



MODERN FAMILY

WRITTEN BY SAXON HENRY
PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBIN HILL

FOR AN ARCHITECT, THE PATH TO MODERNISM IS ALWAYS—REPEAT, ALWAYS—A PASSIONATE ONE. Just ask Jaya Kader Zebede, whose education reads like a storied trek through the halls of architecture's elite institutions, including a graduate degree from Harvard. Mentors have included Robert A.M. Stern—she was the project architect on the Miami Beach Library—and the Costa Rican native “gets” the tropical in “tropical modernism” because it’s practically in her DNA, given where she grew up.

It’s no wonder, then, that Kader Zebede, head of Bay Harbor Islands’ KZ Architecture, nailed the task of creating a beautifully serene modernist home that commands its setting in Golden Beach. While the wife celebrates the livable interiors, the husband delights in the fact that the architect seamlessly related the interior and exterior spaces.

ARCHITECTURE Jaya Kader Zebede, AIA, KZ Architecture, Inc.

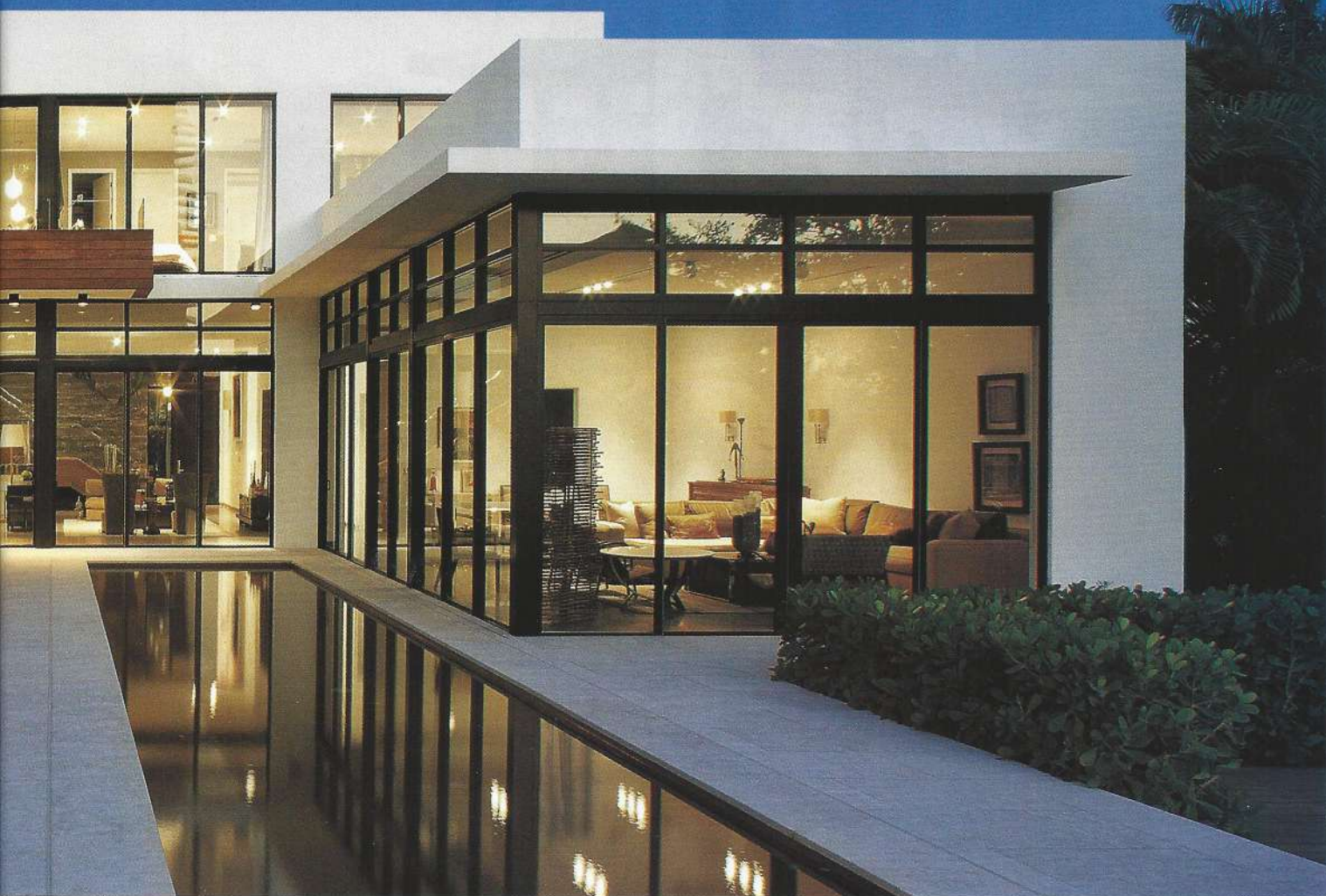
INTERIOR DESIGN Deborah Wecselman, Deborah Wecselman Design, Inc.

HOME BUILDER Javier Delgado, Larqcon Group, Inc.

HOME BUILDER Tracy Roth, Tracy Construction

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Carolina Monteiro, Enea Garden Design, Inc.

BEDROOMS 6 **BATHROOMS** 9 **SQUARE FEET** 8,000





MODERN LIVING

The flooring throughout the main level of the home is a limestone from Piedras International in Miami. The dining room table is vintage—its top made of lacquered linen and the base a polished stainless steel. The open floor plan for the main living space is a hallmark of modernism, using pillars to support interior spaces sans walls.



