

INTERIOR DESIGN®



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ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

Ezequiel Farca + Cristina Grappin

DUPLEX APARTMENT, MEXICO CITY

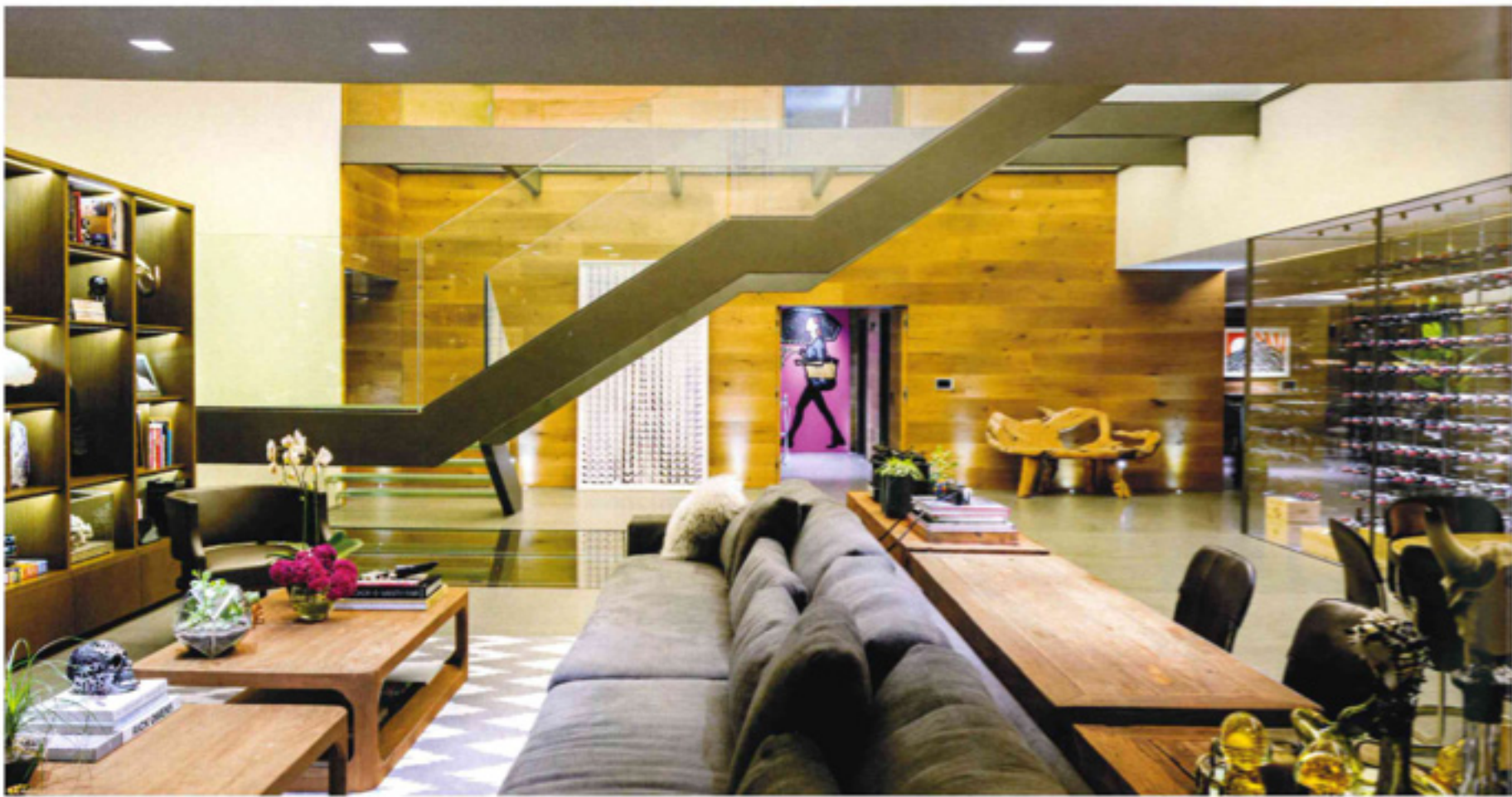
What kind of residence do you create for well-heeled globetrotters who own a string of design hotels? Something spectacular, of course. However, the artistic couple in question also happen to be busy parents to no fewer than five pre-teens, so a family-friendly, comfortable home was equally crucial.

