

José María Serrano, CCIM 2019 Chairman of the Board MIAMI Association of Realtors

Palm Beach County Attracting Major Hedge Funds

South Florida's quality of life is attracting hedge funds, a development that boosts the local economy and real estate market.

The Palm Beach/Broward/Miami-Dade area is home to at least 60 hedge funds, 19 private equity firms and more than 200 family offices, according to Miami consulting firm Newlink Group. Brickell, the financial district of Miami, is the second-largest financial hub in the U.S. after New York City. Sixty international banks and nearly 100 alternative investment companies make Brickell home.

Alternative asset managers relocate to the Sunshine in part because of its friendly tax structure. Florida has no personal income tax, no estate tax and no capital gains tax. New York and Greenwich, Conn. have personal income tax rates above six percent.

Miami's ocean views, weather and top private and public schools are also key attractions for many New York hedge funds

The relocation of these hedge funds lifts local luxury home prices and drives commercial rent increases.

Miami's Urban Core

Once a quiet 9-to-5 job district, downtown Miami has transformed into one of America's most exciting, thriving areas.

A growing population of young professionals are living, working, and playing in downtown, which today boasts the highest concentration of cultural institutions in the Southeast and almost 400 restaurants and bars.

Contact a MIAMI Realtor to learn more about purchasing a home in South Florida.

> José María Serrano, CCIM New Miami Realty Corp. (305) 635-5000

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A home should be a reflection of a homeowner's taste and lifestyle

BY JOSEPH PUBILLONES Creators Syndicate

What does "home" mean to you?

Selecting an interior designer to help with the design of your home is tricky. A bit of research is required to see if you are a good fit. A meeting should take place — not unlike speed dating - in which basic questions such as stylistic preferences, scope of work, work ethic and budgets are discussed by both parties. Most important is your approach and/ or your design philosophy.

For example, my interior design philosophy, first and foremost, is dictated by a regional approach. Interiors in Palm Beach should not look like interiors in New York, and vice versa. Interior selections with regard to materials, finishes and colors should reflect the location of the project. A designer should always endeavor to capture the nuances of place, without hitting kitsch.

Steer away from designers providing a "signature" look. The best interior designers can work in almost any style. Each home and project should be a reflection of a homeowner's taste and lifestyle. Each project is and should be different — different in architecture, different in style, different in client requirements. Therefore, the design results are never rubber-stamped, never the same. A designer's role should be to act as a moderator, editor and facilitator of design.



It's most important to find out what "home" means to one's clients and to oneself. The concept of home captures both tactile things and abstract emotions. The best compliment is when guests and visitors cannot describe why they feel so good in your home. It is the "it" factor. Home is about a feeling. It's a place of comfort, which is the ultimate luxury.

Be candid with your designer about what you would like the most important function of your home to be. For one family, it might be comfort. For an aspiring chef, it might be a culinary haven. For a highstress businessperson, it may be a spa-like atmosphere. For an art collector, it may be a place to house

art. It is crucial for the designer to know this linchpin of the design; in the end, the homeowner gets to live with an interior he or she truly enjoys, and the designer can walk away knowing he or she has done their very best for

SOME TAKEAWAY TIPS:

- 1. Decorate to please yourself — not your neighbors or friends.
- 2. Buy the very best art you can afford — over a long period of time.
- 3. Accessorize with few items. It's best if each item is larger than a football. 4. Do not be afraid to
- mix. Juxtapose styles, colors and textures. 5. Be bold.
- 6. Leave room for

- changes: accessories, art and the occasional piece of furniture.
- 7. An inviting room can even make food taste bet-
- 8. Always add your favorite color to any room. It'll make you feel good. 9. Take risks. It's your
- home and your rules. 10. Read "Home: A Short History of an Idea" by Witold Rybczynski as

well as "Geography of

Home: Writings on Where

We Live" by Akiko Busch. Joseph Pubillones is the owner of Joseph Pubillones Interiors, an award-winning interior design firm based in Palm Beach, Florida. His

website is www.josephpubillones.com

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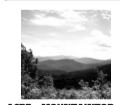


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