

# FLORIDA DESIGN

## Inside a Modern Beach House on Fisher Island

*A Munich design studio brings refinement and European flair to a modern beach house interior on Fisher Island*



*This residence on Fisher Island opens onto a bright central living area delineated by a dining space punctuated with a rare Japanese panel by Mori Tetsuzan from the Edo period. A sleek Henry Timi dining table and Glynell chairs by Elliott Barnes bask in the glow of a striking alabaster and brass lighting fixture by Apparatus Studio. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*An enclave behind dark sliding doors reveals a bar area crafted from backlit onyx and Macassar ebony. The interplay of light and material makes the space a luminous focal point that integrates into the living room's seating area. To the left, David Hockney's *The Arrival of the Spring* (iPad drawing on paper, 2011) commands attention, bringing vibrant color and energy to the space. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*Spectacular water views take center stage in the living room, enhanced by a carefully curated lounge zone. A custom-made rug by Vincent Darré anchors the space, setting the tone for sophisticated furnishings, including Liaigre's Pacha sofa and Toi & Moi chaises by Elliott Barnes. Shanghai chairs and a coffee table by Hervé van der Straeten complement the arrangement, while a limited-edition Constellation CO30 side table by David/Nicolas completes the grouping. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*The kitchen design balances functionality and understated elegance with a base unit finished in Forbo linoleum topped with a sleek basaltina surface. Artwork elevates the aesthetic with Julie Gauthron's wrought-iron La Muse Solaire and Hervé Van der Straeten's angular yellow wall hanging and transparent console table. Photo © Oliver Jaist*





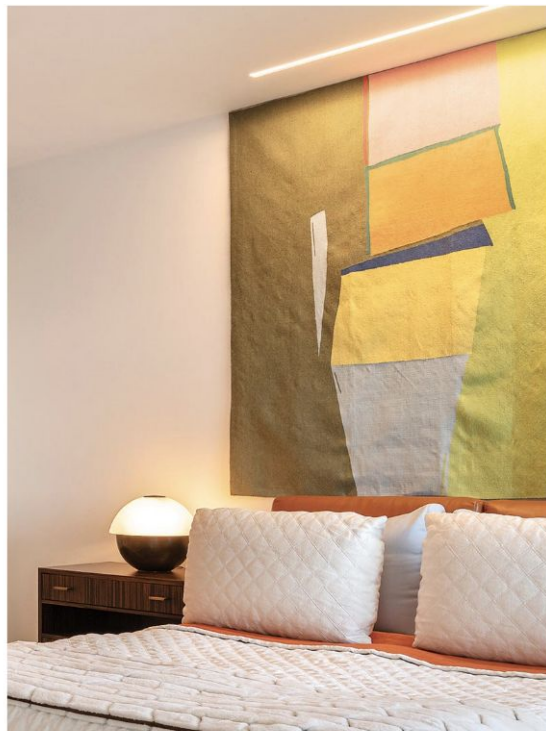
*A large abstract oil-on-paper painting by Korean artist Ji In Park creates a bold artistic statement in the gallery-like corridor. Sourced from Galerie Stefan Vogdt in Munich, the piece captures attention with its dynamic composition and contrasts beautifully against the muted tones of the interior. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*The guest room's illuminated bookshelf creates a luminous focal point accented by a daybed designed by architect Dirk Lohan, the grandson of Mies van der Rohe. A teal sofa from Boffi|DePadova creates a vibrant contrast against a side table from Liaigre, a Vincent Darré area rug, and Balthazar Korab's black-and-white photographs. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*The primary bedroom showcases illuminated custom cabinetry crafted by the carpenters at Holzrausch in Germany. Photographer Sarah Illenberger's Vegetable Dress adds a playful artistic touch, while below it, an Aspre lounge chair by Liaigre pairs seamlessly with Lindsey Adelman's Cherry Bomb floor light. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*A custom-made leather bed creates an elegant focal point flanked by bespoke Macassar ebony bedside tables designed by McNutt & Dennen. A boldly colorful tapestry by artist Marcel Zelmanovitch sourced from Galerie Diurne in Paris hangs above the bed. Photo © Oliver Jaist*