The couple engaged architect and interior designer Ezequiel Farca and architect Cristina Grappin, his frequent collaborator, after the apartment on the floor above their own became available. The brief, to connect the two levels into one spacious residence, was no easy structural feat in a 42-story building. To achieve it, the architects inserted a massive steel-and-glass staircase, its industrial materiality reflected in a water feature installed below the open treads.

Next, the pair rejiggered the layout on both floors. On the first level, the kitchen, dining, and living room now meet a bar, family room, and office. On the second level, four bedrooms are joined by a so-called "flex room" with home cinema and pool table.

Timeless, sophisticated, and cozy was Farca's mantra for furnishings and fixtures—pieces that wouldn't date or compete with the family's enviable art collection (think Keith Haring). To this end, light-toned woods predominate, warmed with golden LED lighting for an overall sunshine-y glow.

DESIGN PRINCIPALS EZEQUIEL FARCA; CRISTINA GRAPPIN
PROJECT TEAM FELIPE BELTRÁN, MICHELLE GALANTE, ADRIANA MARTÍNEZ
ARCHITECT OF RECORD FORMA ARQUITECTOS
PHOTOGRAPHY JAIME NÚÑEZ
ezequiefarca.com



Clockwise from top right: A glass-box wine cellar with clear acrylic display racks acts as a see-through divider between the dining nook and living area. The industrial-look kitchen features a backsplash of beveled subway tiles. Evocative artworks meet cozy furnishings. Spotty Umbrella, a painting by Julian Opie, enlivens a vestibule off the main living room. A gallery wall of fashion photography brings bold color to the second floor landing.



14,600 SF
2 LEVELS



32,300 SF
2 LEVELS
IIDA GLOBAL EXCELLENCE
AWARD

Ezequiel Farca + Cristina Grappin

BEACH HOUSE, PUERTO VALLARTA, MEXICO

The clients were two brothers—each married with four children—who wanted a beach pad that both families could use simultaneously. The vacation home was to be casual (think California living circa 1950), the opposite of their traditional city residences. And the place was to be handed over turnkey ready, with Ezequiel Farca and partner Cristina Grappin executing everything from the architecture to the interior design to the choice of accessories.

Half the facade is board-formed concrete, imprinted with the timber's unique grains and whorls. The other half of the house is covered in a mesmerizing forest of vertical gardens and green roofs. That greenery pulls double duty, not only insulating the house from the hot sun and reducing the need for air conditioning, but also helping the two-story structure blend into the landscape. Like the exterior, the interiors are organic and muted, with pops of color for verve. Low-slung furnishings give a nod to the midcentury era that sparked the architecture.

The families so love their new (not to mention award-winning) vacation home that they have decided to give their city homes a similar easy-breezy makeover, trading traditional tropes for contemporary forms. Needless to say Ezequiel Farca and Cristina Grappin are both onboard.

DESIGN PRINCIPALS EZEQUIEL FARCA; CRISTINA GRAPPIN

PROJECT TEAM FERNANDA DE LA MORA; ALEJANDRA DÍAZ DE LEÓN; ANGÉLIQUE BIDET; MICHAELA STACHOVÁ

GENERAL CONTRACTOR SYSA MEXICO

PHOTOGRAPHY FOLLOWING CAPTION ORDER: ROLAND HALBE (1, 4, 6–9); JAIME NAVARRO (2, 3, 5)

