



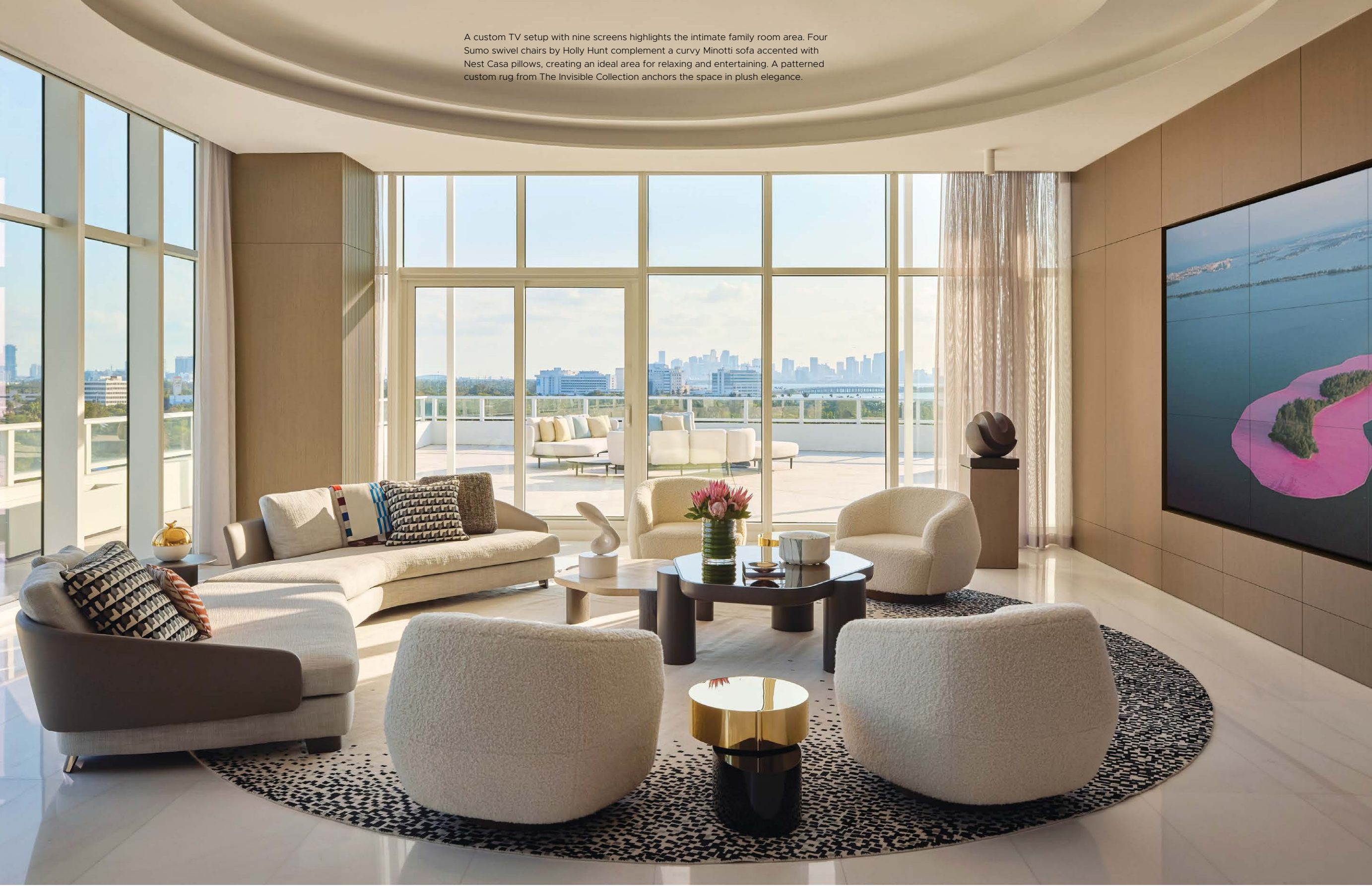
# Master Class

A PENTHOUSE AT THE RITZ-CARLTON RESIDENCES IN MIAMI BEACH  
HONORS PIERO LISSONI'S SIGNATURE FOR ELEGANT SIMPLICITY

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ABOVE: Photographs by Mario Testino create a dynamic sense of arrival inside this penthouse at The Ritz-Carlton Residences in Miami Beach. Curvilinear Morada sofas and Caste Design chairs meld with the organic forms of a Pierre Augustin Rose coffee table trio. A black silk-bordered custom rug designed by Britto Charette anchors the great room's grand proportions.

A custom TV setup with nine screens highlights the intimate family room area. Four Sumo swivel chairs by Holly Hunt complement a curvy Minotti sofa accented with Nest Casa pillows, creating an ideal area for relaxing and entertaining. A patterned custom rug from The Invisible Collection anchors the space in plush elegance.



