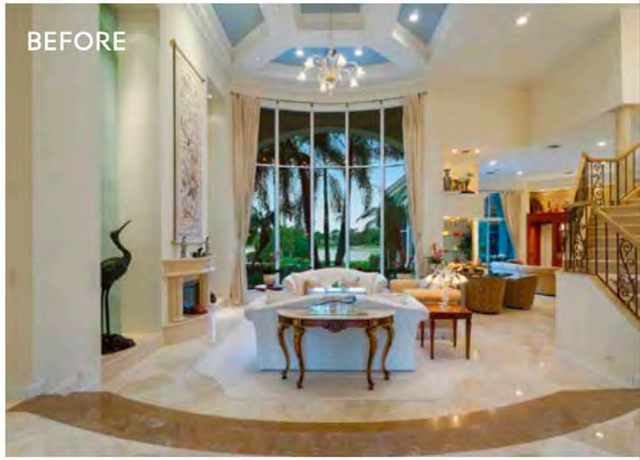
GRACEFUL LAKESIDE BEAUTY

TUSCAN-STYLE HOME IS TRANSFORMED INTO A FRESH, TIMELESS CONTEMPORARY BEAUTY

Stepping into this house before the remodel meant stepping back thirty years in style and design. Owner of Cardamon Design and Interior Designer Laurie Walter pores over the original architectural drawings and reimagines the front elevation, interior layout, and pool. Builder Jay DeAngelis of DeAngelis Custom Homes brings his can-do approach to anything construction related, making this design a reality. Together, they transform this extravagant, Tuscan-style house into a timeless contemporary lakeside beauty.

The clients were thrilled with Walter's ability to incorporate the arch and column exterior into this contemporary-transitional style facade, while honoring the original architecture. This former sunken living room, bar, and pool get a lift, while the massive, overbearing staircase and marble-clad column gets an unbelievable re-design. ▶



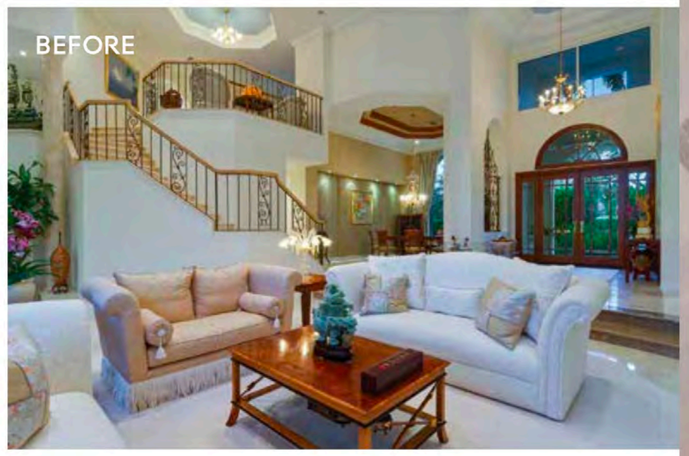
Front Elevation (Previous Spread): The new exterior reads contemporary by removing the Tuscan-style elements and adding linear features. Walter keeps the original roof lines but scales up the entrance, cladding it in a natural stone-like porcelain tile. Between these tiles are powder-coated metal schluters that reinforce the horizontal lines. Architectural cement planks from Nichiha accent the home, while this Tesla Solar Roof was the first of this size in Southwest Florida, with a fully integrated solar and energy storage system.

Living Room: Removing the bay window and adding floor-to-ceiling drapery with gossamer feel frames the new streamlined windows and slider. Walter takes advantage of the tall ceilings by recreating the new 18-foot fireplace edged in a hand-chiseled stone. The wool and silk rug brings in the blue that echoes in the art, throw pillows, and lamp. Walter custom designs this multi-ring stainless-steel chandelier from Wilson Lighting to mimic the curves of the Thayer Coggin sofa below.

Foyer | Staircase: Walter displays this sizable art piece in the foyer, calculating the space needed down to the inch. The steel stringer — made from a single piece of steel — supports the lofty, under-lit white oak treads. The glass and steel wine room support the structure above, mirroring the floating effect in the staircase. Underneath the stairs is a low-profile bench from American Leather.

