The graceful sweep of an anigre wood wall shapes the main living areas that in turn are encircled by 2,000 linear feet of terrace and the glittering aspect of Miami Beach. In the dining room, artist Fernando Botero's Balletina Vestita— atop her pedestal — invites guests to gather around an oversized John Houshmand table surrounded by Wendell Castle's stylish modern high-back chairs.
At the top of her game, interior designer Alene Workman does not shy from a challenge. But even she admits she learned a lot from creating the 9,000-square-foot penthouse extravaganza located atop a 26-floor Miami Beach skyscraper. Built in 2008, the massive residence had been finished out by the developer and purchased, though no one had ever lived there. Now, the new owners offered Workman the opportunity to recreate the space as an entertaining showplace.

That meant out with the old and in with the new. “We took out everything: ceilings, interior walls and flooring,” Workman says. “Only the pipes remained.” But it wasn’t time for new dry wall. There were engineering details — at which this designer marvels — engineered inclusions in an already well-built building. “My clients thought of everything,” she says. “They not only wanted sleek elegance and a warm, delicious interior, but they wanted safety as well.”

Designed for gatherings of more than 50 guests, the social areas flow one to another. Christian Liaigre sofas join Hugues Chevalier lounge chairs to form a conversation grouping in the living room, where a Robert Indiana sculpture of Hebrew letters, entitled Tikva, inspires hope.
In response, Workman redesigned interior walls to meet hurricane specifications, placing studs twice as close as the code required. A 300-gallon emergency water tank was installed in the ceiling should weather cause an interruption of service. And two “safe rooms” were devised should a hurricane make a beeline for Miami. It was only after these innovative solutions were engineered that Workman turned her attention to the condo’s sheer delight of space, view and ethereal ambiance high above Miami Beach.

With its central service core of utility elevators and stairwells serving as a kind of wheel-hub, and the condo’s private elevator rotunda just slightly to its side, Workman swept both the social and private areas in a vast 360-degree arc. And though there is a certain give to the hard exterior footprint of the building, she designed curves, spheres and waves in nearly every space.

ABOVE: No need to patter through the main living areas, the morning bar in the master wing corridor is convenient for an early coffee or a night cap. Slashed with deep reveals, the sweep of rich anigre walls and cabinetry prepare the way for the drama of the master suite.
A massive S-curved wall, sheathed in exotic anigre wood, holds the living room, a social grouping, the dining room and breakfast area in its embrace. Providing continuity, the backside of a double curve that encompasses the entry rotunda, the kitchen and a wide corridor to the master suite also divides the area into intimate zones.

In the dining room, Workman created half-cylinder brushed stainless table pedestals topped with two-inch-thick bubingha wood made from one 22-foot tree log. Another engineering coup is the table’s ability to silently roll from 10 feet to an additional 12 feet to accommodate the owners’ frequent large dinner parties.

Wrapped by another arm of the “S,” the living room is purity-defined. Plush, white chenille sofas are coupled with a pair of dark-caramel lounge chairs that seem as secure as a warm hug. Workman placed the group on a bespoke area rug that echoes the line of the wall.
Drawing the eyes up and around the space, 11-foot ceilings follow the ebb and flow of the home's interior scheme. Highlighting the sculptural forms, both recessed lighting from an inverted soffit, and cached floor and ceiling illumination tucked into "wall bumps" call attention to the contours. And hiding in plain view, a four-chair conversation grouping and cocktail table appear intimate in the middle of the social area.

At the far end of the living room, a wide, 44-foot-long corridor leads to the master wing and Workman has put it to full use. An elegant powder room and expansive storage lie through two wooden doorframes. Here, beneath an elaborately stepped and illuminated dome, a morning bar is convenient. Rock crystal sconces and a chandelier of crystal pendants light the spider gold marble of the floor medallions.

The kitchen bears not only the designer's sense of dramatic élan, but also the owners' request to seclude it from the social areas when the staff is preparing for a party. The solution — a series of carved glass panels that slide into the countertop wall. In homage to the oceanfront setting, a whimsically monikered "squiggle" in the ceiling is an ingenious method of interrupting the length of the kitchen's long wrap. Beyond, the breakfast area, like the other carefully considered and well-engineered spaces, inspired a custom table designed with circular leaves that attach around its perimeter to seat a happy breakfast party of 12.

"OUT OF THIS WORLD ... A WONDERLAND," IS HOW INTERIOR DESIGNER ALENE WORKMAN DESCRIBES THE POWDER ROOM. HERE, A NANCY CORZINE VANITY CHAIR SETS A TONE OF DELICATE FEMININITY AMIDST THE GLASS TILE WALLS AND SPARKLING MIRRORS.
In the master bath, Workman created echoing horizontal prosceniums in the contours of the illuminated floating ceiling, and the inset jasper and thassos marble floor pattern. A vanity chair by J. Robert Scott and a Bright bench add plush luxury.

Small spaces need not be boring. Repeating chandeliers illuminate a 49-foot-long hallway that leads the way past vertical columns and niched cabinetry to the guest rooms — all situated in their own wing. Another small but favored spot is the "wonderland" powder room. With a suspended mirror and walls covered in mirrored tiles of viney patterns, dazzling reflections are set in motion.

Yet it is in the master suite, reached via sets of double entry doors from its private rotunda, that glamour and luxury unabashedly blend. Set on white plush carpeting, the appliquéd-silk-clad bed and its upholstered wall are framed like a painting by double steps of wood. Italian pendant bedside fixtures of crystal cast a glow on John Saladino’s nesting black iron table.

In a burst of drama, Workman reimagines the master bath as art. Set on backlit glass, thick bronze ribbons suggest sand and sea. His and her vanities flank the tub encased in soft pear wood and marble. And it is in this private space one finds a lofty place to linger and dream.

A coral array on a white-marble inverted pyramid table from E.G. Cody, a wrought iron cocktail table from John Saladino, and wood wall trim play against cascading layers of soft silk and velvety chenille.
Payable only in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. Payment must accompany all foreign orders. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery of your first issue.

SAVE 50% off the cover price on a 2-year subscription. OUTSIDE U.S.A. (Canada, all foreign countries) add $29.99 per year.

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

FLORIDA DESIGN

A Magnificent Palm Beach Estate
Homes Designed for Entertaining

1 Year $19.99 (4 issues)
2 Years $27.99 (8 issues)
BEST BUY - SAVE 50%

1-800-523-3327 or for faster service go to www.floridadesign.com

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

SAVE 50% OFF THE COVER PRICE

SUBSCRIBE NOW!