

MAKING A RADICAL CHANGE

A Redesigned Interior Fits The New Lifestyle Of
A New York Couple Who Relocated To South Florida

ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN Jeffrey Silberstein,
Jeffrey Silberstein Architect & Associates, Delray Beach, FL

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German artist Thomas Ruff's abstract photograph, "Substrat 23 II," provides a dramatic focal point in the living room. Architect Jeffrey Silberstein designed the bench below it.



Owners Myles and Jo Fox display Peter Berg and Naoya Hatakeyama's art in the dining room. Verner Pantón's chair sits in the living room.



LONGTIME NEW YORKERS MYLES

and Jo Fox had a "no regrets" attitude when they left the Big Apple and relocated to South Florida. "After living in a prewar mid-town apartment and a series of downtown lofts, we had experienced the best of the city," Myles says. "We were ready for a radical change."

So, Myles, a video producer, and Jo, a graphic artist, moved from hectic Manhattan to laid-back Lake Worth, Fla., where they bought a model home. "It had the basics in terms of light, space and ceiling height, but was plagued by too much ornamentation and a staircase that looked wrong. It was the polar opposite of what we wanted," Myles recalls.



Silberstein eliminated a powder room next to the stairway to create a niche in the kitchen for an untitled wood sculpture by Peter Berg and a Taylor guitar.

Undeterred, the Foxes met with architect Jeffrey Silberstein whose work in modern architecture resonated with their own aesthetic vision. "The goal was to make the space soothing and calm — even spiritual — warm and embracing," Silberstein says. "I wanted to show that modern need not be cold."

To do so, Silberstein removed the existing kitchen, baths and lighting system. For the flooring he chose Brazilian Andiroba, a dark hardwood with variegated graining. "In the sunlight, the grain gives off different colors — it has character," he says.

Throughout the interior, Silberstein used colors and patterns sparingly, allowing the couple's art collection and furnishings to serve as significant

architectural elements. Prior to selecting the furnishings, Silberstein determined the placement of the paintings, sculpture and photography, for which he designed a lighting system.

The direction of the interior design began with "Jo's desire to have a Mies Van Der Rohe chaise in the living room as a sculptural element," Silberstein says. Stark white walls provide a blank canvas for a brilliantly hued abstract photograph that hangs above a custom-designed bench. In front of the

RIGHT: In the breakfast area, white chairs from Molteni complement Eero Saarinen's classic modern "Tulip" table. A mango sofa runs the length of the family room's wall.



"Ladder to Sky," a series of six collages by Berg, fills the wall in the family room. Silberstein's custom-designed light fixture lights up a corner.





"I LOVE THE DRAMA OF THE DARK WOODS IN THE KITCHEN, AND THE WAY STAINLESS STEEL WEARS OVER TIME," SAYS JO, A COOKING ENTHUSIAST.

bench, a blue-and-yellow fur ottoman rests on a white shag area rug. Verner Panton's "Heart Cone Chair," covered in black and white plaid, completes the seating.

Silberstein addressed the issue of the ungainly stairway between the living and dining rooms by covering it with Macassar ebony panels. The result is a free-floating, richly grained wall. "It's so beautiful that it's a work of art in itself," Jo says.

In the dining room, steel-studded white vinyl dining chairs surround a stainless-steel table with a carrera marble top. "The shiny surface keeps it from being formal," Silberstein says. An oversized lampshade fixture lends a touch of whimsy.

The play of sleek surfaces and forms continues in the family room, where

Silberstein placed a custom-designed, 15-foot mango cotton sofa. He then designed a white lacquered cocktail table to balance the scale of the sofas and a black-and-white silk light fixture to provide soft illumination. "It's the perfect complement to the strong artwork series above the sofas," Silberstein says.

An area rug with a black-and-white serpentine pattern draws a classic modern "Egg" chair and a pair of ottomans into the grouping. "All the linearity of form demanded an organic element to give the room balance," Silberstein says.

In the adjoining kitchen, Silberstein used the same dark wood for the flooring and cabinetry, and stainless for the countertops and backsplash.

A low glass wall encloses the loft, allowing a clear view of Berg's untitled wood sculpture. Cris Gianakos' "Mastaba IXA" hangs above the sofa, while his wood-and-steel sculpture, "Red Ramp," rests on the cocktail table.



