



hen Miami designer Robert Rionda was selected to remodel this Key Biscayne condominium, his mission was to showcase his clients' considerable art collection. "The owners had acquired some important pieces and they wanted a clean, contemporary space in which to display them," Rionda says. That meant creating an open interior with ample wall space for their extensive collection of oil paintings, sculptures and pre-Columbian art, all within a 3,300-square-foot area. It was a challenge, but one that the designer was more than glad to undertake.

It took Rionda and his crew 10 months to completely renovate this older home in an established luxury building. "It was as 1980s as you can get," the designer says. He even found hot tubs in two of the bedrooms. He set to work, not only to please his clients, but to demonstrate his signature "clean and uncluttered" sense of style as well.

The breakfast nook and office are the two most frequented spaces in the home. The office is set apart from the dining area by a custom teak wall designed by Rionda and architect Joseph Bartoszek.



At the homeowners' request, Edgar Negret's fire-engine-red, six-foot-tall, aluminum sculpture, entitled *Deidad*, is featured prominently in the breakfast area. "I liked the homeowners' decision to use large-scale sculptures that I may not have necessarily envisioned when I set out to design a condominium of this size," Rionda says. Another touch of red is boldly conveyed in B&B Italia's knit-clad swivel chairs. "This is one place where we wanted to have some fun and use color," the designer says, who is known to add an element of surprise to his interiors, right from the start.

In keeping with this mantra, Rionda created a foyer 10-feet by 30-feet-long to serve as an art gallery to display the homeowners' museum quality pieces. Now, when guests enter through the teak doorway, they are surrounded by an exquisite collection of art.

ABOVE: Negret's contemporary yellow painted sculpture entitled, *Flor*, presides in the hallway. The absence of baseboards throughout the home creates the illusion of walls that seem to float over pristine, porcelain flooring.





FASHIONED WITH ITS AMPLE WINE REFRIGERATOR, DUO DINING/TASTING TABLE AND BRIGHT RED CHAIRS FROM B&B ITALIA, THE BREAKFAST NOOK HAS FAST BECOME ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENTED SOCIAL SPACES IN THE HOME.

Their eyes are then drawn to a cutout in the wall to preview more treasures that can be found in the adjoining living area.

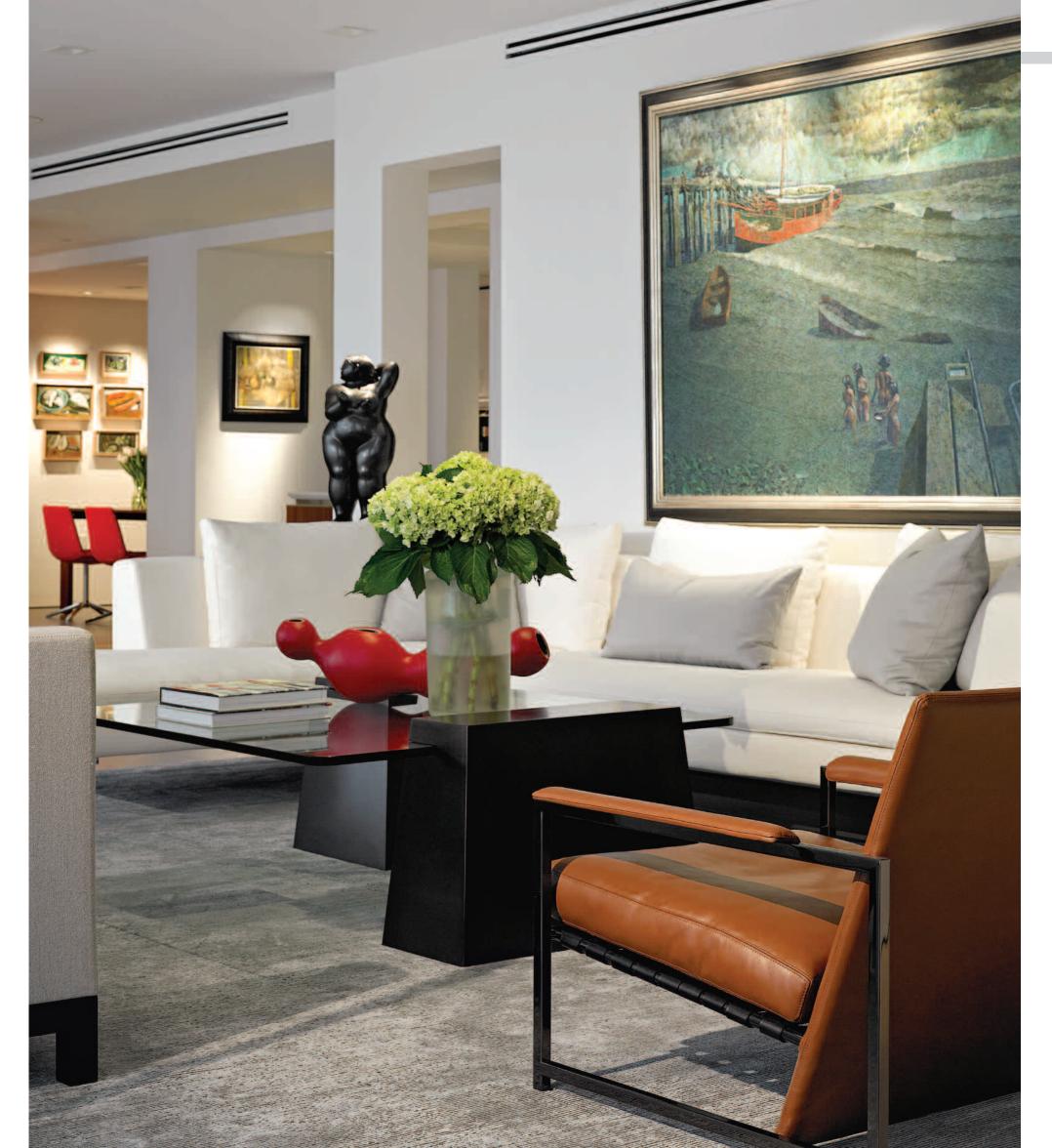
Rionda is adamant about not matching interior colors to the home's artwork. So conversely, he brings natural colors inside. In the living space, Negret's multi-faceted yellow-painted sculpture entitled *Luna*, is vibrantly illuminated by Cooper Lighting's recessed fixtures above, while a softly hued area rug from Patterson, Flynn and Martin grounds the space.

