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UNFOLDING STORY

THOUGHTFULLY DESIGNED TO REVEAL ITSELF ONE SPACE AT A TIME, A WATERFRONT
RETREAT IN MIAMI BEACH PAIRS SOPHISTICATED ARCHITECTURE WITH THE EFFORTLESS
INDOOR/OUTDOOR LIFESTYLE THAT DEFINES SOUTH FLORIDA

ABOVE: The residence's ground floor ceiling peaks at over 20 feet, then eases into a more intimate plane as you move toward the water. Floor-to-ceiling black steel sliding panels retract completely, dissolving indoor/outdoor boundaries. Sleek Minotti furnishings include a low-slung ivory sofa, sculptural swivel chairs, and a reflective glass-and-bronze cocktail table.

THERE ARE SOME HOUSES THAT REVEAL their charms slowly. Set on Pine Tree Drive in Miami Beach, Will and Natalie Stute's newly built residence was designed as a composition of unfolding spaces—one that begins beneath a soaring glass entry and draws the eye toward the waters of Indian Creek. Here, architecture, landscape, and lifestyle move in concert, creating a home that feels at once grand and deeply personal.

For the Stutes, the property offered exactly what they were looking for—room to gather with family, space to entertain, and a seamless connection to the waterfront lifestyle that first drew the D.C. couple to Miami Beach.



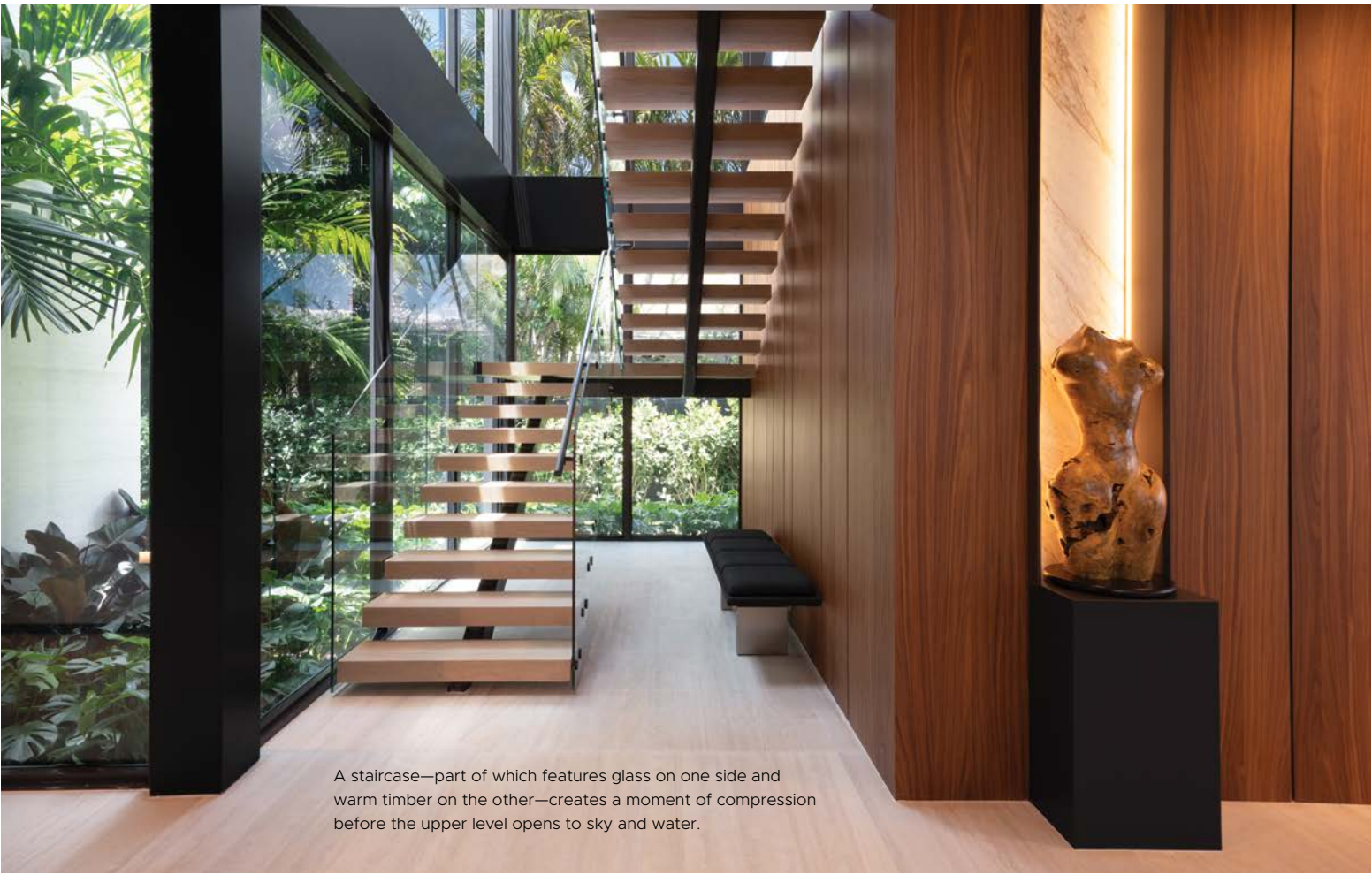
An intimate conversation area near the staircase lends a warm welcome with a curved sofa and swivel chairs from Minotti gathered around a Bellagio lounge table. A plush area rug from Vesta Home anchors the grouping.



