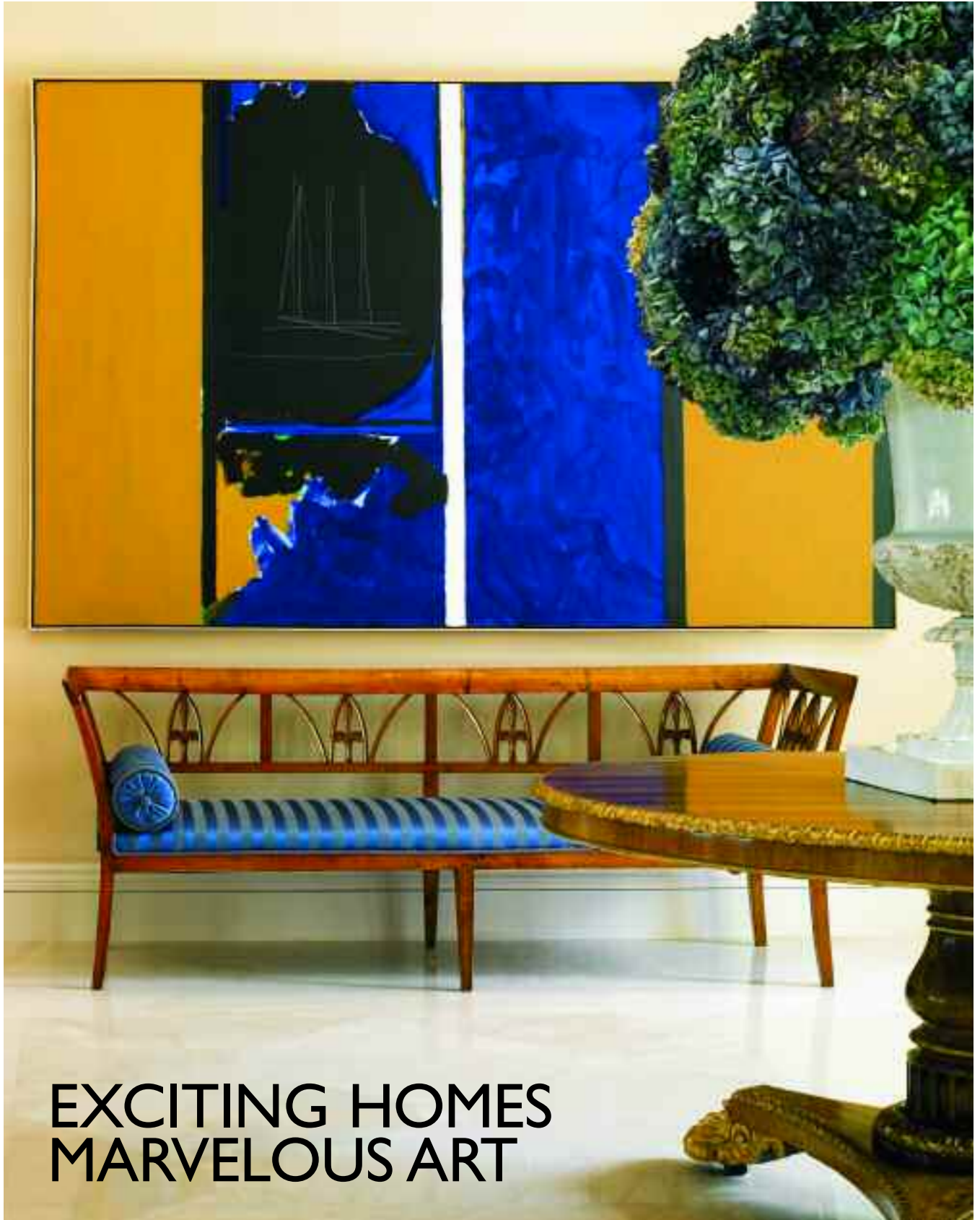


# FLORIDA DESIGN

THE MAGAZINE FOR FINE INTERIOR DESIGN & FURNISHINGS

VOLUME 17#4



EXCITING HOMES  
MARVELOUS ART

In the living area, custom-designed natural maple cabinetry brings to light the owners' pottery from the Han, Tang and Ming dynasties, circa 200 B.C. to 220 A.D. A trio of blue-and-white Qing Dynasty Chinese vases nestle on a neoclassic-style cocktail table from William Switzer surrounded by club and barrel chairs from Holly Hunt.



## MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

INTERIOR DESIGN Louis Shuster, Shuster Design Associates, Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN Eric Dyer, Shuster Design Associates, Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
TEXT Heather L. Schreckengast  
PHOTOGRAPHY Kim Sargent, Palm Beach Gardens, FL

Thoughtful Architectural Details, Clean Lines And Impressive Art  
Surprise With Their Subtlety And Dramatic Effect



The wife's favorite pieces of Raku are on display in the foyer, such as the colorful pottery on a pedestal near the entry and the two female sculptures by Monica Borca, a renowned Raku ceramicist in Italy. An Indonesian elongated facial sculpture that symbolizes "welcome" exemplifies the eclectic collection.

A pair of lamps from Fine Art light up the media room, where Ellsworth Kelly's lithograph creates a rainbow of color across one wall and a modern Raku piece atop a Swaim cocktail table adds another dollop of color to the scheme.



Original signed Robert Longo photography strikes a dramatic pose in the dining room, where a table from the Lucien Rollin Collection and klismos chairs from Bernhardt offer a striking silhouette. "It's clean and simple, so the artwork jumps out at you," interior designer Louis Shuster says.



"Our art collection is very personal," the owners say. "It's based on emotions — we buy things we love."

ONE INSTANTLY TAKES IN THE clean, contemporary style, neutral palette and impressive art collection upon entering this 5,000-square-foot Boca Raton condominium. But look a little closer, and one will see the inventive architectural details and subtle geometry that brought it all together.

"We wanted this to feel like a home, not an apartment," interior designer Louis Shuster says. "Because of the vastness of the space, we were able to play with varying ceiling heights."

Ironically, it was Shuster's architectural prowess that appealed to the owners, who hired

him without reserve. "He has a way of making each condominium different, not cookie-cutter," the owners say. "Different" for these clients meant something soft, warm and contemporary. "No hard edges or black and white."

Intimately involved in the design process, the owners showed Shuster the feeling they wanted — "something relaxed and inviting, beautiful yet ultra-functional at the same time," he says. "They wanted warmth, a timeless quality and nothing trendy." In addition, they wanted to keep the focus on the art with a neutral palette.



The sitting area of the office includes William Switzer chairs covered in mohair from Henry Calvin and an ottoman dressed in velvet from Zimmer + Rohde. A burl wood commode and polished-nickel floor lamp from Boyd complete the picture-perfect vignette.

"I love the contrast of Deco with the Picasso-esque painting," Shuster says, referring to the chairs and table set against Marcel Mouly's acrylic, 'La Creole a la Guitare Blanche.'

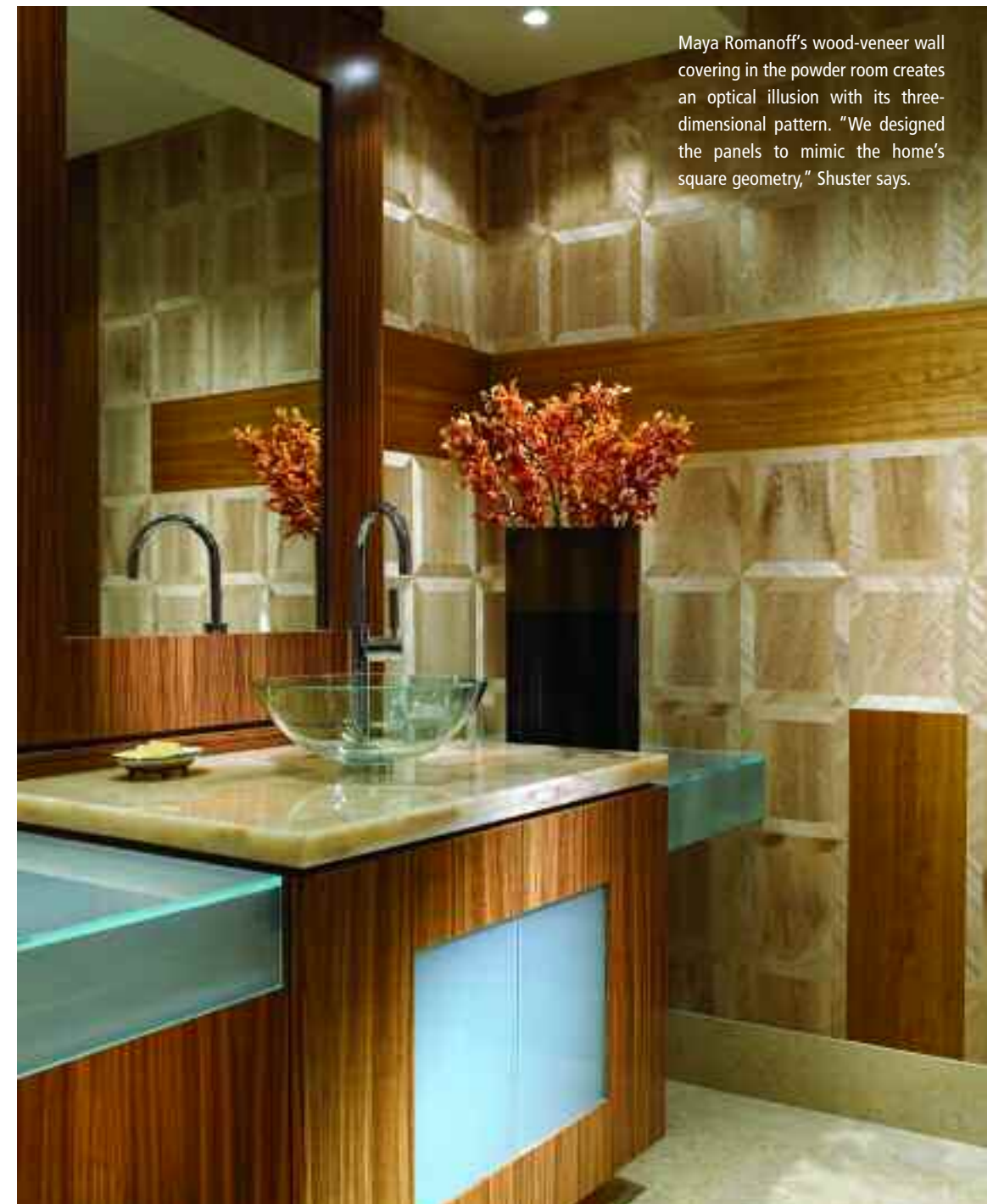
To fulfill their vision, Shuster mixed natural maple, anigre, tiger maple and zebra woods to form the cabinetry and millwork throughout. Purists at heart, the owners like "all-natural materials, nothing with a hue or finish that isn't natural," Shuster says.

