

# FLORIDA

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

## DESIGN SECRETS

INTERIORS, PRODUCTS & SHOWROOMS  
SELECTIONS FROM THE EXPERTS &  
WHAT TO BUY NOW!

## PRE-SUMMER STYLE

PROVOCATIVE SWIMWEAR  
& OTHER EXTRAS

## BODY & SOUL

SPAS TO RECHARGE



GIFTS FOR MOM  
BEACH SEASON FITNESS  
FUN WEEKEND GETAWAYS



**STYLE IN DESIGN**  
Fashionista Home Accessories

# SENSE & SENSIBILITY

A Gulf Coast residence nods to modern ideals through environmentally friendly architecture and interior design

**ARCHITECTURE BY JONATHAN PARKS    INTERIORS BY PUNIT PATEL**  
**PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG WILSON & CAMILLE PYATTE    TEXT BY LUIS R. RIGUAL**

As design challenges go, the task of building a home from scratch to its owners' specifications while making it as environmentally sound as possible in the process is not an endeavor for the faint of heart. But for Jonathan Parks, an architect with offices in Sarasota and Tampa, it was a chance to put his signature on a head-to-toe custom structure — an opportunity too enticing to pass up.

"Our clients' words drove the pencil around the page in this project," says Parks. "This isn't just a custom home; it's one of a kind."

The clients insisted on a modern house with a sloped roof that would be in scale with its surrounding neighborhood in Venice, a small city on Florida's Gulf Coast known as the "Shark's Tooth





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Capital of the World.” One of the main objectives of the architectural design was to make the most of the state’s natural light 24 hours a day (to that end, morning spaces are oriented toward the east and evening spaces toward the west). Loft-high ceilings and an open floorplan ensure said light envelops every area of the residence’s interior.

Invisible to the eye, but just as important are the structure’s green features, for which Parks enlisted the help of Eco-Smart, a firm based in Sarasota that specializes in energy-efficient solutions. Some of these include soy-based insulation and solar panels to reduce heating and cooling electrical needs, a lap pool heated by solar power and an eco-fountain by the entrance that recycles rainwater that falls off the roof. The green sensibilities of the project extended to the finishes as well: hickory slabs (certified to come from a well-managed forest) were used for flooring, and the kitchen cabinetry all features recycled wood. “Being energy-efficient isn’t like building a Mr. Potato Head and snapping on pieces,” says Parks. “It’s about making smart design decisions from the start.”

In terms of aesthetics, the residence nods to informality and modernity, a task that fell on the hands of the firm’s interiors project manager, Punit Patel. “The clients wanted the interior design to be fun, sustainable and enduring,” he says. “We went with a simple palette that allows the same materials to flow throughout all the spaces. It was also important to be able to easily move the furniture, keeping every room flexible and adaptable.”

The main footprint of the interior envelope — an area that encompasses the living room, dining room and kitchen — is a good illustration of Patel’s approach. Neutral tones, bursts of bold color and playful artwork come together for a sentiment of in-the-know sophistication. Furniture articulations proffer modern shapes with Buttercup Chairs by Blu Dot in the living area and Eames chairs around a white oak table by Crate and Barrel in the dining nook. “The idea was to mix rational designs and romantic shapes,” adds Patel. “For example, the wood floors look like they belong in a cottage while the mid-century modern furniture updates the approach.”

Looking at the finished product, Parks credits the careful balancing of resources for the success of the project — but not in the manner most would assume. “Most people consider resources to be where you get lights and fixtures,” he says. “But to us they are the relationships we have and the teamwork that goes into making it all work together.” □

Above: The residence’s exterior from the backyard. Left: The interior layout is open, encompassing various areas in one main footprint. Opposite (far left) from top: Architect Jonathan Parks and Interiors Project Manager Punit Patel. See “**Designer Resources**” list on page 112.

