

DESIGN + DECOR

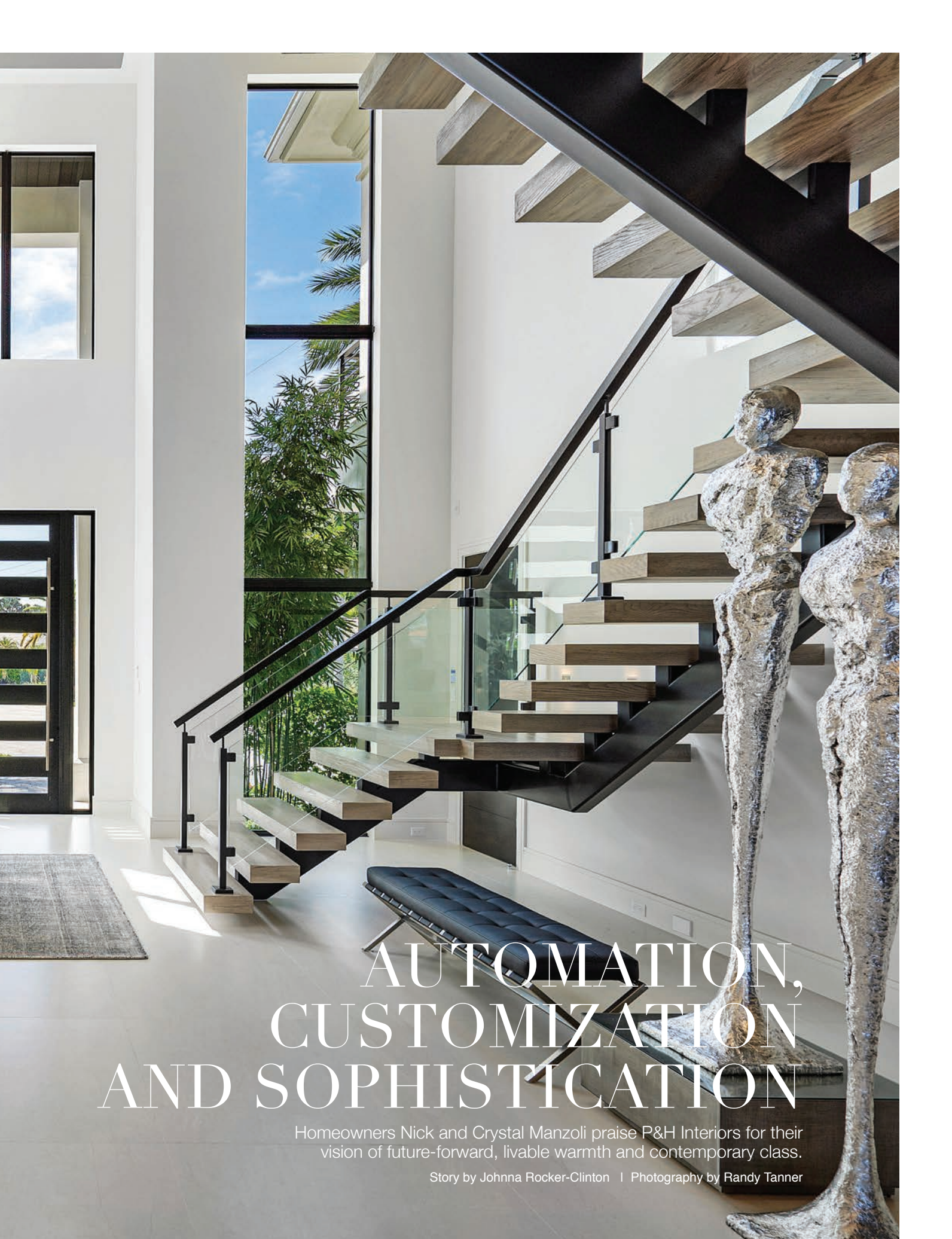
SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

THE PREMIER ISSUE



\$5.95 US 04
0 74470 68435 0





AUTOMATION, CUSTOMIZATION AND SOPHISTICATION

Homeowners Nick and Crystal Manzoli praise P&H Interiors for their vision of future-forward, livable warmth and contemporary class.

Story by Johnna Rocker-Clinton | Photography by Randy Tanner



A custom built glass wine cabinet serves as a second focal point in the dining room.



The dining room is home to the most unique piece in the house, the chandelier, by Avenue Lighting, —a rectangular frame that holds several tinsel-like slivers that give it a fringe effect.



A low wet bar allows guests a cocktail with a fabulous view.

Since the debut of the TV show *The Jetsons*, Americans have dreamed of technologically advanced homes. With the press of a button, doors would lock or unlock, food would be delivered on a conveyor belt, and so on. The problem is that modern and high tech often conjure up images of a cold, harsh space. Can a house feel “homey” when embedded with technology? What if there were a way to marry technology with the warm, inviting ambience of a traditional home?

