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Waterfront House
 Completed: 2008
 Location: East Hampton, NY

michaehaverland.com

Michael Haverland Architect

NEW YORK COMPANY HARNESSES INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION TO CREATE TIMELESS ART

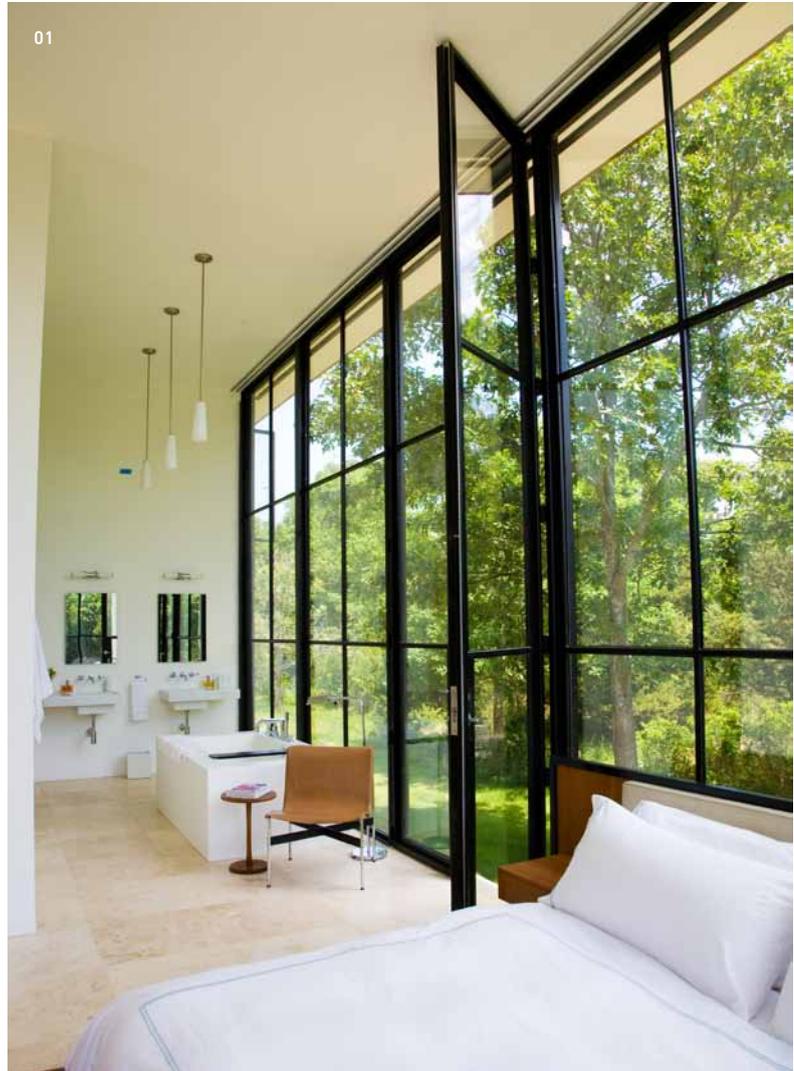
by Amy Howell Hirt

Architect Michael Haverland could be called a master of design paradoxes. Haverland, who has offices in East Hampton and New York City, excels at weaving seemingly irreconcilable influences into functional works of art.

“Every design is individually crafted to be original and unique,” Haverland says. “Unlike some other modern work, I want it to be really timeless and feel connected to history.” A waterfront home in East Hampton is a prime example of the collaborative approach that Haverland, who started his firm 13 years ago, and his team use to capitalize on contrasts and produce one-of-a-kind creations.

While the home’s waterfront side boasts walls of custom floor-to-ceiling windows and doors, the team developed attention-grabbing, three-dimensional cement panels that provide privacy on the facade. The rounded surface and composition of the 20 x 20 inch panels—made from sand excavated from the site—is reminiscent of an ancient, wind-worn structure, but the panels also have an institutional feel, inspired by Haverland’s own background and the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Hollyhock House in Los Angeles, which the homeowners visited. Technology, along with Haverland’s stint as a professor at Yale University, also played a role. The intricate “plaid” pattern was hand-cast from computer-generated foam molds, researched by one of Haverland’s students, who became project manager for the home. The panels, which clip to traditional masonry walls, also serve as a functional rain screen.

Informed by his commercial experience, Haverland’s designs come standard with these multi-purpose features that balance economy, beauty and sustainability. But like his designs for Tod’s retail stores or office space for eyewear designer



Robert Marc, Haverland is careful to balance cool and modern with warm and comfortable in his homes.

In the Waterfront home, the extensive windows and travertine floors that flow throughout the space are warmed by stretches of mahogany wood and an eclectic mix of furnishings collected by the well-traveled homeowners, complemented by items from R.E. Steele Antiques and 1stdibs.

“It was important for us to have the stone floor continue to the outside. That’s a very modern principle,” Haverland says. “But we wanted it to still feel warm and comfortable.”

Haverland’s ability to bring a timeless, organic feel to modern designs often attracts well-known clients who appreciate design that contrasts their public persona, such as Calvin Klein, who tapped Haverland for the design of his Southampton home. Collaborating with the client allows Haverland to create a cohesive and personalized space for every project.

Haverland also believes collaboration between the client, architect, builder and contractors is the unsung hero in any feat of celebrated architecture, and credits builder Ben Krupinski for making this waterfront home a reality. “Not only is he one of the best contractors out there, but I really believe a project like this couldn’t have happened without his expertise,” he says. ■

PHOTOS: LAURIE LAMBRECHT



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MICHAEL HAVERLAND, OWNER



01
Seamless transitions from the bedroom to the bathroom mimic the movement from interior to exterior.

02
The stucco colonnade protects the delicate steel and glass doors behind from waterfront winds and storms. The stucco cladding is made from sand on the property and simple planes capture light and shadow.

03
The opacity of the two volumes clad in cast concrete block provide privacy and gradual discovery of the open steel and glass beyond.

04
Living room with 14-foot doors and windows and sunshade colonnade beyond. The rigorous pattern of custom steel windows creates a changing play of light and shadow throughout the day.