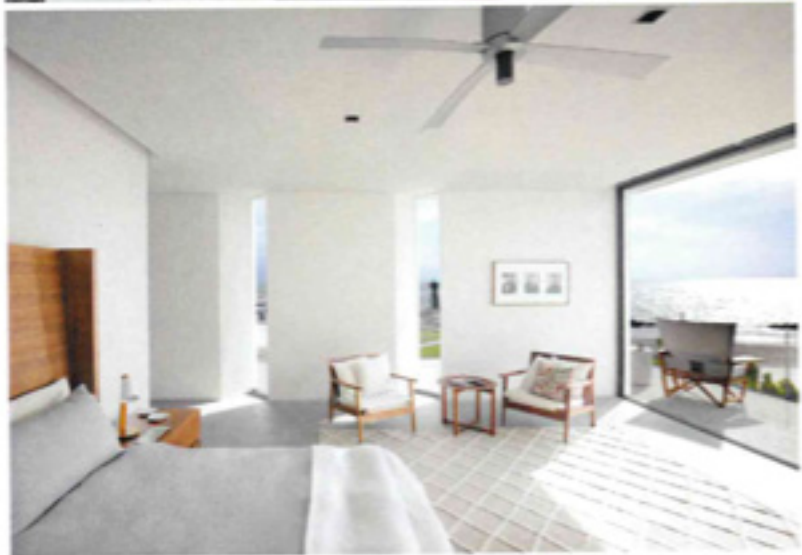
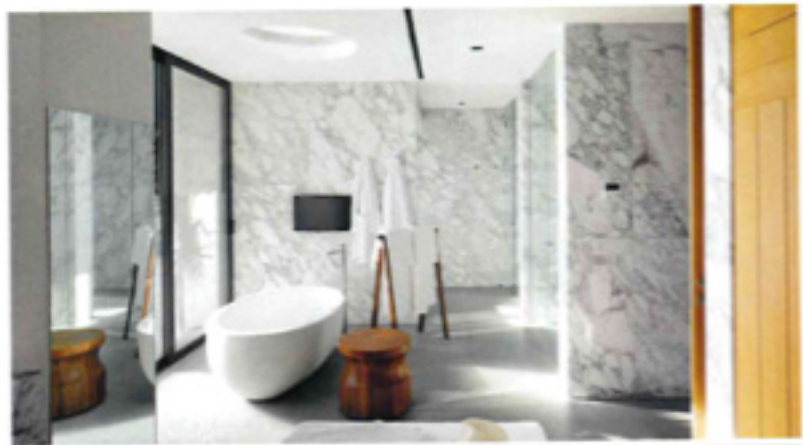
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Clockwise from top left: Ezequiel Farca and Cristina Grappin dotted the ocean-facing terrace with seating and rugs in colors taken from the sea and sand. Frameless glass guardrails leave the view uninterrupted. Walls are board-formed concrete. Canary yellow seating enlivens an otherwise organic palette. Plants arranged in artful patterns deck the roof and several exterior walls. ➔





- 1 ENTRY
- 2 BEDROOM
- 3 BATHROOMS
- 4 GYM
- 5 GARDEN
- 6 LIVING AREA
- 7 DECK
- 8 POOLS
- 9 BAR
- 10 CINEMA
- 11 HALL
- 12 KITCHEN



Clockwise from opposite: Vertical gardens clad much of the building, blending it with the landscape. Resort-inspired pools appear carved out of gray granite. The clients wanted as relaxed and easygoing a lifestyle as possible, so furnishings and finishes were kept casual, comfortable, and durable. A light and airy marble bathroom.







***Clockwise from left:** Sail-like awnings shade lounge seating on the aft deck. An air-conditioning and heating system was installed in the outside area for added comfort. Bathrooms include Bianco Neve marble. A painting hides the television in the living area. The luxury master suite features custom millwork and a calming color palette; frameless glass doors, softened with sheer drapes, open to a private deck.*

Ezequiel Farca

BENETTI YACHT, VIAREGGIO, ITALY

This is a seafaring residence: a 140-foot Benetti Crystal yacht, customized by architect Ezequiel Farca to accommodate its "very tall" owner and his extended family. "As a project it was interesting for me professionally, since I had never designed a yacht before," Farca says. "Added to that, its owner is an architect too, which made for a great collaboration."