The dark and light palette continues in the loft above the living room. Here, two white sofas gather around another Silberstein-designed cocktail table. Custom cabinetry made of ebonized ash houses a significant art book collection. A taupe and cream area rug offsets the ebony flooring.

For the patio area, Silberstein designed a banquette with black-and-white cushions that fits

neatly into a corner. In the center of the patio, sleek outdoor furniture affords alfresco dining and lounging in the sun.

"Jeffrey had brilliant ideas and a great way of interpreting what we wanted," Myles says. The two-year project was "a new adventure," Jo says, adding that "we would do it all over again, but why would we? We have the perfect home, at last."



SOURCES

Living Room

Chaise - Molteni, Linea, North Miami Beach, FL
 Heart chair - Vitra, Luminaire, Miami, FL
 Fabric - LeeJofa/Mark Biller & Associates, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
 Ottoman - A. Rudin Design, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
 Bench - Custom designed by Jeffrey Silberstein Architect & Associates, Inc., Delray Beach, FL

Fabricated by Superior Construction & Fixtures, Inc., Dania Beach, FL

Floor lamp - Capellini, Luminaire, Miami, FL
 Artwork - Mai 36 Gallery, Zurich, Switzerland
 Area rug - Shaw Industries, Inc., East Coast Flooring, Hollywood, FL

Dining Room

Table - Dada, Linea, North Miami Beach, FL
 Chairs - A. Rudin Design, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Floating ledge - Custom designed by Jeffrey Silberstein Architect & Associates, Inc., Delray Beach, FL

Fabricated by Superior Construction & Fixtures, Inc., Dania Beach, FL
 Light fixture - Boyd Lighting Co., Jerry Pair & Associates, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
 Photography artwork - Bryce Wolkowitz Gallery, New York, NY



Breakfast Area/Family Room

Dining table - Knoll, Inc., Miami Beach, FL
 Chairs - Molteni, Linea, North Miami Beach, FL
 Sofa - Bernhardt Furniture Co., Lenoire, NC
 Egg chair - Fritz Hansen, New York, NY
 Ottomans - A. Rudin Design, J. Batchelor, DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
 Cocktail table - Custom designed by Jeffrey Silberstein
 Architect & Associates, Inc., Delray Beach, FL
 Fabricated by Superior Construction & Fixtures, Inc., Dania Beach, FL
 Vertical light fixture - Custom designed by Jeffrey Silberstein
 Architect & Associates, Inc., Delray Beach, FL
 Fabricated by Tushka Art, Miami, FL
 Shades - Hunter Douglas, Orlando, FL
 Area rug - Rosemary Hallgarten, Corte Madera, CA

Kitchen

Cabinetry, countertops and backsplash - Kitchen Center, Miami, FL
 Appliances - Sub-Zero, Thermador and Miele, Ferguson Bath &
 Kitchen Gallery, Palm Beach, FL

Loft

Sofas - Bernhardt Furniture Co., Lenoire, NC
 Cocktail table and cabinetry - Custom designed by Jeffrey
 Silberstein Architect & Associates, Inc., Delray Beach, FL
 Fabricated by Superior Construction & Fixtures, Inc., Dania Beach, FL
 Area rug - Odegard, Miami, FL

Patio Area

Banquette and cocktail table - Custom designed by Jeffrey
 Silberstein Architect & Associates, Inc., Delray Beach, FL
 Banquette and cocktail table fabricated by Ron Kendall
 Masonry, West Palm Beach, FL
 Pink pillow fabric and cushions fabricated by Outdoor Fabrics,
 Miami, FL
 Patio furniture and umbrella - Brown Jordan International,
 DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL
 Sconce - Energie, LLC, Lakewood, CO
 Limestone flooring - Keys Granite, Inc., DCOTA, Dania Beach, FL

Throughout

General contractor - GLM Construction, Delray Beach, FL
 Lighting consultant - Lighting Dynamics Inc., Fort Lauderdale, FL
 Wood flooring - C&M Wood Flooring, Deerfield Beach, FL ♦



A banquette with black-and-white cushions forms a sitting area on the patio. In the center of the space, a market umbrella shades two chaises.

