

FLORIDA InsideOut

architecture design art

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INSIDE MIAMI'S ART WORLD

GALLERIES, ARTISTS,
COLLECTORS AND MORE...

25 COOL KITCHEN & BATH IDEAS



INDIA HICKS
DISHES ON
TOP DESIGN

Kitchen & Bath

"My clients wanted a kitchen that had a sense of the past while still looking very modern."

— Vicente Wolf, designer



Stainless steel accents brighten a beige kitchen. Easton vintage two-hole kitchen mixer with porcelain lever handles, Waterworks, waterworks.com



Polished pitchers are a classic accessory. Vivo juice pitcher, Villeroy & Boch, \$50, dinnerwareetc.com



Stools with clean lines frame and contrast a darker countertop. Hussl ST3-6B barstool, hussl.at

NATURAL ORDER

Unexpected shapes enrich a monochromatic china collection. Vivo place setting, Villeroy & Boch, \$5-\$50, dinnerwareetc.com



Vicente Wolf fashioned an inviting and serene space by adding a pop of green to a neutral palette.

Sculptural vases add a subtle sophistication. Crystal Fame glassware, Villeroy & Boch, \$71.50-\$100, Bloomingdale's, bloomingdales.com



Topiaries are a natural way of incorporating color. Potted topiary, Frontgate, \$499 (five-foot), frontgate.com







Poured concrete floors inlaid with planks of bleached wood and walls in Benjamin Moore's Super White make the foyer a pristine backdrop for the clients' contemporary art collection.



Vicente Wolf

SPACE MAKER

Using form and color, Vicente Wolf turns an open loft into an artful, intimate home.

Every piece has to make a point," New York designer Vicente Wolf says. "Especially for a space that is this minimal." Not that the space Wolf is referring to—a 3,000-square-foot apartment on Fisher Island, which he designed and rejiggered (slightly) for a New York-based couple—is small. But the airy, loft-style residence begged for definition and cohesion. So Wolf, who was born in Cuba and has roots in Miami, created a deft mix of custom furniture, materials and color to carve up, section off and blow out the space.

Wolf took his first steps toward integrating the space by playing with surfaces. Concrete floors were poured throughout the apartment, grounding its airy vibe and giving a rugged, industrial edge to the new construction. In the kitchen, which is visible from the main living areas, Wolf followed the maxims of invisibility and flexibility. "The idea was to really fuss up the boundaries," Wolf explains. He ripped out the traditional wood cabinets in favor of white ones, which were installed flush to the wall, and replaced a freestanding island with a large rolling table outfitted with wheels and drawers.

BY DAMARIS COLHOUN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY VICENTE WOLF



“In New York you try and bring in as much as possible. In Florida it’s more about using what’s already here. The background is so colorful. I just try to set things off.” — **Vicente Wolf**

Part of an exclusive complex, which Wolf describes as “pseudo-Italian” in style, the apartment’s terrace looks across the water to the yachts and cruise ships that dock in Miami’s harbor. Light is a major player in the apartment’s scheme, and Wolf used paint to accentuate it. While the colors are monolithic (the white showcases the client’s extensive collection of contemporary art), the finishes are not. For the ceiling, Wolf applied a semi-gloss as opposed to a flat finish. “I wanted the ceiling to reflect the harbor view,” Wolf explains. The glossy light play has a trompe l’oeil effect that raises the ceilings and expands the space. “I didn’t want any of the surfaces to stop,” he adds. “I wanted to eliminate the boundaries.”

With surfaces in place, Wolf assembled his chorus of pieces and began to compartmentalize the layout. Some pockets are focused and intimate, like the dining area, which features a tight composition of upholstered chairs in pale yellow, a resin-topped table—both by Wolf’s firm—and Philippe Starck Louis Ghost chairs. Pendant lights were installed above the table as points of punctuation; their beams of light directing the eye downward. A few feet away, in contrast to this arrangement, a Mies van der Rohe chaise lounge seems to drift in space, providing a serene place to

contemplate. Wolf’s objective was to give the chaise a “floating, art-piece quality” that felt more spontaneous than formal.

In the master bedroom, which doubles as an office, Wolf cleverly carves out niches by way of fabric and color. He installed a large, apple-green carpet of his own design and inlaid a second carpet in soft pink at its center. Cordoned off by a border of green, the master bed occupies the pink center as though it were a private island. Outfitted with a billowy curtain headboard, the master bed also manages to conceal the desk that sits behind it. The path of green carpeting that rims the room encourages one to take in the art collection.

Although Wolf’s design is smart and strategic, he resists the notion that the space is over-calculated, especially compared to New York City interiors. “In New York you try and bring in as much as possible. In Florida it’s more about using what’s already here. The background is so colorful. I just try to set things off.” Indeed, Wolf’s strategies look effortless, thanks to a sophisticated mix of elements that riff on Miami’s spirit: pale colors, translucent materials and a range of earthy finishes, like a lyme-finished coffee table. As Wolf says, each piece had a voice; his goal was to create the cohesive sound. ■

This page: In the dining room a custom resin table and glowing pendant light, by Vicente Wolf Associates, mix with cotton upholstery and Lucite chairs. **Opposite:** An intimate seating and dining area on the terrace has sweeping views of Miami.