COOL WELCOME

The gray limestone on the walkway leading to the entry is a pale complement to the slate-clad façade. The cantilevered overhang covering the entrance portico illustrates architect Jaya Kader Zebede's fluency with modern principles.

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"The beautiful surroundings of the house are important to me," he explains, "but the fact that I can garden is even better; it's my therapy!"

Designer Deborah Wecselman, of Miami's Deborah Wecselman Design, came on board to assist Kader Zebede in creating the waterfront haven's charm and ease. "Our home is very welcoming," says the wife. "We seem to always have kids coming in and out with wet feet, so the materials were key to preventing their activities from being a stress point."



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Wecselman and the wife have been friends since they were children, and the designer believes the fact that they know each other so well is what made the project come together so perfectly. She also agrees that material selections were paramount. "The feel of the home we were aiming for was very Miesian," she explains. "Materials were not only important from the standpoint of lifestyle, but because the house is so open that the interiors are visible from nearly every angle."

Kader Zebede explains that this transparency was intentional: "They wanted spaces that effortlessly flowed from the outside to the inside, so I placed courtyards in the front of the home and the rear, which helped to articulate garden 'rooms' perfect for personal downtime or for entertaining family and friends." Landscape designer Carolina Monteiro, of Miami's Enea Garden Design, then went to work adding prolific plantings to those spaces,

STYLE SELECTION

Randi Solin shaped this blown-glass vase, which exposes variegated layers, including green aventurine, sterling silver leaf and white canework. A polished, angled-cut lip completes the aesthetic. *Aquos Rectangle*, \$1,840; artfulhome.com





GEOMETRY CLASS


Lush greenery and wood accents help soften the home's sharp angles. Working with Florida Engineered Glass Corp. in Miami, Kader Zebede implemented pocketing, three-panel sliding doors at crucial points, achieving a seamless transition between indoor and outdoor spaces.



OPEN LIFESTYLE

Designer Deborah Wechsleman used tall doors to create focal points in the interiors. In the living room, the stairwell appears to be cantilevered because only one point of connection to the slate wall—at the small landing—exists. The undulating design, finished with polished walnut veneer, glass panels and a stainless steel railing, creates an interesting sculptural form in the open space. Vintage Ralph Lauren armchairs flank a vintage coffee table by Andrée Putnam from J. Batchelor in Dania Beach.



A photograph of a modern house's exterior courtyard. On the left, a dark, textured slate wall rises vertically. To its right is a large, multi-paned glass wall that reflects the sky and surrounding greenery while offering a view into the interior. The interior shows a bright, open-plan living and dining area with contemporary decor, including a glass display cabinet and a wire chair. To the right of the glass wall is a plain white wall. The courtyard floor is made of dark wood decking. In the foreground, there is a low, rectangular concrete planter. A large, leafy tree is on the right side of the frame, and some smaller shrubs are on the left. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

GLASS HOUSE

The slate wall and ipe flooring in the front courtyard break up the large expanses of white on the home's exterior. Gaining as many views as possible was an ardent request from the homeowners, so Kader Zebede lavished the home with ample floor-to-ceiling windows that visually bring the lush plantings, by Miami's Enea Garden Design, into the interiors.



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as well as to other areas surrounding the home, choosing verdant tropical flora that would flourish. "We paid great attention to the microclimate, to where we would create shade elements, and we set out to make the views from the interiors striking," she says. "From the beginning, we knew we wanted to create vistas from inside the house."

The Intracoastal Waterway, which flows past the home, serves as the perfect backdrop for the lush surroundings and the striking residence, both of which had titanic talent behind them. "Everyone had such great vision, and Javier was so attentive," says the wife about builder Javier Delgado, of Miramar's Larqcon Group, who was joined by his project superintendent, Bryce Barker.

COLOR WHEEL

The colorful series of Moico Yaker oil-on-canvas paintings in the living room playfully echoes the hues in the sculptural art on the low console table. The geometrically layered coffee table, an Andrée Putnam design, holds a mix of the homeowners' collection of art and books. The rug subtly echoes the gray tones of the limestone floors.



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Of their efforts, Delgado says, "This is a special house because it has all three elements that are necessary to make it so: good design, good materials and good implementation."

Builder Tracy Roth, of Miami's Tracy Construction, who also collaborated on the home, concurs: "The workmanship and the thought process in creating a modernist design of merit is very particular, and not everyone understands it." Weckselman, who designed the interior architectural elements, says the proportions of the home's built-in elements make it noteworthy: "I'm so proud of it. It's the most successful modernist home I've done." The homeowners are equally gratified and soulfully enamored of their waterfront refuge. "Every time we walk in, we can't believe how beautiful it is," the husband says, "and, yet, we feel so comfortable here. That's why this is not just a house, it's a home." **L**

HIS AND HERS

The master bathroom cabinetry, by Madison Millwork in Hollywood, is custom-made of walnut. The island's his-and-hers sinks are set into Volakas marble by Marmol Export, U.S.A. in Miami, and a chic stool by Waterworks in Miami stows away under the well-lit vanity. The custom metal mirrors were conceived by Deborah Weckselman Design in Miami, and the floor-mounted faucets are by Lacava, found at AquaLumi Luxury Bathware in Miami.





SLEEP EASE

Gilded linen drapery fabric, made of woven wool, linen and viscose from Arabel Fabrics in North Miami, brings a hint of glitter to the master bedroom. The Jose Bedia painting above the bed adds a juicy pop of color to the pale room. The bedside tables are vintage Ralph Lauren, modern counterpoints to the creamy tones of the sofa and custom-upholstered bed. The acrylic table at the foot of the bed is a custom design, as are the ottomans tucked beneath it.