In deference to the owner's height, Farca raised the ceiling in the main saloon by 4 inches. For the owner's elderly parents, he installed an elevator that terminates on the sundeck. The elevator rises through a trapdoor that, when closed, integrates seamlessly with the rest of the deck. "All of these changes required significant engineering," Farca explains. "It meant study for me and hard work for Benetti, but everyone was happy to meet the challenge."

Speaking of challenges, this big family—15 grandkids alone!—lives more than six months a year on board, so everything had to be comfortable for all generations. The master suite on the main deck has a lounge and study, his and her bathrooms, and frameless glass doors that open to a portside deck. Below are four more cabins.

Although this was Farca's first time designing a yacht, the results have proved so successful it won't be his last: Three more customized Benetti yachts are already on the books.

DESIGN PRINCIPAL EZEQUIEL FARCA

PROJECT TEAM CRISTINA GRAPPIN; ANGELIQUE BIDEI; ANA ELENA TORRES

ARCHITECT OF RECORD ANGELO LONGINOTTI

GENERAL CONTRACTOR BENETTI

PHOTOGRAPHY QUINN BISSET

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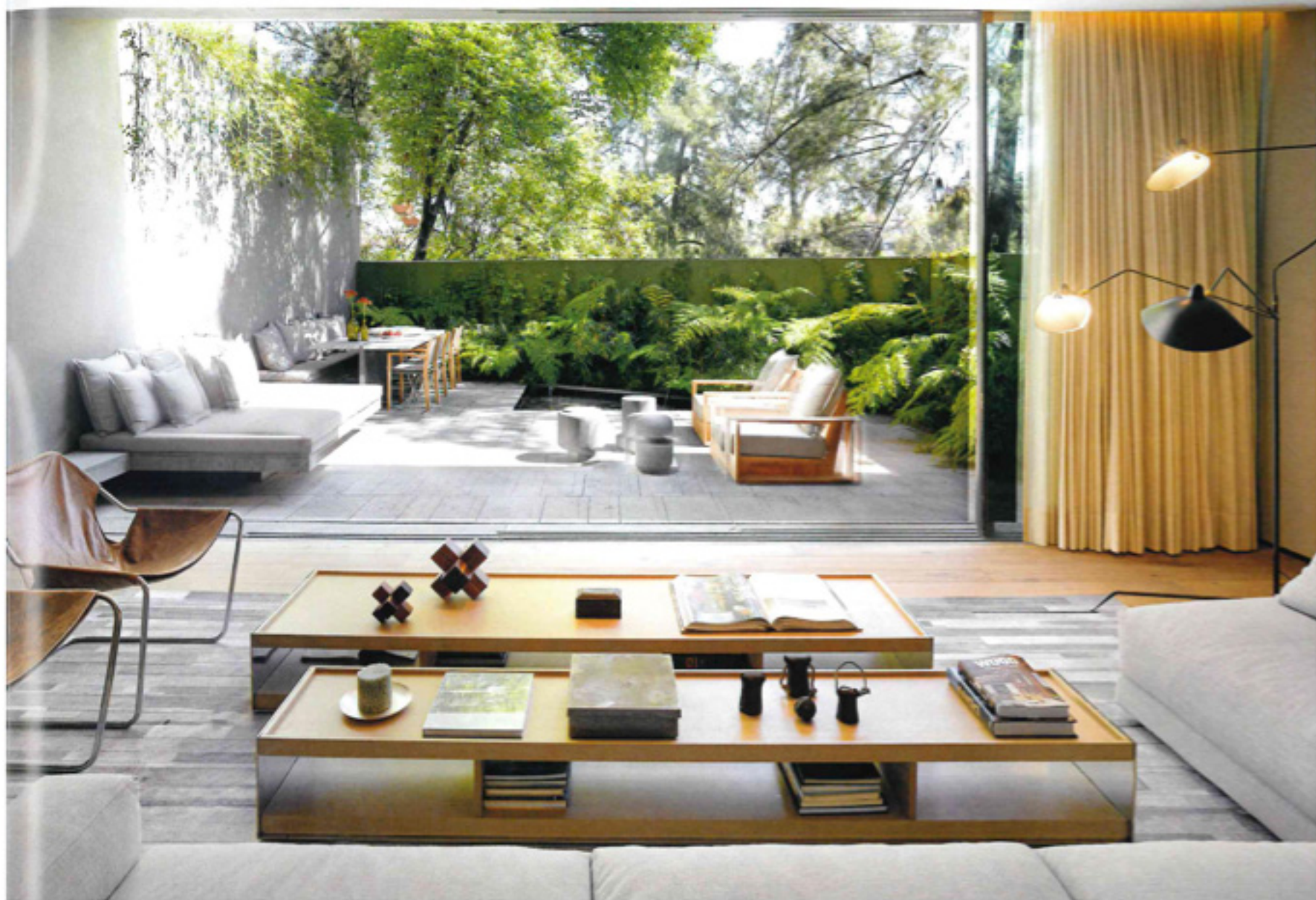
140 FEET
4 LEVELS





