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HOME & DECOR



This modern two-story home features floor-to-ceiling windows adorned with sparkling champagne-toned frames. A striking keystone entry wall begins at the outside entry and appears throughout the home's interiors.

## BETWEEN THE OAKS

EMBRACED BY GRAND WHITE OAKS IN A PRIVATE PARK-LIKE SETTING, THIS GRACEFUL MODERN HOME IN CORAL GABLES INTEGRATES TIMELESSLY WITH ITS LUSH ENVIRONMENT

INTERIOR DESIGN BY JEFFREY LAMB, JEFFREY LAMB INTERIORS, MIAMI BEACH, FL  
ARCHITECTURE BY WILLIAM TAYLOR, TAYLOR & TAYLOR, INC., MIAMI BEACH, FL  
BUILDER SEAN MURPHY, COASTAL HOMES, MIAMI, FL  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE BY ROBERT PARSLEY, GEOMANTIC DESIGNS, INC., MIAMI, FL  
TEXT BY CHRISTINE DAVIS  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL HERNANDEZ, MIAMI LAKES, FL

You would think that a Miami native and fifth-generation local builder would know just about every nook and cranny in neighborhoods around his hometown, but it was actually builder Sean Murphy's wife Jennifer who discovered this private parcel of land in Coral Gables, Fla., where this couple would build their dream home. "The property she found was beautiful ... very quiet, secluded and heavily wooded with 15 majestic specimen oak trees," Murphy says.

The Murphys had previously worked with architect and family friend, Bill Taylor, and asked him to work with them on their new home — one that would be perfect for indoor-outdoor living.



In the dining area, a 1960s stainless steel Italian Sputnik chandelier illuminates a J. Robert Scott glass table designed by Sally Sirkin Lewis. On the dining room wall, an abstract painting by Argentinian artist Perez Celis expresses a bold modern statement.

"Bill is a master architect and understands what it takes to put a house together," the homeowner says. In addition to the inside-outside concept, the pair also required floor-to-ceiling glass throughout, a symmetrical design and a home that wouldn't overwhelm the site. "We wanted something comfortable and modern, but not stark like a showroom," Murphy says.

With its handsome stucco and glass exterior, the two-story, 8,500-square-foot home is strikingly unadorned. Touches of cypress trim add horizontal dimension, and a Florida keystone wall that begins at the outside entry and continues throughout the house, furthers its relationship with nature.

To create the interiors, the couple called on interior designer Jeffrey Lamb. We just loved how Jeffrey designed our last house," the owner says. Lamb, who has a special affinity for vintage style having previously been the owner of two vintage-modern shops, designed that home in Mid-Century Modern, which is exactly what he envisioned for the Murphy's new residence.



Guests can enjoy a beverage at the bar while seated on elegant, brown-velvet upholstered barstools. Overhead, a bleached cypress soffit floats just below a 13-foot-high ceiling that intersects the bar's keystone wall. Custom designed by architect Bill Taylor, it is cut and laid in a distinctive pattern inspired by a Frank Lloyd Wright design.





IN THE LIVING ROOM, A 1982 ROCHE BOBOIS SWIVEL CHAIR IN BISCUIT LEATHER, AND ITALIAN ARMCHAIRS CLAD IN A CUT VELVET, CIRCA 1950, ADD TO THE VINTAGE THEME. A RICHLY HUED, CHARCOAL-GRAY AREA RUG FROM THE CARPET BOUTIQUE ADDS DIMENSION AND CONTRAST TO THE SPACE.

The main floor is one large room comprised of separate spaces. In the dining area, family and friends can dine in elegance on a polished nickel table from J. Robert Scott. Surrounded by Pace upholstered chairs in rich velvet from Romo, the table reflects the lush greenery outdoors. Set within a keystone wall, the adjacent bar is backed with gray mirror that incorporates a floating glass shelf and a marble-topped counter fronted with tufted, pearlized camel-leather panels from Edelman.