*The primary bathroom defies convention by integrating warm wood tones, a design choice imbuing the room with an inviting, serene atmosphere. A bookmatched stone wall frames a Domovari tub, generating a stunning centerpiece. Black Vola fixtures and Charlotte Perriand's Ombra Tokyo chair from Cassina emanate minimalist luxury, while a vibrant rug by Vincent Darré adds a bold touch of character. Photo © Oliver Jaist*

It's hardly a secret why the global elite are drawn to Fisher Island. A world of its own just three miles from the tip of Miami Beach, the private island offers the type of one-percent pleasures few get to experience. In terms of real estate, the enclave's extravagant villas and condominiums reflect the intricate Moorish architectural influences inspired by the original 1920s homes once built there by William Kissam Vanderbilt II, the bon vivant who traded his 265-foot yacht for seven acres of the island back in 1927. It was the sum of all this that prompted a Chicago couple to choose the serene locale as an interlude home for their fast-paced lives.

From the outset, the owners had a clear vision for their new dwelling—a modern beach house interior that harmonized simplicity, craftsmanship, and elegance. Their search for excellence in design and execution led them to Holzrausch, a multi-award-winning German interior design studio based in Munich with an in-house joinery in nearby Forstern.

"This residence, in particular, captivates with breathtaking views through expansive, nearly frameless glass panels," says Tobias Petri, cofounder of Holzrausch, who heads the company with Sven Petzold. "The building's uninterrupted vistas stretch across the pristine beach and turquoise waters of the Atlantic Ocean, creating a seamless connection to the surrounding natural beauty."



Petri and Petzold both oversaw the 2,400-square-foot interior concept, creating a tranquil design that juxtaposes light-colored materials such as whitewashed European oak and Roman travertine floors with subtle contrasting accents. Functional elements and storage seamlessly integrate into custom millwork fixtures, blending practicality with aesthetic refinement. A local architect facilitated approvals and worked closely with the Holzrausch team to implement the concept alongside carefully selected local craftsmen and a general contractor. "The bespoke millwork, crafted with exceptional precision in Holzrausch's workshops in Germany, was shipped vacuum-packed in custom wooden crates to Fisher Island," notes Petri. "A team of 10 master carpenters spent weeks on-site to ensure its assembly was flawless."

The contrast between the residence's calm, restrained interior and its Moorish architectural exterior creates a striking experience. Holzrausch paid special attention to showcasing art, furniture, and a select few decorative pieces. The designers also collaborated with Dirk Lohan, grandson of Mies van der Rohe, and his wife, Cathy, on the design of bespoke furniture pieces. "The clients, passionate about personal touches, curated a collection of furniture and art during their travels in Europe, sourcing key items from Munich and Paris," says Petri. "The result is a harmonious interplay of craftsmanship, timeless design, and personal narrative."

The apartment was designed for maximum flexibility, seamlessly adapting to different usage scenarios. When the owners are home relaxing, sliding doors tuck smoothly into the millwork, flooding the space with natural light and offering uninterrupted views. When family and friends visit, the space transforms effortlessly for dinner parties or cocktail gatherings. All essential utilities are discreetly integrated into the custom-built wall units, ensuring the abode remains functional yet elegant.

"In this project, the clients took their time to provide thoughtful input, briefing us in detail and meeting with us in Munich, Paris, London, and on-site on the island," Petri adds. "These collaborative sessions were productive and inspiring, resulting in an extraordinary individualized interior marked by exceptional craftsmanship. The residence is the perfect antidote to the bustle of the city and a true haven of harmony and tranquility."

#### **Story Credits:**

Interior Design by Tobias Petri & Sven Petzold, Holzrausch, Munich, Germany

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