

the globe for inspiration and bring their revelations home BY SAXON HENRY | PORTRAITS BY JEFFREY IRWIN

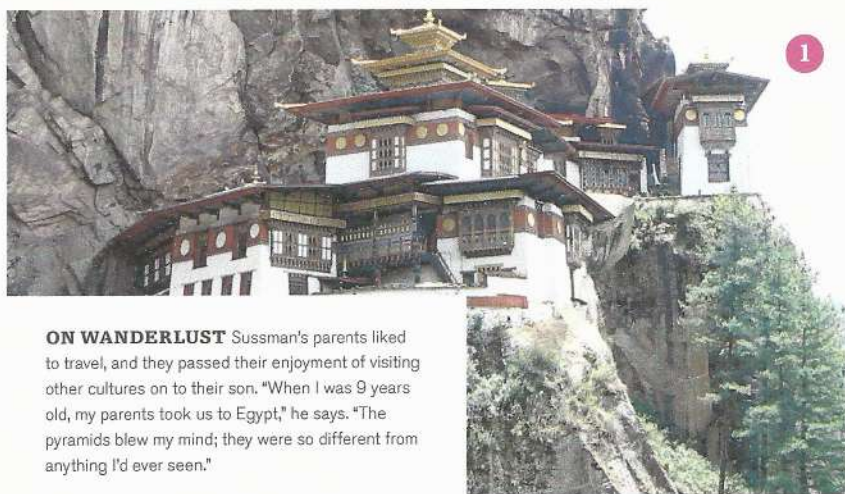
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Sussman migrated to Miami in 2002, working for a handful of prominent design/architecture firms before signing on with Shulman + Associates in early 2007 as the firm's director of interior design. Sussman claims he's mellow during the design process, but the adrenaline kicks into high gear when the construction gets underway and his visions

This peek into the past could explain Sussman's affinity for interiors that relate to their surroundings. "I always draw from the bones of a space for my designs," he explains. "I look at the overall skeleton of a building and treat the walls and the floors as if they are part of that." **M**

STRONG ACCENTS *From top:* Sussman. A wooden staircase at the Aman Spa in Bhutan appealed to Sussman both aesthetically and spiritually. A Miami Beach kitchen designed by the architect. The Flexform Timeless chair is a favorite.





ON WANDERLUST Sussman's parents liked to travel, and they passed their enjoyment of visiting other cultures on to their son. "When I was 9 years old, my parents took us to Egypt," he says. "The pyramids blew my mind; they were so different from anything I'd ever seen."

TRIPPING OUT! A recent sojourn to the Aman Spa in Bhutan was incredibly inspiring for Sussman. Nestled into the Himalayas, the resort was completely in harmony with its setting and the local culture, while also remaining technologically advanced. "The views and the connection to the environment were breathtaking," he says. "I absorbed every detail."



1. The soulful quality of Bhutan spoke to Sussman. 2. Sussman's design of this condo at the Continuum took its cues from sky, water and sand. 3. Le Corbusier's Casa Curutchet in La Plata, Argentina. 4. At age 9, Sussman visited the pyramids.



MODERN MENTOR "I've always looked up to Le Corbusier, and as a classic Modernist, I have embraced his principles," Sussman says. "When I saw Casa Curutchet—a house designed by Le Corbusier in La Plata, and his only building in Argentina—it was a defining moment for me."



5. Sussman digs Jaime Haydon's new designs for the bath. 6. Boutique hotels like the Fairwind are quickly becoming a specialty of the firm. 7. Sussman's modern bent shows itself in a Miami Beach residence, for which he designed the interior.

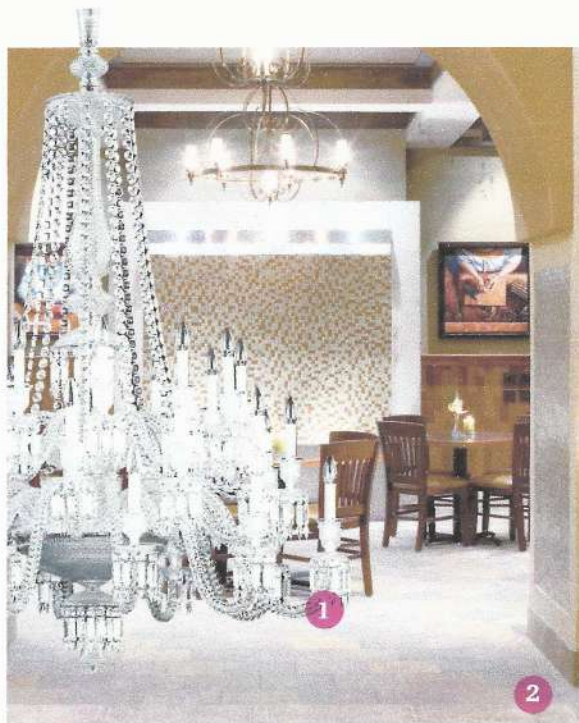
WITHOUT RESERVATIONS Sussman is now designing interiors for boutique hotels and spas in Miami Beach that include the Fairwind, the Indigo—a LEED certified project—and the Greystone Spa. "Each of these projects has a unique story," Sussman says. "Because the design is about capturing and informing the experiential aspects of place, the work is complex."

THE SWEDE SPOT >>>>>>>>>>>

You can take the woman out of Sweden, but you can't take Sweden out of the woman—the country's iconic design plays a part in Cuba's style. "I work across all styles, but I love the earthy materials and white painted woods of Scandinavian design," she says. While summering in the petite country houses of north Sweden as a child, Cuba zeroed in on what has become her caveat: "Necessity creates creativity."



