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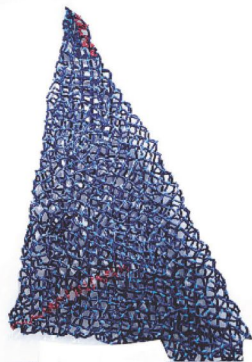
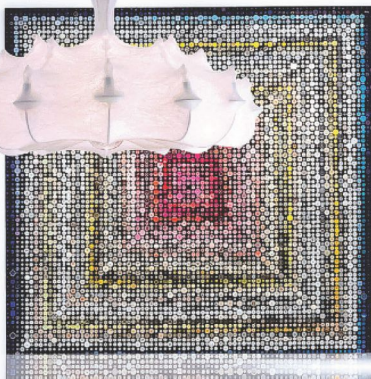
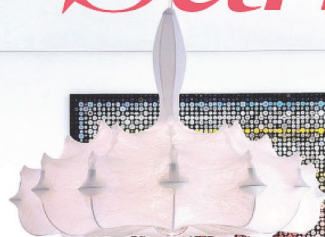
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MIX *and* match

On BRAZIL'S northeast coast, Santos & Santos Arquitetura ELEVATE a waterfront apartment to its full potential through a STRIKING combination of furniture and art

Words **KARINE MONIÉ** Photography **GUSTAVO SÓTER**



For this waterfront property in Recife, Santos & Santos Arquitetura included pieces of art by Brazilian artists Luiz Hermano and José Patricio, among many others across the property, including in the **living room**. In the foreground, the Smock sofa by Patricia Urquiola for Moroso



In the expansive living room, the designers combined striking art and furniture pieces, including Patricia Urquiola's Antibodi armchairs for Moroso and Santos & Santos' custom-made sofa and coffee table

In Boa Viagem, Brazil, an eight-kilometre white sandy beach lined with palm trees is the backdrop for daily life. A young lawyer couple immediately fell in love with this sought-after neighbourhood of Recife, trusting Santos & Santos Arquitetura to reveal the full potential of the 400-square-metre apartment that they now call home. At the time the project started, the owners only had one child. Once the renovation was done, they had added twins to the family. "It is essential to keep in mind that it is not you, but the people you are designing for, who are going to live there," says Zezinho Santos, who co-founded Santos & Santos Arquitetura with Turibio Santos.

Located on the 36th floor of a 40-storey building, which guarantees breathtaking views of the Atlantic, this apartment was transformed into a bright and functional space that suits the owners' needs. Materials, finishes, colours, fabrics, lighting, pieces of furniture and artworks were all taken care of by Santos & Santos Arquitetura, who made a strong design statement with the objective of adding to—and not taking away from—the views. "That was probably the biggest carte blanche we've ever had," Zezinho confesses.

Passionate about art and design, the Brazilian couple was naturally open to mixing local and international pieces by famous names such as Guilherme Torres, Patricia Urquiola, Philippe Starck and Marcel Wanders. All created by Brazilians, including Luiz Hermano, José Patricio, Carlos Pragana and Nuca de Tracunhaém, the artworks add pops of colour and boldness to the interiors.

In the living room and dining areas, Santos & Santos Arquitetura opted for a white base with an Italian marble floor, which invites the family to walk barefoot during hot weather. Touches of blue on some of the walls and on the Smock sofa by Patricia Urquiola for Moroso seem to fuse with the sky and ocean. Meanwhile, hints of bright colours in some pieces of furniture and accessories, such as the pink Pil armchairs by Guilherme Torres create rhythm and provide visual dynamism. Santos & Santos Arquitetura created some custom-made pieces such as the impressive five-metre-long dining table, the large sofa by the window and the coffee table that blends with the carpet.