## DESIGNER RESOURCES

A guide to the brands and showrooms in the interior features in this issue



### SENSE & SENSIBILITY, p. 78

Architecture: Jonathan Parks, Jonathan Parks Architect, Sarasota.  
Interiors: Punit Patel, Jonathan Parks Architect.  
Living area: Buttercup chairs by Blu Dot. Area rug by FLOR. Fireplace from Sarasota Fireplace and Barbecue Source. Dining area: Table by Crate and Barrel. Chairs by Eames. Light fixture by Foscarini. Kitchen: Cabinetry by LUBE, Sarasota. Appliances by Kitchenaid. Countertop quartz by Silestone. Artwork by Jay Kelly, Allyn Gallup Gallery, Sarasota. Energy and solar consultants: Eco-Smart, Sarasota.



### A MODERN APPROACH, p. 80

Designer: Sofia Joelsson, SoJo Design, Miami Beach.  
Living room: Sofa, chairs and tables by Bernhardt Design. Area rug from Carpet Creations, Miami. Mirror from Galeria del Sol Art & Frame, Miami Beach. Hallway: Glass box wine cellar installed by The Opera Company, Miami. Light sconces by Foscarini. Kitchen area: Kitchen by Poggenpohl. Counter stools by Bernhardt Design. Sculpture by Kenneth Cobonopue, Artefacto, Miami. Bedroom: Bed designed by SoJo Design and manufactured by New Design, Miami. Chairs and side table by Bernhardt Design. Area rug from Carpet Creations, Miami.



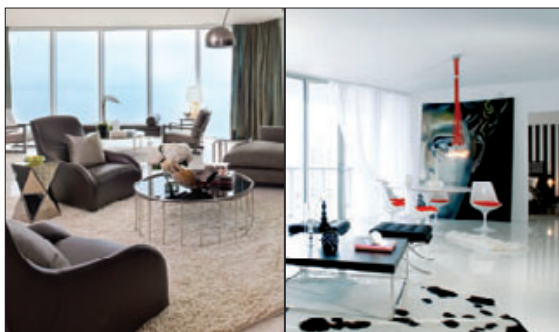
### GROUP EFFORT, p. 84

Designer: Deborah Weccselman, Deborah Weccselman Design, Miami.  
Living/family room: Sofa and chairs from Holly Hunt, Miami. Coffee table by Tuell + Reynolds. Silk area rug from Carpet Creations, Miami. Cross cable chandelier by David Weeks, J Batchelor, DCOTA. Bathroom: Mosaic tile by Walker Zanger. Vanity and mirror from Ann Sacks, Miami. Sconces by Waterworks. Den: Sofa custom designed by Deborah Weccselman. Hemp rug by Odegard, Miami. Dining room: Artwork by Roberto Cortazar, ACD Fine Art, Coral Gables. Chairs by Holly Hunt, Miami. Table designed by Deborah Weccselman. Candleholder is vintage Dorothy Thorpe.



### TOTAL TRANSFORMATION, p. 94

Designers: Lynn and Mike Maloney, Integrated Designs, Boca Raton.  
Office: Desk by Integrative Designs and fabricated by Heritage Custom Woodwork. Global chair by Your Office Inc. Breakfast room: Chairs from Doghia, DCOTA. Logico chandelier from Jolo, DCOTA. Glass panels by Art Glass Environs, Delray Beach. Living room: Mosaic sofa from Carriage House, DCOTA. Chairs from Doghia, DCOTA. Coffee table by Jaime Perczek, Today's Custom Interiors, DCOTA. Ottomans by Thayer Coggin, Judith Norman, DCOTA. Artwork by Serafino Catallo, Rosenbaum Fine Art, Boca Raton. Family room: DeSede leather chairs and sofas from Carriage House, DCOTA. Bedroom: Bed by Black & Lenet. Bench from Judith Norman, DCOTA. Chairs by Duralee.



### RETHINKING DESIGN, p. 98

Designer: Tui Pranich.  
All furniture and accessories from Tui Lifestyle, Miami.

### RETHINKING DESIGN, p. 100

Designer: Vanessa Torres/KMP Furniture, Miami.  
Sofa, coffee table, and area rug by KMP Furniture. Leather ottomans by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. Dining table and chairs by Eero Saarinen. Oil on canvas by Flavio Galvan for KMP Furniture. Chandelier by David Abad for KMP Furniture.