IGGY POPS! *Clockwise from top: Cuba at home. NuHouse Design's Dougan chair. A vignette of Cuba's living space. Farm, a renowned restaurant in Napa Valley, is a favored hangout of and an influence for the interior designer.*



1. Cuba and her partners are designing the first Baccarat Hotel in Anguilla, which will have a subtler version of this chandelier. 2. La Carreta in Miramar, a HufHouse project, is a sister restaurant to one that is coming to the Miami International Airport soon. 3. Inside Cuba's home.

FUSION FURNISHINGS Cuba wants to build the perfect marriage of the Key West conch house, the Hamptons shingle-style cottage, the New England clapboard and the Scandinavian vernacular. "I'm drawn to places that have this feel," she says, citing the Napa Valley restaurant Farm and the Moorings in Islamorada as places that make her architect heart beat faster. "The Moorings is paradise, and it's only an hour and a half from Miami!"



4. The interior at Cuba's beloved Farm restaurant in Napa. 5. Cuba cites this Delight Votive by Orrefors as a favorite accessory. 6. A door in Paris's Le Marais neighborhood. 7. Cuba calls Pierre's Restaurant at the Moorings in the Keys "pure paradise."



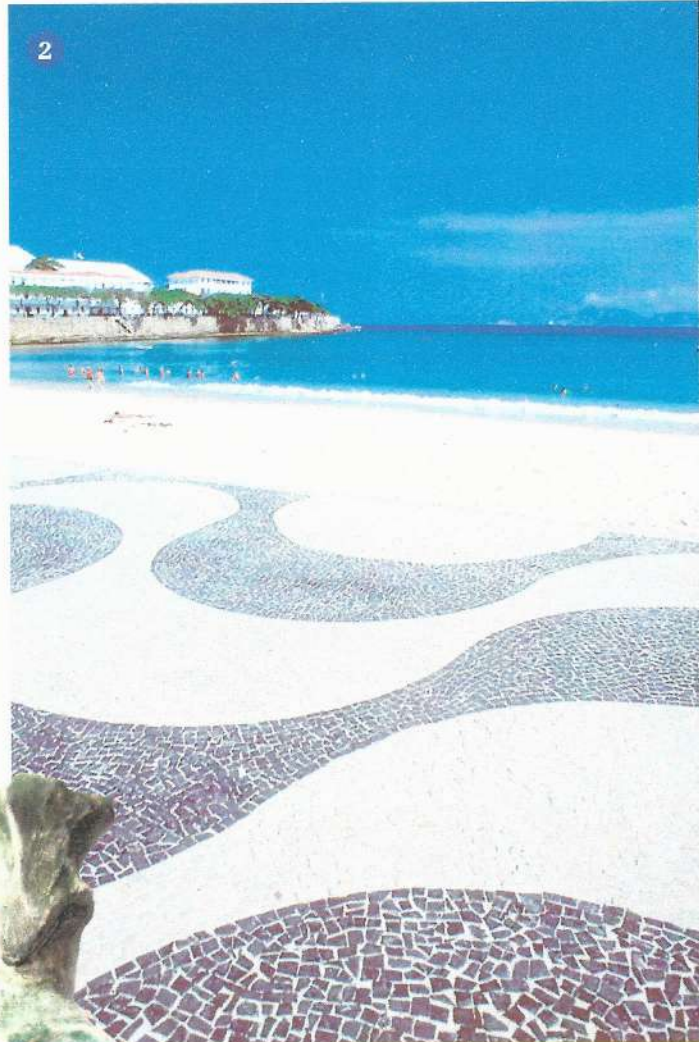
COLOR CHART "My favorite color is blue," Cuba says. "I think it's because during one week each year the light never fades in Sweden—a remarkable fact given that 60 percent of the year is always dark. It's impossible to forget the amazing blue glow that results during that one week, even during the middle of the night. It's also impossible to describe what a beautiful color it is."

PARIS MATCH "My favorite city is Paris, especially Le Marais because the neighborhood offers such great lessons in symmetry, balance and composition," Cuba says. "These are elements I am always conscious of when designing, and I glean ideas from the amazing details when I wander around those Parisian streets." Cuba lived in Paris for a year before moving to Miami, taking courses at the Sorbonne and drinking in her enchanting surroundings. "There's no other place that inspires me so much. From the architecture to the art, it's just in the air!" she says. "I love the George V and the Hemingway Bar, which is very cozy and has an old-fashioned glamour."





BEST IN SHOW Zucaratto handles the design of Artefacto's U.S. showrooms, as well as the Brazilian company's statewide brand identity. He also places Artefacto's furniture in many of his projects. "I like the Brazilian way of designing things, especially the strong connection to natural materials," he says. "Wood is an important element in my designs."



1. Zucaratto accesses his architectural training when designing Artefacto showrooms. 2. Copacabana Park by Roberto Burle Marx was Zucaratto's place to hang as a kid. 3. He updated this historical home in Caxsackie, New York. 4 and 6. Niemeyer's Congresso Nacional and Cathedral of Brasília. 5. A sculpture Zucaratto created during his college years.



IDOL WORSHIP "I'm a huge fan of Oscar Niemeyer," Zucaratto says. "He's 100 years old and he still has an office!" Niemeyer's designs from the 1960s are particularly appealing. "I love his furniture from that period—the extreme lines and large openings," he explains. "He was a true architect of that time, and I believe his designs reflect how the world was changing."



PARTY PLANNER "When I first visit a client, I create a 3-D image in my head, and I know within 15 minutes exactly what I need to do with each space—it's a natural thing I do," Zucaratto says. "It's why I don't go to many parties at private homes. I walk in and start analyzing each room and then I can't enjoy myself."