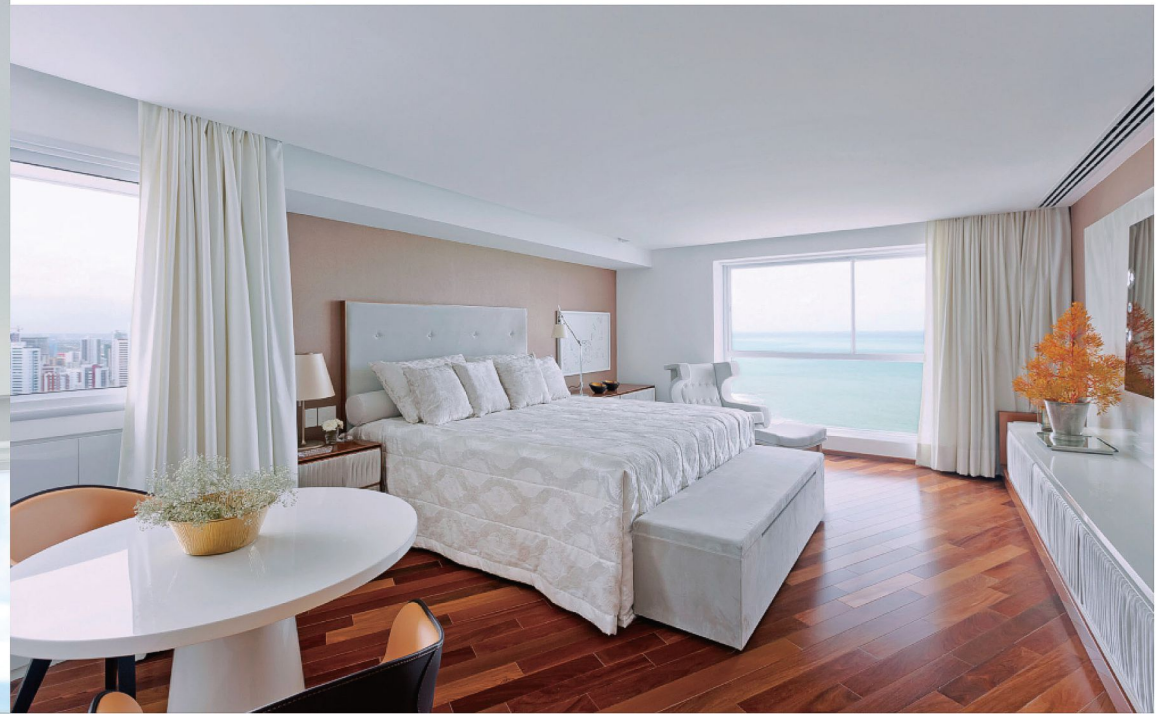
In the kitchen, grey Silestone countertops and concrete-like tiles are combined with a colourful storage cabinet, chrome industrial-style Foscarini Glas pendant lights, and white masters stools, designed by Philippe Starck and Eugeni Quitllet for Kartell. The wooden floor in the bedrooms and office give the areas a warm and cosy feeling.

"One of the parts we enjoyed most in this project was playing with colours," Zezinho Santos says. "Architecture and design should always express the epoch and the place where they are located, and reflect the dreams of the people for whom they are envisioned. Each new project is the sum of our lives."

PASSIONATE *about art and design, the owners were open to MIXING local and international pieces*

In the dining area, the five-metre-long marble, steel and mirror custom-made table by Santos & Santos Arquitetura is flanked by Philippe Starck's Passion chairs for Cassina. The Zeppelin light by Marcel Wanders for Flos hangs overhead

"It is ESSENTIAL to keep in mind that it is not you, but the people you are designing for, who are going to LIVE THERE"



*Clockwise from left: In the **office**, artwork by local artist Carlos Pragana, white Magic Hole armchair by Philippe Starck for Kartell and orange Dr. Yes chairs by Eugeni Quittell and Philippe Starck for Kartell; Santos & Santos Arquitetura chose to use wooden floors in the **bedrooms**, to create a warm and cosy feeling; In the **children's bedroom**, white furnishings contrast with the floors*



*"Architecture and design should REFLECT
the DREAMS of the people for whom they
are envisioned"*

Boasting uninterrupted
views of the Atlantic ocean,
Santos & Santos
Arquitetura sought to add to
the setting of the apartment,
not take away from it. The
Pil armchairs in bright pink
by Brazilian designer
Guilherme Torres add
vibrancy to the living space