"Collaborating with artisans to incorporate feature lighting is one of our signatures within a project," says interior designer Allen Saunders. To that end, a pair of bronze floor lamps with glass globes designed by Carlo Colombo softly illuminate the drapery. For the bespoke cluster chandelier in the living room, Cameron Design House in London worked with Czech Republic-based blowers to ensure they had just the right sizes and color.

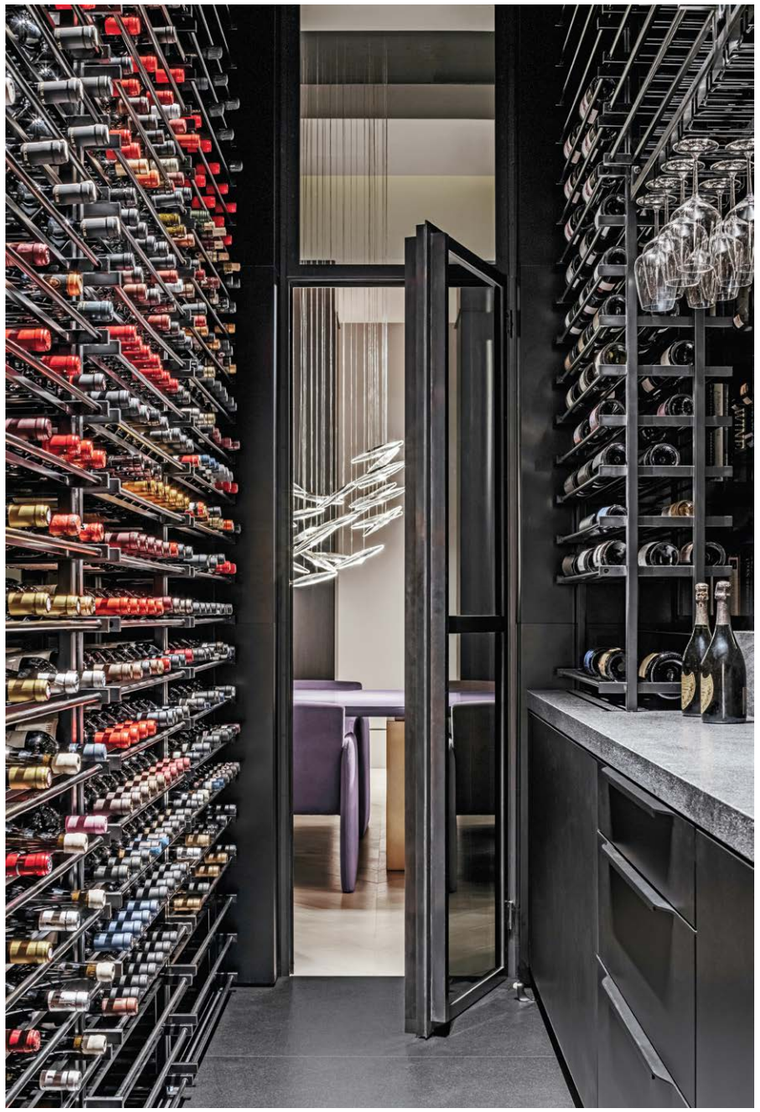
INTERIOR DESIGN ALLEN SAUNDERS,
ALLEN SAUNDERS DESIGN, MIAMI, FL
TEXT RIKI ALTMAN-YEE
PHOTOGRAPHY KRIS TAMBURELLO, MIAMI, FL

STYLE & SUBSTANCE

WOW-FACTOR AND FUNCTIONALITY DEFINE THE COMPLETE RENOVATION OF A DELRAY BEACH HOME

A close look at the dining room reveals the lacquered table is actually made up of two pieces, designed to be pulled apart for intimate gatherings. Two Ochre chandeliers appear to join seamlessly, but are on separate dimmers. For the chairs, the design team selected a fade-resistant Perennials performance velvet that can be cleaned with bleach and water.