This careful combination of woods, neutral hues and art comes together with ease in the living area. Here, custom-designed natural maple cabinetry showcases Chinese treasures while housing storage space. "The doors open in every section for floor-to-ceiling storage," Shuster says. And to give the conversation grouping texture, Shuster covered A. Rudin

sofas in a taupe nubby cotton from Rogers & Goffigon, the club chairs in brushed chenille and the wood-framed barrel chairs in a ribbed silk and cotton blend.

The foyer carries the same attention to detail. Tiger-maple entrance doors with acid-etched glass panels open to the gallery-like setting. Against one wall, a console adds an Art Nouveau touch amid eclectic art.

Two steps up from the living area is the media room, where maple bifold doors open for entertaining large groups. "There's a flow between the media room and living area, so it's perfect for hosting parties," the owners say.



Maya Romanoff's wood-veneer wall covering in the powder room creates an optical illusion with its three-dimensional pattern. "We designed the panels to mimic the home's square geometry," Shuster says.

A Jim Dine lithograph, part of his "Robe" series, pops off the back wall of the kitchen to the right. In the foreground, atop the speckled granite countertop, sits art glass by artist Karli Sears from her "Lacinia Gathering Series."



More moderne in feel, the furnishings include antiqued-leather lounge chairs, ebonized-wood tables from Swaim and lamps from Fine Art. In the ceiling, Shuster cut out very exaggerated coves and lit them from within to create a luminous skylight effect.

While it's difficult to name a favorite among so many greats, Shuster gives the dining room top billing. "I love it," he says. Geometry plays an obvious role, from the cube cutouts in the flooring to the dropped squares of the ceiling.

Even a modern fixture reflects the cubist theme while shedding light on the tiger-maple table.

To make the best use of the layout, Shuster converted a bedroom into a home office. "This is where they want to feel cozy, sit and read," Shuster says, referring to the sitting area.

And, nowhere does the use of wood make more of an impact than in the powder room, where zebra wood fashions a striking vanity and mirror. Acid-etched glass panels and countertops add some levity.

An architectural-looking banquette and simple steel chairs seat eight comfortably in the breakfast area. Custom designed with a low profile so not to obstruct the views, the banquette pairs a retro-looking cotton print with leather cushions.





An upholstered bed from Holly Hunt, Nancy Corzine bedside chests and Judith Norman crystal lamps comprise the master bedroom area, where a chaise from Century Designer Showrooms and the owners' Eileen Gray table provide a quiet place for repose.

"WE CREATED THE FEMININE AND MASCULINE FEEL WE WANTED IN THE MASTER BEDROOM WITH SEA FOAM HUES AND DECO TOUCHES," THE WIFE SAYS. "THE RESULT IS VERY MODERN AND SOOTHING."