The keystone wall at 20 feet high and 60 feet long is a feature that Lamb devised. He loved the way the flagstone is stacked at Frank Lloyd Wright's historic "Fallingwater" residence. He took photos and made a sample using Wright's design. "When I first saw it ... I just knew that was it," the designer says.

The living room is filled with the Murphy's eclectic collection of vintage pieces created in an earthy gray and cream color palette with broad strokes of deep colors for contrast. An Italian sofa covered



IN THE MASTER BATH’S GARDEN-LIKE SETTING THROUGH TALL PICTURESQUE WINDOWS, ARTEFACTO’S SUEDE-TUFTED OTTOMAN PROVIDES A COMFORTABLE PLACE TO RELAX AND ENJOY THE SCENE AMID CHENILLE MARBLE-COVERED WALLS AND FLOORING.



in gray velvet from Arravanti, and armchairs clad in a patterned silver-gray and chocolate-brown cut velvet, flank a pair of 1970s rectangular glass cocktail tables finished in a polished-nickel design by Milo Baughman. Honed chenille marble flooring grounds the space and adds a layer of subtlety. The gas fireplace, custom designed by Lamb, is “a big design element — and it’s opposite the stone wall, so it had to be as exciting,” the designer says. A massive black-marble surround houses the firebox where flames leap from a metal ribbon to convey a modern, dramatic feel.

The master suite’s garden-like bath is wrapped in chenille marble and epitomizes the home’s inside-outside sensibility. The freeform tub rests inside an atrium next to a shower shielded within a garden wall. Landscaping designer Robert Parsley salvaged the home’s large oak trees and repositioned them. “They embrace the house and make everything appear as if it has been there forever,” Lamb says. “Bringing the outside into this home feels like you are living in a garden all the time,” he says.

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- SOURCES**
- DINING AREA/BAR**  
Dining table - J. Robert Scott, Inglewood, CA  
Dining chairs, barstools, centerpiece, vase, chandelier, pendants over bar, artwork and flooring - Owners’ Collection  
Dining chair fabric - Romo, Chagrin Falls, OH  
Bar fabricated by James Cello, Inc., Opa Locka, FL  
Upholstery - Martin Custom Upholstery, Miami, FL  
Leather panels - Edelman, New Milford, CT  
Bar glassware - Carlos Moretti, Murano, Italy  
Keystone wall and soffit - Custom designed by Taylor & Taylor, Miami Beach, FL  
Draperies - Romo, Curtain Call, Miami, FL
- LIVING ROOM**  
Gray sofa - Arravanti, Miami, FL  
Brown and silver armchairs, gray armchairs, bench, round cocktail table, rectangular cocktail tables, buffet, occasional table by window, vase, accessories on shelving, sunburst sculpture, horse sculpture, red lamps, floor lamp and flooring - Owners’ Collection  
Accent pillow fabric on sofa and upholstery on brown and silver armchairs - Romo, Chagrin Falls, OH  
Petrified wood occasional table - Judith Norman, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Sculpture on cocktail table - Mario Perez Gallery, Miami, FL  
Swivel chair - Roche Bobois, Miami, FL  
Shelving - James Cello, Inc., Opa Locka, FL  
Fireplace - Custom designed by Jeffrey Lamb Interiors, Miami Beach, FL  
Sheers - Romo, Curtain Call, Miami, FL  
Cabinet - Master Craft Cabinets, Inc., Aurora, CO  
Area rug - The Carpet Boutique, Miami, FL
- MASTER BATH**  
Tub - Roma Design Corp., Miami, FL  
Ottoman - Artefacto, Coral Gables, FL  
Stool - Judith Norman, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Faucet - Dornbracht Americas, Inc., Duluth, GA  
Wall treatment and flooring - Owners’ Collection  
Ceiling fixture - Sonneman, Newburgh, NY  
Exterior glass and glazing - Vigilante Associates Custom Glass Systems, Miami, FL
- THROUGHOUT**  
Lighting design - Paul Morgan, Paul Morgan Lighting Design, Inc., Delray Beach, FL **M**