To support the clients' wishes for an open-concept layout, DeAngelis reengineers the home, eliminating the need for interior weight-bearing columns — except for one. Walter camouflages the support column, integrating it into the steel and glass wine room design. "It's a structural column and a design element — it's both art and engineering and truly amazing," shares DeAngelis.

Walter studies the clients' art collection early in the design phase. "Before we started demolition on the home, I worked with the client on the placement of their art," Walter says. The previous fireplace was diminutive in stature, and now it is an impressive focal point to showcase a brilliant and colorful art piece. ▶

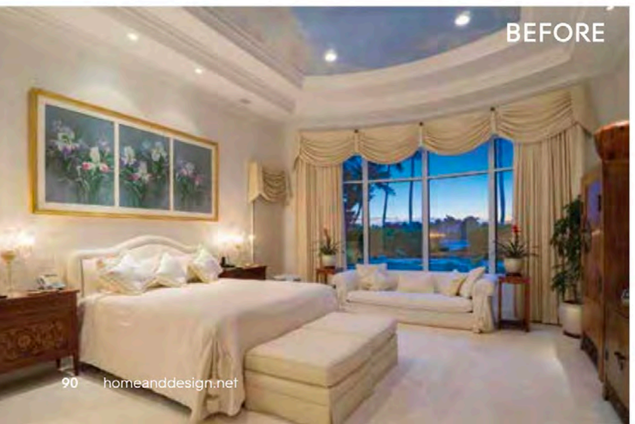


The redesign of the kitchen gains 15 feet of wall space, and the adjacent sunken rooms are now level and open, making this new main floor a cohesive and captivating experience. Meticulous attention is given to redesigning the primary bed and bath from an ostentatious ancient palace to a crisp contemporary retreat. James Gelet, senior interior designer and Walter's protege at Cardamon Design, guides the clients through the furniture selections. The palette is soft and neutral, showing off pops of color that bounce from the artwork to the rugs and then to the stunning view outside. ▶

Office: The bay windows are kept to honor the original architecture but replaced with new oil-rubbed bronze bay windows from Island Style Windows & Doors. Throughout the main floor, Walter uses this white oak Lauzon flooring in 8-inch-wide random lengths. Gelet custom designs the steel and glass display shelves that sit atop the metallic carbon-tone Vanguard credenza across from the sophisticated desk from Old Biscayne Designs.

Kitchen: Walter dresses the upper and lower cabinets in unique finishes for a harmonious balance of crisp silver and cerused oak from SOHO Kitchens & Design. The dining space showcases this one-of-a-kind Israeli-made chandelier that hangs over the Guan hardwood table with a live edge and a lucite base from Century. Walter incorporates a teal accent color in the adjacent family room with accent pillows that boldly contrast the greige Bracci sofa.

Outdoor Living: "We had to get creative with the outdoor living space to be able to accommodate the seating area, outdoor kitchen, and dining space," details Walter. She designs a floating table-height counter, and DeAngelis engineers the infrastructure to ensure the cantilevering Dekton will hold. The porcelain tile and architectural planks from the front facade repeat on the outdoor kitchen feature wall, and Walter outfits this entertaining kitchen from Mullet's Appliances.