A sea of anigre washes over the sun-filled kitchen and bar area. "We designed an entire glass bar from 1-inch-thick tempered glass. All you see is cabinetry and the water beyond," Shuster says.

The nearby breakfast area indulges in a breathtaking view of Lake Boca Raton and the Atlantic Ocean. To capitalize on the vista, Shuster created an unobtrusive banquette and placed a light fixture that you can see through, so to speak.

Neutrals turn to celadon in the master bedroom — an area that balances the feminine and masculine sides of the owners. "We love mixing this color with chocolate wood," Shuster says.

To conceal the view of neighboring condominiums, the designer placed two acid-etched panels to the right and left of the bed, giving the owners light and privacy. In between, five stainless-steel vases strike a pose. Set against a neutral backdrop, it appears as a photo-realistic oil on canvas.

Opposite the bed, a dimensional zebra-wood wall distinguishes the sitting area. "The panels slide left and right to reveal a television," Shuster says. Appropriately, a zebra-wood console from Carriage House rests against the wall.

"Both of us are tailored and informal in our approach to living," the owners say. "And this design reflects that. It has a certain calmness — a serenity to it." It's a subtlety that can only be achieved with much thought.



## SOURCES

### Foyer

Console base - The William Switzer Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Onyx console top - Quality Stone by Martile, Inc., Miami, FL  
Pedestals, sculptures and paintings - Owners' Collection  
Mirror work - Azorean Mirror, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Entry doors - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Fabricated by Noell Design Group, Inc., Boca Raton, FL

### Living Area

Sofas - A. Rudin, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Club chairs - Bright Chair Co., Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL  
Club chair fabric and barrel chairs - Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL  
Sofa and barrel chair fabric - Rogers & Goffigon, Ltd., Greenwich, CT  
Cocktail table - The William Switzer Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Floor lamps - Shaver/Melahn, Design West, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Cabinetry - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Fabricated by - Noell Design Group, Inc., Boca Raton, FL  
Drapery fabric - Donghia Showrooms, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Area rug - Carpet Source, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

### Media Room

Sofas - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Fabric - Rogers & Goffigon, Ltd., Greenwich, CT  
Armchairs - The William Switzer Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Bench, cocktail and occasional tables - Swaim, High Point, NC  
Table lamps - Fine Art Lamps, Judith Norman, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Area rug - Carpet Source, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

### Dining Room

Table - The Lucien Rollin Collection, The William Switzer Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Chairs - Bernhardt Design, Miami, FL  
Seat fabric - Rogers & Goffigon, Ltd., Greenwich, CT  
Chandelier - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL

### Office

Lounge chairs, ottoman and commode - The William Switzer Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Lounge chair fabric - Henry Calvin Fabrics, Donghia Showrooms, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Ottoman fabric - Zimmer + Rohde, Jeffrey Michaels & Co., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Floor lamp - Boyd Lighting Co., Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

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### Powder Room

Vanity and mirror - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Vanity fabricated by Noell Design Group, Inc., Boca Raton, FL  
Onyx countertop - Quality Stone by Martile, Inc., Miami, FL  
Glass countertops - Azorean Mirror, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Sink - Vitra, Designer's Plumbing Studio, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Wall covering - Maya Romanoff, Donghia Showrooms, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Kitchen/Bar Area/Breakfast Area  
Cabinetry and island - Custom designed by Downsview Kitchens, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Table base - Ekitta, Austin, TX  
Chairs - Design Link International, Inc., Bart Heikes & Associates, Fort Lauderdale, FL  
Klismos-style chairs and counter stools - The La Sala Group, Hollywood, FL  
Banquette and breakfast bar - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Banquette fabricated by Interior Services, Boca Raton, FL  
Breakfast bar fabricated by Azorean Mirror, Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL

### Master Bedroom

Bed and chairs - Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL  
Bedside chests - Nancy Corzine, Nessen Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Bedside lamps - Judith Norman, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Bench - Bright Chair Co., Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL  
Fabric - Rogers & Goffigon, Ltd., Greenwich, CT  
Chaise - Century Designer Showrooms, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Chest - Carriage House, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Chair and ottoman on balcony - Brown Jordan Company, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Wood paneling - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Carpet - Carpet Source, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

### Throughout

Contractor - Nolan Construction Co., Deerfield Beach, FL  
Glass doors - Custom designed by Shuster Design Assoc., Inc., Wilton Manors, FL  
Recessed lighting - Light Projects International, MB Lighting, Pompano Beach, FL  
Plumbing fixtures - Designer's Plumbing Studio, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Closets - Clutter Control, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL  
Flooring - Quality Stone by Martile, Inc., Miami, FL ◆