

Seaside Chic

**PEEK INSIDE AN
81-FOOT YACHT'S
COMPLETE
AESTHETIC
TRANSFORMATION
AS ITS OWNERS
PREPARE FOR A
SUMMER ON
THE WATER.**

By Michael McCarthy

Photographed by
R. Brad Knipstein

The exterior forward deck conveys a 1960s European vibe, with a mix of vintage finds (Champagne bucket, marble accessories) and additions like pillows from Elaine Smith and a drink tray from Serena & Lily.





Photo by JohnMerkl



THE PROJECT

Yachting life conveys a distinct style: carefree, glam and decidedly luxe. And sometimes, achieving those elements involves playing a long game. The owners (a husband and wife with a daughter in high school) of an 81-foot, four-bedroom, six-bath yacht named Oasis docked in Richmond know this lesson well. They purchased the vessel in 1981 and built an

extensive addition to the stern in 1993. Their dreams of an aesthetic transformation came to fruition as the pandemic struck the world.

THE TEAM

The couple selected Bay Area designer Sondra Ganz, the founder of Studio Ganz (studioganz.design, [@studio_ganz](https://www.instagram.com/studio_ganz)), for the project. The designer is known for delivering

sophisticated and comfortable projects in various styles. "I embrace contrast by channeling a Northern California approach to living and forward-thinking with simple, statement-making elements inspired by my New York sensibility," she says.

THE GOALS

"The owner-husband is a third-generation



From left: The main salon shines with a leather sectional from Blu Dot, a cocktail table from Arteriors Home and custom pillows from Brentano Fabrics; dining chairs from Jonathan Adler add a wow factor to the clubby yet warm space.

sea captain from a European background with an affinity for classic-style yachts and Champagne," says Ganz. When he purchased the 1981 Hatteras, he knew it would take years of renovation to create the boat of his dreams. The soul of the interior caught his attention.

"During my first interview, he poured me a glass of Champagne and invited me to sit down and feel a unique energy that the vessel already



embodied," says Ganz. "It's true what he told me from the beginning—Oasis was like an old soul, and we needed to regain its groove. The aim from the beginning was to peel back all the decorative layers that had accumulated over the past 40 years and restore [the yacht] to its original bones as much as possible, with a new layering of visual distinction and style."

Ganz and her clients wondered how they could approach the yacht's design as they would a boutique hotel. "The owners are fun-loving, adventurous personalities," says Ganz. "As they entertain often, they wanted to create a unique experience onboard, which reflected their authenticity. The family uses the space for work, celebrations and respite, so we [aimed] to blur the boundaries between living, work and play."

THE STYLE

"The owners were tired of boring prescribed yacht interiors with subdued spaces and swayed more maximalist, seeking to incorporate bold colors, nods to European design sensibility and art deco patterns," says Ganz. "We wanted to disrupt typical yachting design trends that often sway sleek, minimalist or traditional and neutral."

Ganz says the only design request was a nod to the owner's nostalgic ties to older European yachts: a new, high-gloss "marble look" radiant-heat floor. "This was no small feat to achieve in four weeks, especially at the height of COVID!" she says.

AFT SALON

Guests board the vessel via this plush entertainment area, which features a large

expandable butterfly cocktail table, curved banquette, radiant-heated tile floors, a wet bar and wing doors to the port and starboard side decks.

"The custom curved banquette with vertical channel tufting was carefully removed and fully restored with a breathtaking Prussian Blue performance outdoor velvet from the Romo Fabrics (romo.com)," says Ganz. "A playful faux Tiger Feroz rug from Justina Blakeney (justinablakeney.com) anchors the vintage burled mahogany coffee tables. Pillows from Jonathan Adler (jonathanadler.com) via Room and Board (roomandboard.com) incorporate classic rope knot patterns and contrasting gold-blue velvet color schemes."

The design team added a knot floor pillow from Design House Stockholm (designhousestockholm.com), art deco wallcovering and a 3D-printed plant polymer lamp from Gantri (gantri.com).