WHEN APPROACHED ABOUT THE RENOVATION of an oddly shaped, 7,760-square-foot residence in a Delray Beach country club, designer Allen Saunders knew the task would be Goliathan. While the cul-de-sac property had its attributes, Saunders realized the 1999 Mediterranean manse's yellow-toned walls, outdated Saturnia floors, and window frames overwrought with gridded mullions were but a few of the features that had to go. The seasoned designer was certain a total gut renovation was in the cards, and he was correct. But homeowners and real estate developers Barbara and Jeffrey Rosenberg, who had worked with Saunders on



ABOVE: Allen Saunders Design wrapped the 1,200-bottle wine room in smoky gray glass so its contents are visible from myriad angles when illuminated. "You can see the wine bottles stacked, so it creates a repetition of circles," says Saunders. Blackened steel-faced cabinetry with integrated pulls complement the textured black granite on the countertops and floors.

Just off the living room is a small Knoll Tulip table for games, breakfasts, and other casual gatherings. Sheer drapery was employed to diffuse the sunlight while still revealing the arched windows' silhouettes.

As cooking is homeowner Jeff Rosenberg's passion, the design team gave him a dream kitchen with countertops from Opustone and a custom vent hood over the BlueStar range. Wall sconces with milk-glass globes from Cedar & Moss and a long cylindrical light fixture by Roll & Hill emulate the curves of the bronze-clad serving island and the arched window and hallway entrance.

BELOW: The powder room was transformed by a custom-designed white marble sink and floating shelf, black Samuel Heath fixtures, and stone wall tiles from Ann Sacks. The Gabriel Scott pendant light and Nina Mair mirror are additional tasteful touches.

multiple commercial and residential projects, knew he was the right man for the job and trusted him implicitly.

"We were given carte blanche with one particular requirement," says Saunders. "They wanted to walk into the space and be instantly wowed."

In 2018 the homeowners moved out and the once over-ornamented house was reduced to a concrete shell. Saunders and his crew began the renovation by relocating the kitchen—Jeff's happy place—so it would have an expansive view from an interior courtyard, into the breakfast room, and across the family room to the exterior entertainment and new pool areas.

The design team then set out to address the various octagon rooms in the home's original architecture. Oscar Ono Paris wood flooring in a carefully selected Hungarian Point pattern was installed to address the spaces' challenging geometry. "The flooring pattern worked well as it brought visual order to the plethora of 45-degree walls," explains Saunders. "The goal was to try to eliminate these crazy angles where we could."

BELOW: Near the bathtub in the primary bathroom are floating marble sinks, glass-enclosed showers, and personal water closets, which are accessible through hidden doors integrated into the aubergine high-gloss lacquer wall paneling. “We wanted to give the clients a punch of glamour,” Saunders explains. The pendant light fixture is from Apparatus Studio.

Like the flooring, much of the genius behind Saunders’ design is in what the beholder cannot see or just takes for granted. Consider, for instance, the black leather de Sede Tatzelwurm sofa in the living room, placed atop a round Tai Ping Carpets area rug: It snakes around the room’s radius, but then becomes backless just as it meets the expansive window with views of the lush greenery beyond. Another example of this approach is offered by the various columns in the dining room, which are wrapped in charcoal veneer and bronze detailing, yet open to reveal storage space for serving ware. Yet more functional features are revealed in the kitchen where the middle of three large floor-to-ceiling panels conceals a roomy walk-in pantry. “If you educate and expose your client to approaches they’ve never seen, then you begin to build the foundation of enabling them to live better than they ever thought they could,” says Saunders.

While the design approach is practical, there is no shortage of eye candy. To achieve the desired European sophistication, artisanal elements were incorporated in every room, lighting selection was approached with a curator’s eye, and color choices were made with precision (with variations of purple making an appearance in the living room, dining room, and primary suite). As for the homeowners’ reaction to the finished product? “It’s striking and livable,” says Jeff. “When we walked in, our first reaction was, ‘Wow!’”

Mission accomplished.

ABOVE: In the primary suite, the design team opted for subdued aubergine tones, like those on the tall custom headboard with horizontal upholstered panels in varying heights. Additional ways the color was introduced include a Stanton area rug in a rosy purple and a sheep shearling bench by Craft Associates in cabernet.

The renovation team removed an existing round pool and its faux coral columns to make way for a rectangular pool more suited for entertaining with a generous privacy wall. The wall is covered in Waterworks mosaic tile that sparkles when the light hits it just right. “It’s like having a living art installation,” says Saunders. “You can see it from virtually every room.”

