An aerial view of the Miami waterfront compound designed by architect Max Strang, of Strang, and Christine and John Gachot, of Gachot, with landscape architecture by Raymond Jungles, of Raymond Jungles, and construction by Luis Bosch of Bosch Construction. ART: Joel Mesler

HOME TOUR

These Miami Homeowners Assembled a Dream Design Team for Their Modernist Home

Designers John and Christine Gachot and architect Max Strang craft a bold yet livable retreat shaped by an extraordinary collection and a spirit of collaboration

By David Foxley, Photography by Douglas Friedman, Styled by Michael Reynolds

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Like the museum-grade artworks that populate its expansive walls and outdoor spaces, this Miami modernist home was always destined to be one of a kind. Which is why the homeowners—a couple who relish entertaining their large family and circle of friends—assembled a group of creatives who collaborate as intuitively as they design. “We know where one leaves off, the other picks up, and all of the gray area makes for a really successful project,” says designer Christine Gachot of the new-build endeavor, undertaken alongside her husband and business partner, John Gachot, of the namesake firm; architect Max Strang; and landscape architect Raymond Jungles. “There was a level of trust across the team that allowed decisions to be made with a shared sense of purpose,” Strang says.

The downstairs landing of a sculptural stair underscores architect Strang's sensitivity to natural light. Walls in Benjamin Moore's Simply White and Roman travertine floors from New York Stone frame a mirror by Ghiro Studio from Donzella, Ariosto ottomans by Cristina Celestino from Artemest in Scalamandré fabric, and a Linson ceramic shelf by Garcé Dimofski from the Invisible Collection. ART: Haas Brothers / Marianne Boesky Gallery

For Gachot, it was like waking up on a birthday morning to receive binders full of images of the homeowners art collection, including works by Henri Matisse, David Hockney, Roy Lichtenstein, Ed Ruscha, and Hiroshi Sugimoto, among many others. “The artwork was critical to understanding how the space should be laid out—and the scale,” says John, pointing to the nearly 14-foot-high walls in the modernist residence and neighboring guesthouse. He describes the architecture as “elegant tropical brutalism,” its bright, breezy, clean-lined façades nodding to Paul Rudolph and the Sarasota School.

In the living room, the sofas are from the Invisible Collection, the custom rug is by Atelier Fevrier, and the cocktail table is from Wyeth. ART: © 2026 Estate of Tom Wesselmann / Artists Rights Society (ARS), NY. Haas Brothers / Marianne Boesky Gallery.

Strang says the home’s architecture grew from early conversations with the clients centered on three guiding principles. “There was a shared interest in creating a home that feels distinctly Miami Beach—refined, relaxed, and attuned to the climate,” he says. Next was the concept of an “upside-down” house, placing principal living spaces on the second level to maximize light and views. Finally, any references to Miami’s Art Deco lineage had to be interpreted through a contemporary lens. “The goal was not nostalgia, but continuity,” Strang says. With a deep understanding of that aesthetic, Gachot, who launched their first line of furniture last week during Salone del Mobile, reinforced a disciplined approach to restraint and material cohesion, the architect notes, ensuring the house reads as a unified environment rather than a series of layered gestures.

Pendant lights by Apparatus illuminate the dining room above a custom table by Gachot, fabricated by Fischer Furniture. A parchment credenza by Brian Thoreen holds a vase by Christiane Perrochon. ART: © 2026 George Condo / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

That sense of continuity carries through interiors that balance monumental scale with warmth and livability. “As large as [the home] is, they’re very intimate people,” Christine says of the owners. “So there are these little moments in each room where it can just be the two of them and feel really warm.” To cultivate that welcoming embrace, color became a defining tool, gently pushing John, a self-professed devotee of quiet palettes, beyond his comfort zone. “I learned quickly that we had to be nimble with color,” he says, gesturing to the surrounding deep blue skies and vivid green vegetation. “And honestly, I love it—it opened up a whole new way of thinking.”

The living room armchairs are by Jorge Zalszupin from Espasso and the coffee table is by Kolkhoze. ART: © Nate Lowman / David Zwirner. Niko Koronis / Carpenters Workshop Gallery.

The results of that bolder approach unfold throughout the home: in the subterranean lounge, where coral onyx lines a moody bar and deep reds and mustard tones envelop the seating; in the main living spaces, where textiles in layered shades of blue and green echo Jungles's well-placed palm fronds swaying before expansive views of ocean and sky; and at the pool, where candy pink accents feel playful yet entirely rooted in the Miami landscape. Despite the clients' cache of masterworks, the property is anything but a museum—its spirited decorative moments serving as a gentle reminder that the house is meant first and foremost to be lived in.

A custom sofa and coffee table by Gachot, fabricated by Object Metal, anchor the family room, joined by ottomans by Gachot produced by Milo Workroom in Dedar fabric and a side table by KGBL. The builder was Luis Bosch of Bosch Construction. ART: Feyza Kemahlioglu / Wexler Gallery. Tom Sachs.

For all the professional teams' seamless collaboration, Christine ultimately credits the homeowners with giving the project its most magnetic qualities. "We met these fun people at a very special time in their lives, and they're having a great time with it all," she says of the couple, whose Sag Harbor, New York, summer retreat Gachot is currently designing. "It's wonderful to witness. It's joyful. It's infectious."

The bar, lined in coral onyx from Opustone, features custom millwork in oak, oil-rubbed bronze, and etched mirror by Bon Vivant. Coffee tables by Rodolfo Dordoni were sourced from DDC NYC.

The breakfast nook banquette is of a custom design by Gachot and upholstered in a Pierre Frey. The table is from 1stDibs and the chairs are from Design Within Reach.

In the kitchen, the barstools by Stellar Works are tucked beneath a quartzite island from Opus Stone. The sink fittings are by Waterworks.

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The bed and nightstands are of a custom design by Gachot; the sconces are by Lumfardo, and the chandelier is from Form Atelier. ART: © Damien Hirst and Science Ltd. All rights reserved / DACS, London / ARS, NY 2026

In the primary bathroom, the chair is from Artemest.

In the bunkroom, custom oak millwork by Gachot with upholstered paneling by Bon Vivant is illuminated by sconces from Rich Brilliant Willing. Ligne Roset chairs sit atop a confetti rug by Rosemary Hallgarten.

An exterior view of the guesthouse pavilion at a Miami waterfront residence by architect Max Strang and Christine and John Gachot, of AD100 firm Gachot, with landscape design by Raymond Jungles. A hanging lounger from Dedon offers a relaxed perch for taking in the views. ART: © 2026 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / VEGAP, Madrid

A chair by Molteni sits in the guest bathroom. The sconces are by Apparatus, and the sink fittings are by Waterworks.

In the padel-court pavilion, a favorite gathering spot for the homeowners and their guests, swivel lounge chairs from RH offer a comfortable place to pause between games. ART: Annie Morris / imothy Taylor © Annie Morris

In the subterranean gym and spa, Versilys marble from Banda Stone lines the steam room, while custom millwork by Gachot was fabricated by Bon Vivant.

David Foxley is a senior editor and design writer with nearly two decades of experience. He has held executive editor roles at publications including *Air Mail* and *Architectural Digest*, where he remains a regular contributor. As Executive Features Editor at *AD*, David oversaw all digital home tours, editing and writing ... Read More

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