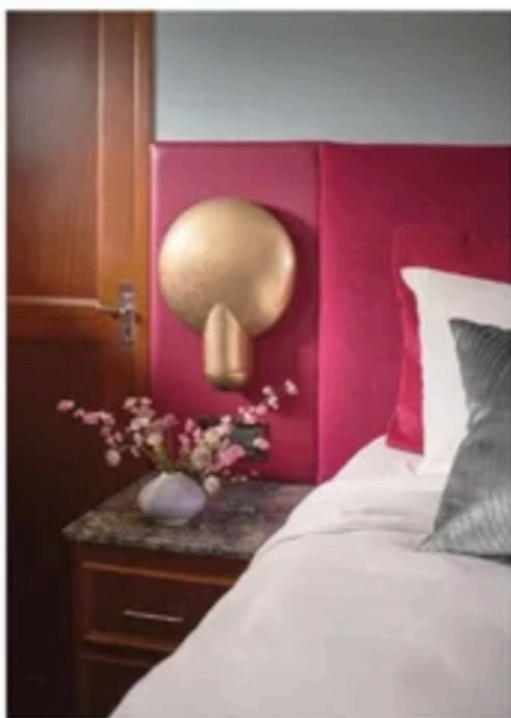
MAIN SALON

"The main salon is a flexible, dynamic living and dining area, entered through an etched glass door from the aft deck," says Ganz. "It features full beams, a large vintage Italian marble dining table with a gold foil maritime chandelier."

Standout elements of the space include a leather sectional from Blu Dot (bludot.com), a cocktail table from Arteriors Home (arteriorshome.com), custom pillows from Brentano Fabrics (brentanofabrics.com), dining chairs from Jonathan Adler, a lounge chair from Giopagani (giopagani.com) and vintage bar stools.

PRIMARY STATEROOM

The full-beam stateroom boasts a king-size bed, his-and-her walk-in closets and a private



The stateroom's star attraction is a custom-designed and intricately upholstered vinyl-fabric headboard from Silver State fabrics. Opposite page: The aft salon features a curved banquette with Prussian blue outdoor velvet from Romo Fabrics, a vintage burled mahogany coffee table and Jonathan Adler pillows.

bathroom with tub and shower. "The star of the show is a custom-designed and intricately upholstered vinyl-fabric headboard from Silver State Fabrics (silverstatetextiles.com)," says Ganz. "The clients wanted something unexpectedly rich and sexy. Combining tone-on-tone shades of deep fuchsia, black leather, bronze and a glimmering enigma aquatic wallpaper makes the mood seductive, tactile and glamorous."

Ganz added sculptural bronze wall sconces by Studio Henry Wilson (studiohenrywilson.com), a throw from Missoni (missoni.com) and Fiona bedding from Sferra (sferra.com).

EXTERIOR FORWARD DECK

"The exterior decks are designed for easy movement and working, with wide side decks and a large foredeck," says Ganz. "There's a large vintage circular built-in seating area on the foredeck, evoking midcentury style lounges from the '60s and '70s. We refurbished a lot of the existing built-in upholstery and then added layers of styling and

accessories to make the lounge areas feel more luxe."

Elements include a mix of vintage finds (Champagne bucket, marble accessories) and additions like pillows from Elaine Smith (elainesmith.com) and a drink tray from Serena & Lily (serenaandlily.com).

HOW THE YACHT IS LIVING

"We had a true surprise reveal with Champagne and caviar service for the maiden voyage after the main deck renovation," says Ganz, who says her clients cried when they witnessed the transformation.

"The biggest compliment I could have received was that it finally felt like Oasis was theirs," the designer says. "The owners thoroughly utilize Oasis for both work and play. They adventure up and down the California coast. They text me photos of their journeys, which is always so rewarding! They hope to take Oasis on a long international voyage once their daughter finishes high school. They enjoy Oasis so much more than their actual home—another project we'll work on next."



DESIGN DETAILS

HOME TYPE

Yacht

LOCATION

Richmond, Calif.

INTERIOR DESIGN

Studio Ganz

studioganzdesign.com @studioganz

RESOURCES

ARTERIORS HOME

Cocktail table,
main salon
arteriorshome.com

BLU DOT

Sectional, main salon
bludot.com

BRENTANO FABRICS

Pillow fabric, main salon
brentanofabrics.com

DESIGN HOUSE STOCKHOLM

Knot floor pillow,
aft salon
designhousestockholm.com

ELAINE SMITH

Pillows, exterior
forward deck
elainesmith.com

GANTRI

Lamp, aft salon
gantri.com

GIOPAGANI

Lounge chair, main salon
giopagani.com

JONATHAN ADLER

Pillows, aft salon;
dining chairs,
main salon
jonathanadler.com

JUSTINA BLAKENEY

Rug, aft salon
justinablakeney.com

MISSONI

Throw, primary stateroom
missoni.com

ROMO FABRICS

Banquette, aft salon
romo.com

SERENA & LILY

Drink tray, exterior
forward deck
serenaandlily.com

SFERRA

Bedding, stateroom
sferra.com

SILVER STATE FABRICS

Fabric, headboard,
primary stateroom
silverstatefabrics.com

STUDIO HENRY WILSON

Sconces, primary stateroom
studiohenrywilson.com

