

OCEAN DRIVE



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May/June 2014

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RS3's Shannon Scott is changing
Miami's home aesthetics, from
floor to ceiling.

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BEACH PATROL



RS3's Shannon Scott at Opustone, one of the many local interiors purveyors she sources from.

INSIGHT

At her Aventura home: "We have an Italian kitchen, a rustic walnut dining room table, and modern lighting."

To entertain friends: "We're total foodies—the Gale South Beach hotel or the Oak Tavern, and Michael's Genuine Food & Drink."

with South Florida's interiors—there are more condos around than ever before. And RS3 is also moving into commercial projects, namely two residential blocks in Miami's Midtown neighborhood.

Working with architect Bruce Carlson and ARPE engineering, RS3 has established itself in just four years as an award-winning leader in the design category with commissions everywhere from Chicago to Rhode Island. However, most of Scott's time is spent executing projects "from Brickell up to Fort Lauderdale." The majority of the company's jobs are vacation homes for international clients with varying tastes. For example, a Turkish homeowner might want something more "opulent and traditional," while a Brazilian will insist on "clean lines and refined geometry."

Growing up in Fort Lauderdale, Scott's passion for the arts led her to study architecture at Auburn University. It was there that she became more interested in interiors as they are "more personable, more connected to how you feel." In 2005, she moved to Miami and finished her interior design degree at Miami International University of Art & Design downtown. There she met Raymond Jimenez—the R to her S, both professionally and personally—and the RS3 interior design firm was born. (The titular 3 refers to the clients—the symbolic third partner.)

Jimenez and Scott launched RS3 with the ethos "think different, design different." Hence Scott tries not to repeat design elements from job to job, instead each time focusing on a fresh palette with exotic touches—unique carpets from Istanbul, a kitchen backsplash constructed from petrified wood, black onyx

filled with white clouds (an effect Scott says is caused by a volcanic explosion), or countertops constructed from a slab of rock studded with fossilized shells. The duo's greatest obstacle? Getting their more exotic design choices past the area's notoriously difficult condo boards. Says Scott, "It's difficult to make everybody happy." 1 NE 40th St., Miami, 305-484-2537; rs3designs.com **OD**

Interior Intuition

WITH A BACKGROUND IN ARCHITECTURE AND A PASSION FOR CUSTOMIZING DOMESTIC SPACES, DESIGNER SHANNON SCOTT AIMS TO PERSONALIZE ALL OF SOUTH FLORIDA.

BY HUNTER BRAITHWAITE

"Lighting is key," says RS3 owner Shannon Scott in a somewhat dim and empty office in the Design District. "It makes the space come alive."

The office is deserted at the moment as RS3's three employees are spread out across the Miami region, taking care of every element of customizable living space—from plans, permits, and build-outs to interior considerations like furniture and lighting. It's a good time to be involved

PHOTOGRAPHY BY N. C. GARCIA