LEFT: A large round custom mirror illuminates the foyer with an ambient halo light, echoing the fluid, circular forms throughout the dwelling. A floating custom console imparts a weightless feel, clarifying the home's airy, modern aesthetic.

BELOW: Beyond the foyer, an intimate card table area in the great room features views of the terrace and pool patio. Organic furniture forms shape the space with a round Paolo Castelli table, Holly Hunt club chairs, and a low-hanging pendant light from Apparatus.



*A DESIRE FOR A “COMMANDING SENSE OF ARRIVAL”* drove the design aesthetic for Tarek and Lina Hammoud’s roomy penthouse at The Ritz-Carlton Residences development in Miami Beach. Sprawling 6,000 square feet indoors and boasting nearly 8,000 square feet of outdoor living space, the impeccably curated residence supersedes delivering a lasting impression. The bespoke design created by Jay Britto and David Charette, founders of the award-winning Britto Charette studio in Miami, pays homage to Piero Lissoni’s architectural vision for the building while masterfully expressing the personalities of the homeowners and harnessing the commanding views.

When the dwelling was nothing more than raw concrete without ceilings or walls, the design team met with the Hammouds and walked the site together to come up with a custom layout. “In

creating their design, we studied the views and the sun’s path throughout,” recalls Charette. “For our team, generating a sense of arrival is essential.”

Panoramic views of South Beach greet visitors upon exiting the private elevator. Beyond the foyer, two massive works by photographer Mario Testino dominate the great room with their expressive subject matter. Intentional public and private zones delineate an expansive floor plan. The seating area leading to the primary bedroom suite, along with closets, bathroom, and bedroom, all point east to capture sunrise views, creating a sense of privacy and separation from the main living spaces. The south-facing public zones enjoy views of a stepped terrace with precise landscaping and a pool patio. The kitchen sits adjacent to the family room, a semi-private west-facing area separated from



Outfitted by Boffi, the kitchen emanates modern elegance with Gaggenau appliances and a seamless cooktop integrated into polished Arca stone countertops. Okha barstools from StudioTwentySeven line the island with casual seating, and Allied Maker pendant lights enhance the contemporary minimalist vibe.



the open entertainment spaces. Its strategic positioning prevents cooking aromas from intruding on the rest of the home.

“The columns and the exterior building envelope set the rhythm for the interior design,” notes Charette. “We used the framework of the existing columns and structure to create the proportions and then built a clay model to verify those proportions before going into the final photorealistic phase. When you apply these rules—light, views, axes, geometry—the space designs itself.”

The home’s soaring ceiling height enabled the Britto Charette team to capitalize on lighting and ceiling design options. A linear light system in the public areas prompted them to fashion a furniture arrangement that creates a crescendo within the language of the space. “Ceiling design is one of our team’s signature solutions,” says Britto, “and we are proud the unique styles we devise are now being copied by many of our industry colleagues. In this case, the extraordinarily high ceilings allowed us to create knife-edge details and hide mechanicals.”

The family room’s dome ceiling was inspired by a trip Charette took to Palm Springs. Fabricated with glass fiber reinforced concrete, the design deliberately shifts off-center and comprises multiple rings to produce visual tension. “Rules of symmetry create a static outcome,” adds Charette. “It was my goal to subtly break

LEFT: A custom bar area tucks discreetly into a well-appointed nook in the great room. The design melds with the room’s sophisticated aesthetic while providing a functional cocktail station for effortless entertaining. Polished marble frames a fluted wood embellishment and then continues on the wall and countertops.



An orbbed alabaster chandelier from Atelier Alain Ellouz counterbalances sculptural pieces from Maison Parisienne, bringing a meditative gallery feel to the dining area. Artfully shaped upholstered chairs from Gallotti & Radice soften a Calacatta marble and bronzed-brass Plinto dining table by Meridiani.



LEFT: A custom headboard designed by Britto Charette was handcrafted in plaster by Art Space NYC. Transported in five non-linear sections, the piece draws inspiration from Hellenistic marble sculptures emulating flowing fabric on feminine forms. Romo velvet lines the headboard below the plaster element, lending textural contrast.



ABOVE: Cozy touches tame the expansive primary bedroom, including Giorgetti chaise lounges adorned with Nest Casa pillows and throws atop a wool area rug from Armadillo. The custom bed and nightstands designed by Britto Charette and fabricated by EVM float atop a raised platform covered in a custom rug from Kyle Bunting.

LEFT: The primary bath's minimalist style emanates a spa-like tranquility with Calacatta sinks and recessed custom mirrors accommodating Kreon lighting and ample storage. Built-in cabinets below run the length of the room, adding to the clean aesthetic.



symmetry so it creates a tweak that you may not notice right away, yet adds architectural interest.”