There is a way—hiring the right interior designers. In the case of clients Dr. Nick and Crystal Manzoli, Suzanne Coles and Marisa Courson of P&H Interiors were essential in bringing luxurious design to this technological fortress. Marisa is an architectural designer, handling everything from foundation backdrop to wall paneling, while Suzanne focuses on décor and design. And when the two work together, they create phenomenal cohesiveness in the homes they design. With the Manzolis’ house, the two were able to master the look and feel of a true home amid remote access and automation.

Basking in the view

Situated on the Intracoastal Waterway in an exclusive community, the Manzoli residence is a stunning 6,900-square-



Custom built-ins in the living room provide contrast to the mono-chromatic neutrals of the space.



foot, highly automated dream home. At the rear, surrounding the body of water, lies a wildlife preserve. The forestry along the water gives the property an enchanting coastal feel, while the pie-shaped point lot truly makes the home one of a kind.

Indeed, this shape allows for a vast and unique outdoor space. On one side is a bar seating eight people; behind the bar sits a built-in, 30-inch gas pizza oven by Alfresco. Next to the bar is the Manzolis' covered patio, which features a lounge area furnished with a sectional and a big-screen TV. The barbecue grills and outdoor shower are the icing on the cake, making this summer room an ideal space to entertain guests.

The centerpiece of this outdoor living space is the infinity-edge pool with custom-blend mosaics—a combination of smooth, iridescent and glass tile by Oceanside Glass & Tile.

Some evenings, the Manzolis sit outside near the pizza oven in the summer room, Crystal's favorite space (besides the kitchen). Basking in the view, they enjoy their dinner while the steady breeze from the Intracoastal tames the Florida heat for them. Near their table, the crystal-blue infinity pool casts the illusion of pouring into the Intracoastal. "The look of the pool is terrific when it's lit up at night," says Nick. "It's beautiful."

Automatically safe

"The tech stuff is all me," says Nick proudly. Every light is connected to an automated system, explain Marisa and Suzanne, enabling the owners to create the mood by adjusting the lighting and music remotely. Water sensors are everywhere, so if there is any kind of leak, the system turns off the water. There are also multiple TVs inside and outside the house. On the walls of the club room and the loft are big-screen TVs featuring drop-down projection screens with surround sound. The drop-down screens are more than 100 inches and set in movie format. "Nick loves movies—can you tell?" says his wife, Crystal, laughing.

Suzanne and Marisa worked diligently







A contemporary partners desk and pops of color in the artwork livens up the office.



to conceal the wires, gadgets and speakers that accompany a movie-quality theater room. Marisa designed custom furniture that matched the woodworkings of the house, while Suzanne picked the acoustically transparent fabric that hides the speakers. The piece of furniture under the television in the club room holds left, right and center speakers and a subwoofer. Provided with the measurements of the speakers, the designers created custom pieces and niches in the wall to meet the clients' functional needs, while also breaking up the masculinity in the room, achieving balance.

The home automation system is not just for movie nights, however. It also allows remote access so the Manzolis can safeguard their treasured belongings, protect themselves and control their energy usage. They can control the front gate and the temperature, and—thanks to strategically placed cameras—can see what's going on in the house when they're not there. "We know what the house is doing at any particular time, and we can adjust something whether or not we are here," says Nick.

The shift to contemporary

Throughout the home, the contrasting wood tones against stark white stand out and give a masterful show of contemporary design. The windows allow the warm glow of the sun to soften what some might call the rigidity of a modern, clean look. Marisa explains that doing away with all the traditional borders, trim and molding allows the furniture pieces to "speak for themselves." For instance, in the loft, the wrap-around moldings frame the room and create a unique look.

Crisp doesn't necessarily mean cold, however. Suzanne says the "warm, organic feel" of the house can be experienced in her favorite area—the foyer. To go from the second floor down to the foyer, one must descend the mono-spline staircase. This





leads to the dining area, where the brilliant chandelier by Avenue Lighting will assuredly take one's breath away. "It's literally the only thing I picked out," says Crystal with a laugh. This custom-built light includes a rectangular frame dressed with several delicate, necklace-like ornaments that are draped over the LED tubing. "The Manzolis fell in love with this light fixture from the Fountain Avenue Collection, but it was too small for the scale of the room because their table is 120 inches long," Marisa explains. "Avenue Lighting makes it in only a few sizes, 48 inches long by 12 inches wide, which was way too small for a 120-inch table. They also make it





Homeowners, Nick and Crystal fancy spending their evenings here near the water, together.

in squares that are 26 by 26, so I proposed to Nick and Crystal to do three of the squares. We all decided that the best route would be to customize it. Our fixture was customized locally through Beautiful Things, and it ended up being 72 inches long by 26 inches wide.”

