room, New Design's blue suede cocktail ottomans center the Gregorious | Pineo sofa clad in cotton chenille, bentwood chairs cushioned in linen, and a Michael Berman lounge chair styled with a swirling print. Outside, JANUS et Cie's dining ensemble invites guests to enjoy light fare and cocktails at sunset.

RIGHT: The warm and natural motif continues in the master bedroom with a wall of teak that frames Kyle Bunting's textured cowhide, a small Parsons-style console wrapped in shagreen, and a leather-clad bench from Interiors by Beverly. Overhead, Aqua Gallery's light fixture from J. Batchelor is reminiscent of a delicate sea urchin in the sun.

The home's signature palette initiates in the stairway foyer, where sandy browns pair with polished stone, warm-toned woods and metal accents. Strasser embraced the "naturalness" with a relaxed interior scheme using organic shape, texture and color as his instruments. The designer screened the foyer from the dining room with a wall of bronze "tendrils." Here, he mirrored the opposing wall, and grounded the dining space in a geometry of limestone and white oak.

It's hard to know which vista to choose in the family room, where Strasser used blues, soft creams and sea spray water hues in homage to the outdoors. Wood-framed walls of glass open to a covered pavilion styled with a summer kitchen, casual dining area, and an intimate social grouping set around the flicker of a fire pit table, while the Gulf of Mexico laps beyond the rear pool. There are two — an elevated pool to allow for easy access from the living floor, and a lower one to the front of the house that protects sunbathers from seaside winds.

LEFT: "Splash to your heart's content" could be a theme in the master bath, where a vanity area plays with light from Sloan Miyasato's cylindrical sconces and Ironies' chandelier. Cappuccino crosscut onyx from Keys Granite tops paldao wood cabinetry, while honed shell-stone flooring leads the way to a wet-room spa.

"Although the lines are contemporary, the use of organic woods, soft stone, water and natural light integrates the structure into its setting," architect John Cooney says. "There is, in fact, over 4,500 square feet of outdoor space including balconies off every room."

The soft simplicity of the master bedroom seems a haven awash in tones of cream and soft grays. Plush coverings from ThreadCount top the bed, while glamorous Jean De Merry chairs wrapped in silk velvet graphite provide the perfect spot to relax and enjoy the views.

Even the master bath plays its part in bringing the outside in with a "wet room" that opens to the Gulf behind two panels of glass. A pebble-like path leads the way to the two showers at opposite ends. Bathers can refresh while watching a storm roll in or a sunset's burst.

Shaped with glass, teak and concrete elements, this contemporary Naples beach house is customized with a "savant sytem" that combines all electronic components of the home, including automated Lutron blinds that open to invite the outside in and close to ensure privacy.

More than a technological "smart" house, and more than a formidable architectural statement of glass-clad modernity, the design team has given this couple what they most wanted — a place to be a family, a place to play in the sun ... an oasis by the beach.

SOURCES

Patio

Chaise lounges - Summit Furniture, Michael Taylor Designs, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
White chaises - la-Fête Design The Scene Outdoors, Los Angeles, CA
White sofa - Dedon, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Blue armchairs - David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Umbrellas - Tuuci, Dedon, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Dining table and side chairs - JANUS et Cie, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Stairway

Stairway and ceiling treatment - Custom designed by Marc-Michaels Interior Design, Winter Park, FL, and Stofft Cooney Architects LLC, Naples, FL
Chandelier - Petta Thompson, Oakville, CT

Dining Room

Tables - Erez Talmor, Los Angeles, CA
Chairs refinished by Erez Talmor, Los Angeles, CA
Sideboard - Ironies, Jerry Pair & Assoc., Hollywood, FL
Teak and bronze wall - Custom designed by Marc-Michaels Interior Design,Winter Park, FL, and Stofft Cooney Architects LLC, Naples, FL
Chandeliers - Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL
Drapery fabric - Rodolph, Ammon Hickson, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Family Room

Sofa - Gregorious | Pineo, Los Angeles, CA
Print pillows, floor lamp, table lamps, pedestals and jars - Jalan Jalan, Miami, FL
Bentwood chairs - JR Elements, Orlando, FL
Lounge chair - Michael Berman, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Cocktail ottomans - New Design Furniture, Lauderdale Lakes, FL

Master Bedroom

Bed - Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL
Wall panels - Kyle Bunting, David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Wall covering - Weitzner, Donghia Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Bed coverings - ThreadCount, Miami, FL
Throw - Oggetti, Miami, FL
Floral print pillow fabric, drapery fabric, lounge chairs and ottoman - Jean De Merry, West Hollywood, CA
Shagreen console - John Lyle, David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Table lamps - Jalan Jalan, Miami, FL
Reading light - Lightology, Chicago, IL
Bench - Interiors by Beverly, Winter Park, FL
Light fixture - Aqua Gallery, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Master Bath

Cabinetry - Bentwood Cabinetry, Naples, FL
Onyx tops - Keys Granite, Miami, FL
Mirrors - Robern, Bristol, PA
Wall sconces - Sloan Miyasato, San Francisco, CA
Chandelier - Ironies, Jerry Pair, Hollywood, FL
Tub - MTI Bath, Inc., Naples, FL
Planter - Sculptural Wood, West Palm Beach, FL
Drapery fabric - Rodolph, Ammon Hickson, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Throughout

Windows and doors - Tischler Und Sohn, Delray Beach, FL
Automated home system - Savant Systems LLC, New York, NY
Carpet and rugs - Kala Looms, Fort Lauderdale, FL