Nodding to Britto Charette's signature portfolio, the clients aspired to a similar clean and sophisticated aesthetic for their residence. “The palette was chosen based on their preference for a refined and serene living environment,” notes Britto. “We also wanted to ensure the color scheme would complement—and not compete with—the views, art, furniture, and accessories.”

The primary bedroom suite posed a unique challenge for the team when they found plumbing connections within their planned placement for the bed and headboard. “Removing those would have involved opening ceilings in other units and incurring additional costs for our clients,” says Yulian Monroy, project manager at Britto Charette. “So, after some brainstorming, we came up with the solution of adding a decorative platform below the bed that allowed us to hide the existing conditions but also enabled us to raise the bed and gain better panoramic water views.”



Lavish outdoor square footage includes a terrace with ample space for large gatherings. Expormim lounging pieces bring creature comforts outdoors, and well-positioned walkways with pristine landscaping frame the elegant setting.

The winning touch? A sinuous plaster headboard designed by Britto Charette and handcrafted by Art Space NYC. When they first walked the space with their clients, Charette instinctively knew it could accommodate a monumental design element, so he envisioned a sculptural headboard inspired by Hellenistic marble sculptures emulating wet fabric in the wind on feminine forms. The headboard also creates an acoustic separation, buffering any plumbing and mechanical noise from the vertical stack.

“We’re often thrown curveballs, so we find ways to transform those challenges into custom design elements,” notes Charette. “The clients realized the value a well-executed interior design could bring to their enjoyment of the property. Hence, our favorite aspect was delivering the finished design and seeing them enjoy it.”



A private pool deck on the upper level of the stepped terrace creates a blissful space for sunbathing or a morning dip. Lush landscaping frames the area against the cityscape. Gandia Blasco chaise lounges from Clima Home generate a luxury resort feel.

#### SOURCES

##### GREAT ROOM

Curved sofas and side table – Morada, Miami, FL  
 Club chairs – Holly Hunt, Miami, FL  
 Cocktail tables – StudioTwentySeven, Miami, FL  
 Area rug designed by Britto Charette, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Twill & Texture, Miami, FL

##### FAMILY ROOM

Sofa and side table – Minotti, [minotti.com](http://minotti.com)  
 Club chairs – Holly Hunt, Miami, FL  
 Cocktail table – Collection Particuliere, [collection-particuliere.fr](http://collection-particuliere.fr)  
 Round area rug – The Future Perfect, [thefutureperfect.com](http://thefutureperfect.com)

##### CARD TABLE AREA

Round table – Casa Italia, Naples, FL  
 Swivel chairs and sconces – Holly Hunt, Miami, FL  
 Pendant lighting – Apparatus, [apparatusstudio.com](http://apparatusstudio.com)  
 Marble pedestal – Nest Casa, Miami, FL  
 Lighting on pedestal – Collection Particuliere, [collectionparticuliere.fr](http://collectionparticuliere.fr)

Shelves designed by Britto Charette, Miami, FL, and fabricated by EVM, North Lauderdale, FL

##### KITCHEN

Cabinetry and island – Boffi, Miami, FL  
 Stools – StudioTwentySeven, Miami, FL  
 Pendant lighting – Allied Maker, [alliedmaker.com](http://alliedmaker.com)

##### DINING AREA

Table and chairs – Casa Italia, Naples, FL  
 Chandelier – Atelier Alain Ellouz, [atelier-alain-ellouz.com](http://atelier-alain-ellouz.com)  
 Drapery – Casa Mayo, Miami, FL  
 Area rug designed by Britto Charette, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Twill & Texture, Miami, FL

##### PRIMARY BATHROOM

Sink and cabinetry – Quality Tops, Miami, FL  
 Marble – Arca, Miami, FL  
 Millwork – EVM, North Lauderdale, FL  
 Plumbing fixtures – Waterbox, Miami, FL

##### PRIMARY BEDROOM

Bed, side tables, and dresser designed by Britto Charette,

Miami, FL, and fabricated by EVM, North Lauderdale, FL  
 Headboard backdrop designed by Britto Charette, Miami, FL, and fabricated by Arts Space NYC, [artspaceny.com](http://artspaceny.com)  
 Lounges – Casa Italia, Naples, FL  
 Floor lamp – Nahoor, [nahoor.com/en](http://nahoor.com/en)  
 Area rug – Armadillo, [armadillo-co.com/us](http://armadillo-co.com/us)

##### TERRACE

Sofas, lounge chairs, and tables – Clima Home, Miami, FL

Umbrellas – Clima Home, Miami, FL

##### THROUGHOUT

Builder – Stambul, Miami, FL  
 Landscape architecture – Clad, Miami, FL  
 Millwork designed by Britto Charette, and fabricated by EVM, North Lauderdale, FL  
 Closets – Ornare, Miami, FL  
 Flooring – Storia Flooring, Miami, FL  
 Architectural lighting – The Lighting Studio, Miami, FL