ABOVE: For the outdoor kitchen, the team took a Pavesi Forni Modena pizza oven and tiled it with Bisazza glass mosaics.

BELOW: Near a custom stone fire pit are lounge chairs from Paola Lenti, sofas by David Sutherland, and pillows covered in Perennials fabric.

SOURCES

LIVING ROOM

Sofa – de Sede Switzerland, *desede.ch*
Cocktail table – McCollin Bryan, Holly Hunt, Miami, FL
Drink table – Caste Design, Holly Hunt, Miami, FL
Accent chair – SE Collections, *se-collections.com*
Side table – Christophe Delcourt, Avenue Road, Miami Beach, FL
Custom pendant – Cameron Design House, London, England
Floor lamps – Flou S.P.A., *fllou.it*
Drapery fabric by Rogers & Goffigon and Villa Nova by ROMO, fabrication by Marsh Industries, Miami, FL
Area rug – Tai Ping Carpets, *taipingcarpets.com*

DINING ROOM

Table designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated Tod Von Mertens, *todvon.com*
Chairs designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Estetica Custom Upholstery, Miami, FL
Fabric – Perennials Fabrics, David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Pendant – Ochre, David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Drapery fabric by Villa Nova by Romo, and fabricated by Marsh Industries, Miami, FL
Millwork walls, cabinets, and stone server designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by D-Coded International US, *d-ci.us*

WINE ROOM

Wine room, doors, and cabinetry designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by D-Coded International, *d-ci.us*

FAMILY ROOM

Chairs – B&B Italia, Luminaire, Miami, FL
Card table – Eero Saarinen, Knoll, *knoll.com*
Pendant – Arancia Lighting, *arancialighting.com*
Drapery fabric by Rogers & Goffigon and Villa Nova by Romo, and fabricated by Marsh Industries, Miami, FL

KITCHEN

Millwork, cabinetry, and island designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL and fabricated by D-Coded International US, *d-ci.us*
Stone countertops – Opustone, Miami, FL
Lighting – Roll and Hill, *rollandhill.com*
Sconces – Cedar and Moss, *cedarandmoss.com*
Range – BlueStar Cooking, *bluestarcooking.com*
Refrigerator – Sub-Zero, *sub-zero.com*

POWDER ROOM

Vanity and sink designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by D-Coded International US, *d-ci.us*
Pendant – Gabriel Scott, New York, NY
Mirror – Nina Mair, Avenue Road, Miami Beach, FL
Stone wall – Ann Sacks, Miami, FL

PRIMARY BATHROOM

Millwork and cabinetry designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by D-Coded International US, *d-ci.us*
Stone – Opustone, Miami, FL
Lighting – Apparatus Studio, New York, NY
Vanity sconces – Rich Brilliant Willing, New York, NY

PRIMARY BEDROOM

Headboard frame, wainscot, and nightstands designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by D-Coded International US, *d-ci.us*
Upholstered headboard and bed platform designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Estetica Custom Upholstery, Miami, FL
Pendants – Jaime Hayon, Parachilna USA, *parachilna.eu*
Bench – Craft Associates, *craftassociatesfurniture.com*
Fabric – Sheepskin, Garrett Leather, New York, NY
Chaise sofa – Christophe Delcourt, Avenue Road, Miami Beach, FL
Cocktail table designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Michael O Design, Miami, FL
Area rug – Stanton Rugs, Carpet Boutique, Miami, FL

POOL TERRACE

Tile wall – Waterworks, Miami, FL
Chaise lounge chairs – Richard Schultz, Knoll, *knoll.com*

OUTDOOR KITCHEN

Porcelain pavers and stone – Italgres, Miami, FL
Grill – Lynx Grills, *lynxgrills.com*
Pizza oven – Pavesi Forni Modena, Fiero Group, *fierogroup.com*

FIRE PIT LOUNGE

Sofas – David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
Lounge chairs – Paola Lenti, DDC NYC, New York, NY
Pillow fabric – Perennials, David Sutherland, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

THROUGHOUT

Builder – AG Smith Builders, Delray Beach, FL
Millwork and cabinetry designed by Allen Saunders Design, Miami, Fl, and fabricated by D-Coded International US, *d-ci.us*
Wood flooring – Oscar Ono, Miami, FL