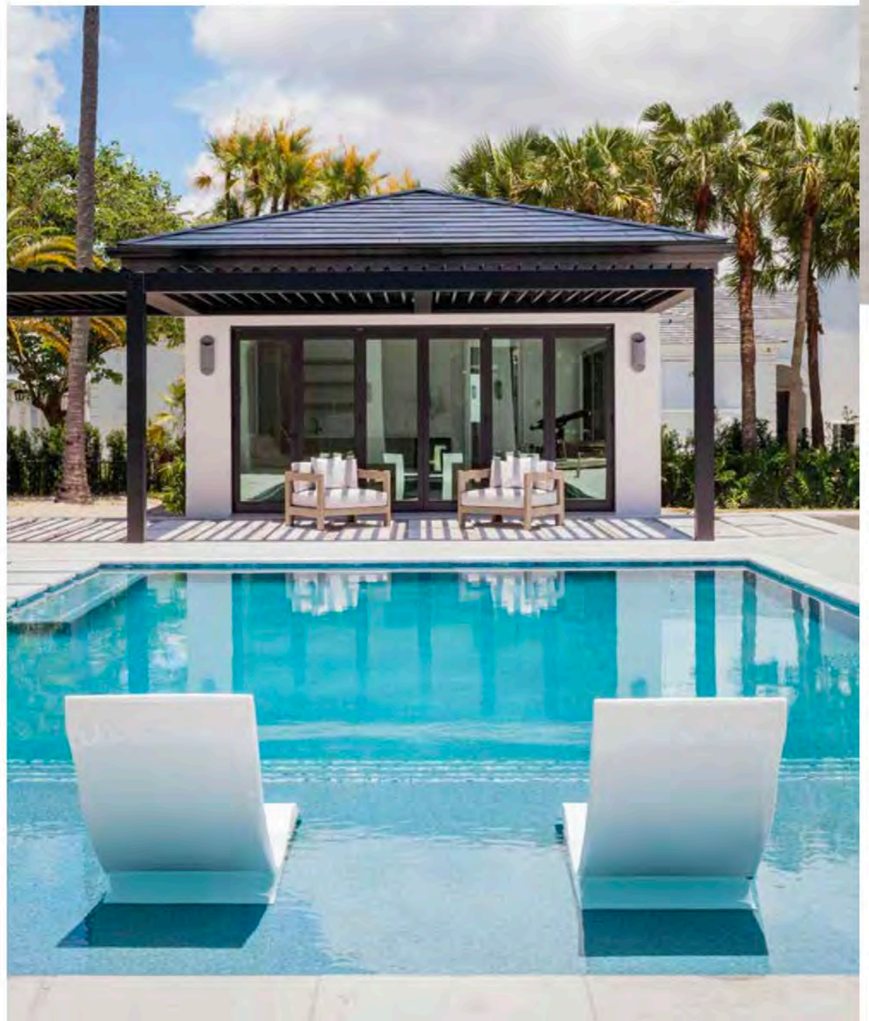


Primary Bedroom: The spa outside and the lake beyond create an alluring view from this primary bedroom. The wool and silk area rug from Hadinger Flooring highlights the blush tones and the blue hues in the bold artwork above the Vanguard bed from International Design Source and topped with pillows that lend a nod to the beachy color palette.

Primary Bathroom: What was once an ornate and disjointed bathroom is now a streamlined contemporary haven. Walter's drop-ceiling design has a lighted freeform curve which leads to the generous tub from Naples Plumbing Studio. In addition, the stunning backlit focal wall is finished in a Marvel Stone tile by Atlas Concorde and has two vertical bands of glass tile in a chevron pattern from Design Works. The cool hues of the tile find balance with the warm cream hue on the cabinetry.

The idea of a freestanding pool house became an opportunity to get creative. In Quail West, a secondary freestanding structure is against the covenant. "The DeAngelis philosophy is, 'If you want it done, then we will find a way to get it done! We don't believe in can't,'" says DeAngelis. Together Walter and DeAngelis came up with the pergola solution, making this the first pool house in the area to be connected to the main structure by a custom pergola that shelters the walkway. "I'm inspired by architects of times past, who consider the connection between the home, the lot, and the land," shares Walter, who recalls standing in the dirt where the pool house now stands to ensure the sight-lines would be perfect from all vantage points.

"I understand design," says DeAngelis, "and Laurie is a great designer who understands building." This united passion created a remarkably graceful remodel. ■



Rear Elevation: The redesign raises the pool deck to be level with the home. This contemporary pool house connects to the main structure by a custom oil-rubbed bronze pergola that is L.A.-inspired. The roof of the pergola pivots to shade and shield the walkway below. A medley of aqua hues against the Clauzetto White Marvel Stone paver pool deck creates a tranquil ambiance while relaxing on the Ledge Loungers or in the nearby outdoor living space.

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