The Manzolis didn’t always go for the chic, clean look. “Our house up north was very New Englishish, old-world style,” says Nick. “The other home we had here in Florida was more Mediterranean.” The shift to contemporary was all about upgrading their style. “Contemporary is where the current trend is here, and we really like it,” he continues. “It fits our lifestyle—with the technology. It’s a cleaner look and we wanted a change.” His thinking was, why go traditional in a brand-new home? Modern is the way to go. “You want to be ahead of the curve, and only the interior designers can help you with that,” he says. “We were lucky—we chose the right people to work with.”

Crystal also praises P&H Interiors. “Thank God for them,” she says. “I had a vision, but putting it all together overwhelmed me. We’d have lots of meetings and go through things we liked and didn’t like, and then we pretty much said, ‘You do the rest.’ We’ve seen the other homes they’ve designed, and we trusted them. I didn’t doubt them for a minute—I knew I was going to be happy with whatever they did. They did a great job.”

Customized living

Interior designers are brilliant customizers. Marisa and the P&H team customized the furniture in the loft, great room and club room, and also customized entire rooms, including the powder room. Here,

the visitor is struck by the massive quartzite sink and countertop in fantastic brown, with its leathered finish. The textured Nero-glossy black porcelain reflecting the brilliant light of the LED wall sconces makes this one of the most exceptional rooms in the home—and it’s all custom P&H work.

In the kitchen, the custom double-island is a chef’s dream. The two islands are “something that our team—P&H Interiors; architect Jack Conway; SRD Building Corp, who built it; and Distinctive Kitchens in Boca, who designed it—love to do,” Marisa explains. “The outer island is more of the couple’s countertop, their bar seating. The middle island is the functional island, so it has a large prep sink; it’s where they can prepare food and cut vegetables. What’s really unique about this kitchen is how there’s an alcove for the butler pantry. The kitchen has two main sinks and two dishwashers, which is super custom.” The contrast of the white high-gloss acrylic cabinetry with its maple, thunder-stain, high-gloss, custom-finish base adds depth to the room.

The bar is another custom-designed room in the house. The silver stardust granite countertop radiates beautifully in the light reflected by the smoked, crackled glass shades. The liquor display features wood-framed floating glass shelves that are suspended by metal cables for stability. These lit shelves give the home bar a “real bar” feel, and the gray mirrored background behind the liquor adds a subtle, moody effect, amplifying that vibe. On either side of the liquor display are dark columns that are actually rift oak cabinets. These dark columns hide the wine and bar glasses, preventing dust and giving the bar a more polished, put-together look.



The infinity pool gives the viewer the illusive impression that it empties into the Intercoastal.

One last, unexpected customization typical of P&H Interiors is the wallpaper, installed by “Wallpaper Mike”—Michael Senatore of Wall Stylings. Wallpaper prompts memories of tacky, dated spaces at Grandma’s house, but the Manzoli home is far removed from that image. “It’s how we make the contemporary look more visible, not as cold,” says Marisa. “We use these subtle stripes, patterns or textures with warm neutral tones, and it just adds this layer of warmth and richness to the rooms. That’s what makes this house so pretty. It’s not just bare, painted dry walls; it’s the warmth of the textured wallcovering and the woodwork-

ing balancing it out.”

Connection is key

Planning and building a dream home can be a draining process. The Manzolis’ friends and family members advised them against it. “They said, ‘You’re building a house—that’s going to be horrible,’” Nick recounts. “It was actually anything but that. It was an enjoyable process largely because we got lucky enough to pick the right people to work with. They held our hand through the whole process, down to the smallest detail. Marisa and Suzanne



knew our style from the very outset.”

Not only were the two women instrumental in creating the perfect space for Nick and Crystal, but the other members of the team were important as well. “The architect John, the builders SRD and P&H Interiors work very well together,” Crystal says.

Three days after the house was finished, Nick and Crystal hosted a party for Nick’s father’s 90th birthday. Family flew in from all over to celebrate the event. “There were around 80 to 90 people

here,” Nick says. Adds Crystal with a chuckle, “That’s one way to break in your home.”

The party went off without a hitch and lasted an entire weekend. Nick and Crystal had a boat come to the dock to take their guests on rides. It was a true celebration of food, family and life.

But the party would not have been a success without the effort of the entire design team. “They actually got this house finished and party-ready in 10 months,” says Nick. “They were even able to get all the furniture in.”

When planning and building a dream home, Nick advises, “Do your





The Intercoastal Waterway surrounds the unique pointed lot at the rear of the home.

research. Work with a team you trust—that has a proven track record and can show you more of what will be rather than what has already been.”

As for Nick and Crystal, they will revel in their ultramodern home with the tranquil view for years to come, all because they chose to work with the right people. “Some people are just meant to do certain things in life,” says Crystal, “and that team of Marisa and Suzanne were just meant to design.”

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