Pre-Columbian art is presented in the dining area on teak shelving in custom-crafted cabinetry that cleverly separates the space from the office. Designed by Rionda and Bartoszek, it complements the walnut and steel dining table from David Sutherland perfectly. "It's one of the first pieces we selected," the designer says.

Lorin Marsh's plinth cocktail table resides in the living area and provides an excellent perch for the eye-catching, red Venetian-glass "Bubble" by Salviati and an elegant Murano glass vase.

When all was said and done, the designer's ultimate goal was achieved. He succeeded in creating a home that highlights a wide range of the owners' extensive collection of art, which gracefully punctuates the elegant interiors and the classic furnishings throughout.

RIGHT: In the living area, Fernando Botero's bronze sculpture, *Donna in Piedi*, strikes a pose while Morales' oversized painting, entitled *Lancha y Banistas*, commands the wall above the sleek white B&B Italia sofa.



AS SEEN IN FLORIDA DESIGN'S HOME & DECOR

SOURCES

BREAKFAST AREA/OFFICE

Dining table - De La Espada, New York, NY Chairs - B&B Italia, New York, NY

Sofa - Axel, Luminaire, Coral Gables, FL

Occasional table - Minotti, Domus Design Center, New York, NY

Wall - Custom designed by Joseph Bartoszek, Palm Beach, FL, and Peeples Rionda Interiors, Miami, FL Fabricated by Alfredo Custom Furniture, Inc., Miami, FL

Console - Allan Knight and Assoc., The William Switzer

Collection, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL Countertop - Custom designed by Peeples Rionda Interiors, Miami, FL

Fabricated by Miami Stone District, Miami, FL

LIVING AREA

Sofa - B&B Italia, New York, NY

Large accent pillows - Holland and Sherry, Jerry Pair & Assoc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Small accent pillows - Bergamo, Nessen Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Sofa - Christian Liagre, Holly Hunt, New York, NY Sofa fabric - Zimmer & Rohde, Ammon Hickson, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Armchairs - Minotti, Domus Design Center, New York, NY

Cocktail table - Lorin Marsh, New York, NY Pedestal table - Gulassa & Co., Jerry Pair & Assoc.,

New York, NY

Occasional table - Terry Hunziker, David Sutherland Showroom, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Area rug - Patterson, Flynn and Martin, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Glass vase - Urban Art, Miami, FL

HALLWAY

Sculpture and pedestal - Owners' Collection

DINING AREA

Dining table - Terry Hunziker, David Sutherland Showroom, New York, NY

Chairs - Holly Hunt Studio H Furniture, Holly Hunt Miami, Miami, FL

Miami, FL Wall cabinetry and shelving - Custom designed by Joseph

Bartoszek, Palm Beach, FL, and Peeples Rionda Interiors, Miami, FL

Fabricated by Alfredo Custom Furniture, Inc., Miami, FL Table platters - Imperfetto Lab, Urban Art, Miami, FL THROUGHOUT

Cabinetry and woodwork - Alfredo Custom Furniture, Inc., Miami, FL

Artwork and sculptures - Owners' Collection Floral accessories - Peeples Rionda Interiors, Miami, FL Lighting - Cooper Lighting, Fusion Home Entertainment,

Flooring - Miami Stone District, Miami, FL M