

THIS PARTY-READY RETREAT IS PACKED WITH TROPICAL FLAIR

Midcentury homages and colorful touches define this Florida home designed by Fawn Galli.

By [INGRID ABRAMOVITCH](#) DEC 3, 2021



Kris Tamburello

When [Fawn Galli](#) was nabbed to design the Boca Raton, Florida, getaway of a global hotel entrepreneur, she took one look at the high-rise apartment's water views and found her mind drifting to images of tropical modernism. The midcentury style, which originated in Sri Lanka with the work of architect Geoffrey Bawa and was particularly popular in South America, is one of Galli's favorites. "I wanted the apartment to feel tropical but urban," says the New York-based [interior designer](#). "I was inspired by Gio Ponti's [Villa Planchart](#) in Caracas, Venezuela, and the landscape architecture of Brazilian superstar [Roberto Burle Marx](#)."

"I was inspired by Gio Ponti's Villa Planchart"

She designed the space around its spectacular vistas. The apartment has views on two sides and overlooks both Lake Boca and the ocean. The challenge was how to make the four-bedroom retreat—which combined two apartments into one expansive home—feel cohesive. "I tried to imbue the space with romance and modernity

while creating a backdrop for the owner's contemporary art collection," Galli says. "The goal was to make it feel welcoming—a party-centric space."



Curves abound in a Boca Raton, Florida, kitchen by Fawn Galli.

Kris Tamburello

Inspired by the language of tropical modernism, she introduced a motif of curves to the space—everything undulates, from the plasterwork on the ceiling to the walls and the living room's half-moon sofa. "I love the sensuality it brings to the space," she says.

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A custom terrazzo floor in the primary bedroom.

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Throughout the apartment, colors and textures relate to the outdoors. Walnut doors “evoke tree houses,” Galli notes, while adding warmth to the contemporary architecture. And in one of her favorite details, Galli created a custom terrazzo flooring pattern inspired by the seaside setting that flows throughout the space. “The green and white palette evokes Brasilia in the 1960s,” she says. “I wanted to create a festive environment.”

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TERRACE A terrace overlooking the ocean is furnished with a Dedon rocking chair, a Gandia Blasco daybed, and Hermès pillows. Kris Tamburello



FOYER The foyer features a custom Eskayel mural and a Studio Proba rug with a gemstone motif. The Chen Chen & Kai Williams mirror is made of silver nitrate, and the console is by Jens Denecke. Kris Tamburello

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Ingrid Abramovitch, the Executive Editor at ELLE Decor, writes about design, architecture, renovation, and lifestyle, and is the author of several books on design including *Restoring a House in the City*.

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LIVING ROOM Galli designed the Lejeune sofa in a half-moon shape and upholstered it in a Dedar velvet with Scalamandre's Maquis Tapestry Agave on the back. The rattan cocktail table is by India Mahdavi, and the artwork is by Jackie Saccoccio. Kris Tamburello



KITCHEN The custom cabinetry, painted in Farrow & Ball's Borrowed Light, has shiplike brass portholes on the upper cabinets. The Moving Mountains table is surrounded by Tom Dixon's Scoop chairs re-covered in a Scalamandré fabric. Kris Tamburello

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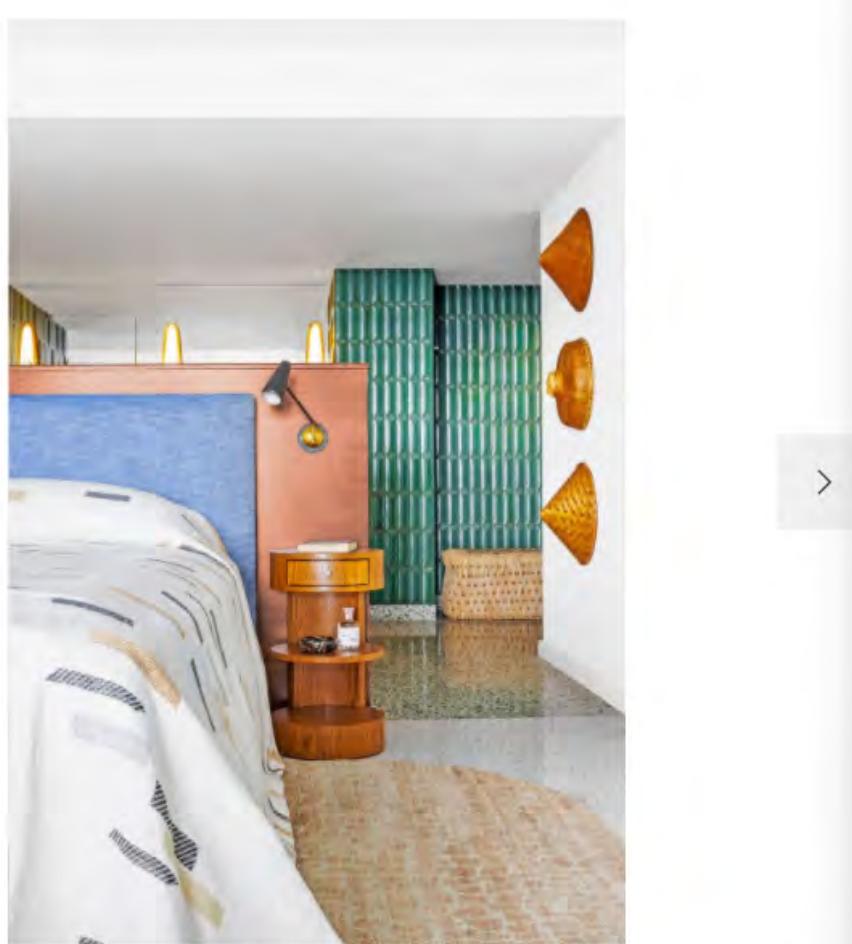


BAR AREA The bar, or “Sunset Lounge,” overlooks Lake Boca and is clad in handmade tiles and raffia paneling. The table lights are by Verner Panton, and the vintage planters are by Willy Guhl. Kris Tamburello



POWDER ROOM The walls are clad in a Flavor Paper design, and the ceiling is in Piet Hein Eek. The mirror is by Desiron, and the Piet Hein Eek sconces are from the Future Perfect collection.

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PRIMARY BEDROOM The RH, Restoration Hardware bed is in a Dedar fabric, the rug is by Chused & Co, and the artworks are by Laurie Simmons. Kris Tamburello



PRIMARY BATHROOM The primary bathroom is clad in Ann Sacks tile, the vanity is custom, and the sconces are by DimoreMilano. Kris Tamburello

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