

Robb Report ^{LUXURY} Home

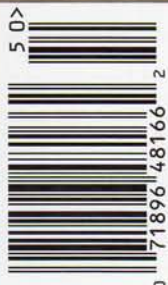
CUSTOM DESIGN + ARCHITECTURE + HOME TECHNOLOGY

Power Structure

Four dynamic interiors express their owners' style



WINTER 2005
\$5.95 US \$7.95 CAN



A Media Mogul's Playground Nippura's 27-Foot Blue Ocean Screen
Art Deco Lighters on Display A Suspension Bridge Built for Two


ROOM Tour

IT MAY NOT FLY THROUGH THE AIR like Eglantine Price's four-poster in *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*, but this bachelor's bed in Miami can perform a few nifty magic tricks of its own. The activating mechanism here is a little more technologically sophisticated than the bed knob in Mary Norton's childhood classic, which, when placed on one of the bedposts, would transform the witch's sleeping arrangements into a kind of rustic intergalactic shuttle. In this case, the bed knob has been replaced by a Crestron keypad programmed with a host of truly futuristic functions.

The owner of the condominium in Portofino, overlooking the Port of Miami and Fisher Island, is a single Norwegian entrepreneur in his 40s. "He wanted a contemporary, minimalist apartment," says Dawn Causa, a senior designer at the Home of Fine Decorators (named after principal Ted Fine) in Hallandale, Fla. And, she adds, "he loves all the bells and whistles."

As concealment is the better part of minimalist decor, Causa sheathed the sleek footboard with anigre, a light-colored exotic hardwood, and placed the plasma TV inside. Since the bed faces the room's sitting area, she made the TV screen visible from there through a cutout panel. Hunter Douglas Duette honeycomb shades close over the screen when the owner wants it out of sight. But if he doesn't want to roust himself out of bed, he merely presses a button on the Crestron pad and the plasma TV—all 42 inches of it—lifts completely out of the footboard and rotates 360 degrees. If all the reality depicted onscreen proves too real, he can sink back into his pillow—the bed's hydraulics are concealed along the sides of the TV.

From this recumbent position, our young Nordic businessman can also control the recessed lighting that provides moody illumination for the celadon Ultra-suede headboard, as well as close the open-weave curtains and the two sets of blinds that line the wall of windows facing out over the water.

The client was so pleased with his bedroom that he has since referred friends to Ted Fine's talented staff. All of those friends, presumably, are interested in the latest technological wizardry—which, of course, is just a modern-day version of the magic tricks in *Bedknobs and Broomsticks*. For what does any guy really crave but a few bells and whistles? 

Dawn Causa, Home of Fine Decorators, 954.456.6000,
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Bedtime Story

By Jorge S. Arango

A motorized, computerized dream come true

TROY CAMPBELL PHOTOGRAPHY