

BOLD DEPARTURE

ONE COUPLE'S AFFECTION FOR ALL THINGS FRENCH PROVIDES INSPIRATION FOR THEIR HOME ON BRICKELL KEY.

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HOME BUILDER / ESTEBAN REY, SANTINO DESIGN



If visitors to Robyn and Allan Webb's one-bedroom Miami apartment expect the typical all-white Miami aesthetic, they'll be pleasantly surprised upon stepping inside. There, bold theatrical colors, like a black textured wallcovering and bright teal sofa, mix with funky patterns, such as a black-and-white striped chair, to create a space that exudes charm. In fact, it's the wife's style that initially inspired the design for the home on the 20th floor of a Brickell Key high-rise. "As soon as I saw her with a green leather jacket draped across her shoulders, I knew we would be doing something chic that was nothing like the typical all-white modern Miami aesthetic," says designer Maite Granda of Robyn's ensemble the first time they met. The Webbs, who often vacation in Paris, also had a clear vision for their new Miami digs: They wanted it to exude their own modern interpretation of French decor. "We wanted a home that was luxurious and beautiful," says Robyn, noting they were downsizing from a four-story residence in Alexandria, Virginia. "But it also had to be functional."

Starting out, Granda began by tackling the practical. "The unit was urgently in need of a renovation and things like the yellowish tile in the living room and beige carpet in the bedroom made the space look choppy," says the designer. In collaboration with builder Esteban Rey, Granda replaced the existing flooring with white porcelain tiles from Italgres that establishes the desired effect of making every space in the apartment cohesive and appear larger. The previously mentioned black living room wall was partially outfitted with an entertainment unit that puts display shelving and storage at the forefront, while a smaller unit on the opposing wall showcases Allan's finely curated wine collection.

Throughout the spaces, Granda blended various materials and motifs to evoke a Miami spin on French panache. "The style is very rich in texture and mixes

With an established design theme of eclectic with a Parisian accent for a couple's Brickell Key apartment, designer Maite Granda combined classic French black-and-white stripes on the lounge chair with an Ikea sofa wearing Perennials fabric in the living room. The midcentury modern-inspired coffee table is from West Elm, as are the sofa's throw pillows. The geometric Seabrook wallpaper is from Palmetto Paint & Decorating Center, and the hand-tufted wool rug is from CB2.



To maximize space, Granda created an office nook in a corner of the living room that includes a built-in desk by Alarcon Millwork and a Herman Miller desk chair. The glass-and-bronze étagère and circular mirror, both from CB2, anchor the corner's sleek modern aesthetic.

In the dining room, a Sputnik-style chandelier, a nod to the husband's aeronautic background, lights the brass sawhorse table and Jannis Ellenberger host chairs, all from CB2. The side Ghost chairs are from Design Within Reach, and a mirror from Anthropologie hangs above an RH shagreen console.



Below, left: Opposite the dining area, a bar and wine fridge accommodates the couple's fine wine collection. The custom cabinetry is by Alarcon Millwork, and black textured wallpaper adds a touch of drama to the modest space.

Below, right: A pair of electric green vases in the powder room flank a Forte sink with a Kohler faucet set in a custom vanity by Alarcon Millwork. The glossy countertop is from Opustone, the wall-mounted medicine cabinet is from RH, and the floor tiles are from Italgres.



An upholstered Skyline Furniture bed from All Modern topped with Nordstrom bedding is the centerpiece of the master bedroom, where bedside lamps from West Elm rest on white nightstands. The area rug is by Nuloom; the red chair and ottoman are from Anthropologie; and the two-tone floor lamp is CB2.



multiple patterns like florals, stripes, plaids and checks,” says the designer, who introduced sofa accent pillows in varying hues and prints to illustrate her point before further upping the ante by sheathing the living room with a geometric white-and-gray wallcovering by Seabrook Wallpaper. “In our early meetings, the Webbs mentioned texture and drama, and wallpaper definitely adds drama and gives a room personality. They are such a fun couple and these are details that really reflect who they are.”

Another whimsical and intentional interjection—an explosion of brass-finished rods filled with light bulbs, popularly known as a Sputnik chandelier—hangs above the glass dining room table surrounded by Philippe Starck’s Louis Ghost chairs. The fixture pays homage to Allan’s former career as an aeronautics engineer who worked on the Voyager, Viking and Mariner space missions, to name a few. “Sputnik was launched before I went away to college and that’s what inspired me to enter the space program,” he explains. “The chandelier is a great conversation starter for me.”

A vanity by Alarcon Millwork with a countertop from Opustone lines one wall in the master bathroom. The contemporary Kohler sinks and faucets are from Ferguson, and the Bisazza-style shower tiles and the porcelain floors are from Italgres. The designer framed the existing mirrors with a thick black border to tie together the darker shades of the shower tiles.



On the terrace, Granda selected a high table from Crate & Barrel's Dune Collection and Trattoria side chairs from Poly & Bark so the owners could enjoy the ocean views when dining outside. The striped table runner provides further Parisian flair.

Continuing into the kitchen area and being mindful of Robyn's culinary expertise and the couple's love of entertaining, Granda removed a row of upper kitchen cabinets, opening the space to the adjacent dining room so guests can watch the chef in action. Revamping the countertops with a waterfall of black granite by Opustone proved the perfect complement to the glossy white cabinetry while carrying on the apartment's signature black-and-white color combination.

Taking a more subdued, serene approach in the master suite, Granda outfitted the space with furnishings and artwork inspired by the crisp white buildings typical of the Greek island of Santorini, another European city visited by the couple. Here, the bedroom transforms into a tranquil oasis with an upholstered wingback bed covered in smoky-colored velvet resting atop a textured Nuloom rug, and, suspended from above, a golden-sphered fixture mimicking the sun's natural illumination. Between the room's windows, Robyn's reading corner is complete with a comfortable lounge chair enveloped in a soft, luxurious crimson velvet fabric, adding a bright touch to the room's otherwise muted tones. In the adjacent bathroom, the bright white vanity and floors extend the suite's thematic ambience, while the matte black, white and gray mosaic shower tiles seamlessly tie back to the apartment's established black-and-white moments.

Granda's overall design concept comes full circle in the powder room, where the black walls, multipatterned tile floor, brushed-gold hardware from Kohler and electric green vases visually solidify the compact space. "When I saw that room, I knew Maite totally got the passion I have for Paris," says Robyn. For the designer, it was yet another interpretation of her early impressions of her client. As Granda explains, "It was her green jacket and chic ensemble all over again." ■