Clockwise from below: Warm-toned wood meets cool-toned marble in a minimalist bathroom. The re-clad four-story exterior now includes a vertical garden. Courtyard flooring is honed volcanic stone. Most interior spaces, including bedrooms, connect physically and/or visually with the outdoors. A TV area and dining nook face the pool.





7,750 SF
 4 LEVELS
 IIDA GLOBAL EXCELLENCE AWARD





Ezequiel Farca + Cristina Grappin

BARRANCAS HOUSE, MEXICO CITY

Six years ago, a real-estate developer bought an unremarkable 1970s house with the plan of remodeling it into an exemplar of indoor-outdoor living. It proved impossible, however, to find an architect who shared his vision of transforming the structure rather than demolishing it wholesale. Then luck struck. On the recommendation of a friend, the developer approached designers Ezequiel Farca and Cristina

Grappin, who eagerly accepted

the challenge of overhauling the home while staying within its existing four-story typology.

The house needed to work for the client's large, rambunctious family: 10-year-old triplets and a 5-year-old, all boys. Grappin and Farca incorporated all the amenities required—a home theater, a gym, two terraces, a pool, and plenty of green space—while giving the structure a clean-lined face-lift. “We wanted to create a home with incredible attention to detail and modernity, in which you’d discover different spaces and levels to generate expectation and surprise,” Grappin explains. Mission accomplished. The design has been so successful it has snapped up five international awards.

Unpredictability is achieved through movable screen walls and hidden doors. Walls of frameless glass, hung with sheer drapes, create a seamless visual and physical relationship between the living room and the garden and lap pool outside. A green roof with trailing plants softens the building's architectural edges. Marble, volcanic stone, and timber, together with an earth-tone palette, add to the sensation of indoor-outdoor continuity and a feeling of unlimited space.

DESIGN PRINCIPALS EZEQUIEL FARCA; CRISTINA GRAPPIN

PROJECT DESIGNER FERNANDA DE LA MORA

LIGHTING CONSULTANT VIABIZZUNO

PHOTOGRAPHY FOLLOWING CAPTION ORDER: ROLAND HALBE (1, 7), JAIME NAVARRO (8, 9)

ezequiefarca.com



Clockwise from left: Slots invite shadow play in a courtyard. A slender lap pool, heated by solar panels, allows the client's four boys to let off steam. Serge Mouille lighting adds a touch of midcentury modernism to a lounge. Stacking glass doors open to a courtyard. ➔

