

HOLIDAY FUN, FACES & FASHION

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WIDE OPEN

Clean linear design is trending in new homes now; architecture for this Boca Harbour house by Stephanie Halfen, SDH Studio, sdhstudio.com

The Holidays in the Tropics

The absence of snowfall never dashes our spirits here in South Florida. Cooler temperatures fill the air, and so does the spirit of the season. Here you'll find design inspiration and information guaranteed to make your holidays merrier, brighter and more beautiful than ever.

Written by **ROBIN HODES**



Hand-painted glass flamingo Christmas ornament, made in Poland. \$58, neimanmarcus.com

7 ft
Average height of a Christmas tree

225
Ornaments needed to adorn the tree

75 ft
Of tinsel, garland or ribbon to adequately wrap it

700
lights are the right amount to make it glow

\$80
Purported cost of a real Christmas tree in 2018

BEHIND THE LINES

The use of clean lines is a key element in the contemporary home design so prevalent today. Lines bring a feeling of continuity and create a dynamic of movement, or a sense of calm, depending on how they're used. "Lines play a fascinating role in architecture," says architect Stephanie Halfen of SDH Studio. "We understand architecture as a sequence of experiences, and as we move through spaces, lines help to strengthen this concept and guide us through a journey of discovery."

For this stunning residence in Boca Harbour, Halfen designed a linear front exterior where a cantilevered balcony marks the entry, which is further emphasized by a tongue and groove Brazilian Ipe wood ceiling. The interior boasts a floating bridge to delineate the two stories; horizontally lined floating steps wrapped in white wood, contrasted with a diagonally lined cable handrail, connect the floors to one another. A series of cantilevered balconies at the rear exterior, as well as a geometric swimming pool and spa, demonstrate how lines, regardless of which direction they run, result in a gorgeous modern aesthetic.

Architecture by *Stephanie Halfen, SDH Studio, sdhstudio.com*



A floating bridge delineates two stories in this contemporary house

ROBIN HILL

LIGHT AS A FEATHER

On Hanukkah, the "Festival of Lights," it is traditional to light the menorah, which commemorates a miracle that happened in ancient times. With just one day's supply of oil, the menorah in the rededicated Temple of Jerusalem remained lit for eight whole days. As a beautiful remembrance, Jonathan Adler, the master of flawless chic, has created the Brass Bird Menorah, his avian-inspired, modern take on a classic symbol. Over time, the polished brass develops a rich, natural patina, thereby acquiring the appearance of a family heirloom. \$350, jonathanadler.com.