“After looking at more than 15 homes over a two-month period, I stumbled across this one on Instagram and told my husband, ‘We have to go see it,’” says Natalie. “As soon as we stepped inside, we both fell in love.”

Designed by SDH Studio Architecture + Design, with principal Stephanie Halfen leading the project alongside Claudia Fleischman and Isabella Hernandez, the newly built 6,997-square-foot residence occupies a waterfront lot overlooking one of the widest stretches of the Indian Creek Waterway. “When I first stood on the undeveloped property, what struck me wasn’t the footprint but the depth of the site,” recalls Halfen. “A home

ABOVE: At the waterfront end of the ground floor, the family room offers a cozier scale, drawing the eye directly to the water view. This is the space where the house exhales with Minotti’s generous curved sectional in ivory linen paired with a tiered walnut coffee table.



A staircase—part of which features glass on one side and warm timber on the other—creates a moment of compression before the upper level opens to sky and water.



Occupying the full width of the upper level, the primary suite features floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors that reveal the waterway. Minotti's upholstered Spencer bed centers on a fluted walnut panel that anchors the room. A sitting area includes Minotti's Jacques sofa and ottoman.



this deep wouldn't simply sit on the land—it would move through it.”

That statement is evident from the moment of arrival. A two-story glass entry and full-height pivot door frame views toward the water beyond, while walnut millwork, limestone flooring, and natural textures soften the home's contemporary style. “The architecture reads clean from the street,” says Halfen. “Step inside, and the register shifts. The palette warms, the structure gives you the bones, and the interior gives you the life.”

The main level unfolds as an open-plan living environment where floor-to-ceiling glass walls retract completely, dissolving the boundary between indoors and out. Sculptural furnishings, a custom Italian kitchen clad in bookmatched marble and walnut, and carefully framed sightlines reinforce the home's connection to the landscape and water. “What stayed with me throughout the project was the relationship between enclosure and openness,”

RIGHT: A freestanding soaking tub from Badeloft sits directly before a full-height glazed wall open to the waterway. A deep walnut-framed recess housing a wide backlit mirror, the vanity wall encompasses fluted walnut cabinetry with a travertine countertop. A large walk-in shower in the same travertine is enclosed in frameless glass.

FAR LEFT: On the upper level, oak flooring continues from the staircase treads into a composed, light-filled hallway and study. Anchored with a neutral-toned area rug, an ash wood desk and a Maximilian walnut dining chair complement a pair of lounge chairs, all from Vesta Home.





“What stayed with me throughout the project was the relationship between enclosure and openness,” says architect and designer Stephanie Halfen. “The house holds you while simultaneously dissolving its own boundaries.”

A broad covered terrace, outfitted with clean-lined Minotti furnishings, features an adjacent kitchen pavilion. Lush tropical plantings wrap the garden edges, creating full privacy while rooting the house firmly in the landscape.

adds Halfen. “The house holds you while simultaneously dissolving its own boundaries.”

For the owners, the dwelling’s greatest success is how naturally it supports the lifestyle they envisioned. “What we love most about our home is that it was designed around bringing people together,” says Will. “Whether we’re hosting an intimate dinner party or a larger gathering, the spaces work beautifully.”

For Halfen, that sense of connection ultimately defines the project. “Every principal space reaches toward the water,” she says. “That’s not incidental; it’s the idea from which the entire design flows. The result is a house that moves, from the quiet confidence of the street façade to the full release of the waterfront. It’s a home that gives back the longer you live in it.”

SOURCES

GREAT ROOM

Sofa, swivel chairs, cocktail and side tables, dining table and chairs, and chandelier – Minotti, Miami, FL
Island and backsplash – Designed by SDH Studio Architecture + Design, North Miami Beach, FL, and fabricated by La Dolce Vita, Miami, FL

CONVERSATIONAL AREA

Curved sofa, swivel chairs, and cocktail table – Minotti, Miami, FL
Round area rug – Vesta Home, Fort Lauderdale, FL

FAMILY ROOM

Sofa and tiered table – Minotti, Miami, FL

Lamp on platform – Vesta Home, Fort Lauderdale, FL

OFFICE

Desk, chairs, and area rug – Vesta Home, Fort Lauderdale, FL

PRIMARY BEDROOM

Bed and headboard, cocktail and side tables, sofa and pouf – Minotti, Miami, FL

Lighting – Lee Broom, leebroom.com

PRIMARY BATHROOM

Cabinetry – Designed by SDH Studio Architecture + Design, North Miami Beach, FL, and fabricated by LVE Enterprises, Miami, FL

Shower – Designed by SDH Studio Architecture + Design, North Miami Beach, FL, and fabricated by Treo Construction, North Miami Beach, FL
Tub – Badeloft USA, badeloftusa.com

BACK EXTERIOR

Seating, dining table, and chairs – Minotti, Miami, FL
Kitchen – Designed by SDH Studio Architecture + Design, North Miami Beach, FL, and fabricated by Luxa Patio, Miami, FL

THROUGHOUT

Pool – Designed by SDH Studio Architecture + Design, North Miami Beach, FL, and fabricated by Flowtech Pools, Miami, FL
Millwork – LVE Enterprises, Miami, FL, and La Dolce Vita, Miami, FL