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LIVE LOCAL ON THE CREATIVE COAST SARASOTA | BRADENTON

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A COLLABORATIVE
SILENT ART
AUCTION

NEW DINING

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ARTS AND CULTURE ISSUE

The Legacy and Future

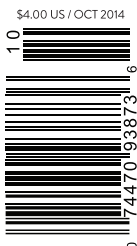
MODERN ART



LIVE LOCAL—ENGAGING INFLUENTIALS ON THE GULF COAST

OCTOBER 2014

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Team Modern

Traction Architecture and Ampersand Construction came together to create a flawless, sunny modern dwelling idyllic for Sarasota living.

Traction Architecture Principal Architect Jody Beck met Ampersand Construction contractors Allan Livesey and John Hermansen while working with their concrete company Sarasota Superfloors. "Allan and John were impressed with our work and introduced us to the developer for the Bougainvillea residence," says Beck. "We clicked immediately and the rest is history."

ASHLEY FARLOW | PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG WILSON AND MINA BRINKEY



AMPERSAND CONSTRUCTION HAD JUST COMPLETED an extensive remodel for the developer, and the level of trust and relationship built facilitated the decision to work together on a new construction product. Furthermore, there was an added comfort due to the fact that the team at Ampersand has remodeled and developed projects for sale in the past. So came the project of 1924 Bougainvillea Street in Sarasota and the proposal for a livable, warm and efficient modern home. Traction Architecture and Ampersand Construction shared a strong vision for the project. The developer desired a home that was modern yet low maintenance. The original house on the site was a small art moderne building that Beck and the team wanted to respect and pay homage to by incorporating some of its lines and subtleties. "We focused on designing a home that would be open,

flexible and would encourage interaction," says Beck. That modern space was accomplished flawlessly, not only for an urban dwelling, where contemporary spaces seem to fit right in, but also for sunny, beachside Sarasota. That adaptability was large, in part due to thoughtfulness in window size and location, notes Beck. "When you are walking down the two-level corridor, your focus is drawn to a small deeply inset window at eye level that acts as an oculus to filter and focus your view," he says. The exterior supports of that window are painted a striking blue, complementing the sky and nearby ocean water, and also cast a hue of blue into the open den area. Openings in the north and south facades create unobstructed views of the backyard pool area from the entrance. And the views live as art throughout, creating an instant feeling of connection to the outside.



Beck focused keenly on scale, proportion and spatial relationships. “By incorporating Ampersand’s feedback early on in the design process, we were able to make adjustments during the design phase that minimized challenges during construction.”

Ampersand Construction makes it a priority to build as eco-friendly of structures as possible with the client’s budget. Wood wraps the first level ceiling and the second level flooring and extends to the outside porches, creating a connection between the interior and exterior. The warm wood is juxtaposed against the polished concrete floors (Sarasota Superfloors), a budget-friendly yet elegant and contemporary choice. Another budget-friendly yet high-style element was the decision to pour the pool deck and surrounding area with shell aggregate adding a relaxed contemporary look.

The team also tuned in to how a family really uses space and how needs may evolve over time. One of Beck’s favorite spots in the now-finished project is a window seat among ample built-in shelving, making it the perfect spot to curl up with a book or help kids with homework. Hermansen of Ampersand says this project will lead to future collaborations as working closely with the developer, a friend of his, and Traction architects made for a high-profile house all while staying within the budget. “We are very proud of the finished product,” he says. “Working with Jody and Ross at Traction was easy as well as an educational experience.” Hermansen says he rarely receives a permit without comments or questions on the blue prints as he did in this case—a testament, he notes, to the Traction team’s attention to detail as seen in the execution of this sunny, yet urban contemporary residence. **SRQ** *This property is currently on the market.*

TOP LEFT: Open den and double height living space, photo by Mina Brinkey. **TOPRIGHT** Open living area, photo by Greg Wilson. **BOTTOMLEFT:** Exterior backyard, pool and detached studio, photo by Greg Wilson. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** Exterior showing cruciform column, photo by Traction Architecture.

