



CONTEMPORARY APPROACH

Asian motifs and modern sentiments get their point across in a show house loft

DESIGN BY CRISTINA SOUZA
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Show houses are to designers what opening nights are to performers. It's a chance to show the public what they're made of — a portfolio come to life if you will. At a recent such endeavor, Cristina Souza of Avant Design in Miami proved that cool and contemporary is how she articulates best.

"The client inspiration for the project was a young executive woman with a very active life," says Souza. "She loves music and art. She doesn't want walls to divide her space, but she still wants warmth in her home."

With said profile in mind, Souza opted for Asian motifs and clean lines to fulfill the needs of the project. Furniture and accessories, including a white linen sofa, director's chairs and a shaggy area rug in the living room, came from Artefacto, a brand synonymous with contemporary, urban-friendly living. Curved dividers were employed to create privacy between rooms. The ornamentation is sophisticated with Buddha sculptures and a triptych by Ana Mercedes Hoyos from Urban Art in Miami. In the bedroom the agenda is just as modern with a low profile bed and portraits of James Dean and Marilyn Monroe by Sami Akl. Red is the main accent color throughout while a slate palette on the walls and concrete floor maintains the industrial sentiment of the space.

"It's contemporary and practical," says Souza, "but still manages to maintain that warm feeling of home." □

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Top: Designer Cristina Souza. Above: Portraits of James Dean and Marilyn Monroe by Sami Akl in the bedroom solidify the loft's modern esthetic. Left: Curved dividers provide privacy between the open spaces while maintaining the intended openness of the architecture. Asian ornamentation speaks to the imaginary client's jet setting ways. All the furniture was provided by Artefacto. Series of canvases on the wall by Ana Mercedes Hoyos from Urban Art, Miami.