

Silver Sea Homes, Inc.

Imaginative Solutions, Inspired by the
American Spirit and European Design

By Michelle L. Lloyd

When Horacio Gonzalez and Graciela Blanco came to America from Argentina in 1995, they were looking for a place they could call home, raise their family and pursue their dream. They established their residence in Altamonte Springs, FL, and they found their niche in building unique and elegant custom homes.

Through the many years of experience they had obtained working in the industry as architects, building in Argentina and parts of Europe, they developed time-tested years of construction knowledge. Many of their projects have included high-rise commercial and residential structures, and between 1995 – 1998, they completed at least six similar projects in Florida. They have also produced many residential projects in Florida, including Golfside Villas in Winter Springs, Clubside at Heathrow and, most recently, Spring Lake Pointe in Altamonte Springs.

Horacio and Graciela apply their passion and skill for their profession in all aspects of their designs. They have come to focus mainly on building custom homes, since they have found this aspect of building to be the most rewarding for them personally.

Along with their Development Team and a group of subcontractors they have spent years building relationships with, they produce homes of distinction by combining the sophistication of European definition and the style of American living.

Silver Sea Homes, Inc. offers continuous emphasis on the highest standards of quality, integrity, safety and project control. They complete each project within three phases: Design Phase Services, Construction Phase Services and Custom Phase Services. Silver Sea Homes will also use preexisting plans submitted by the homeowner, or design from the ground up by implementing their complete services.

Horacio works with each client in creating the design and construction detail of each home, while Graciela assists each client in all aspects of business, although her main focus is to help each client create exactly what they're looking for in the interior design of the home. "One thing I love about our company and our building process is that we have several meetings with our client to determine what part of the home is most important to them."

"In the first years of our profession ... we decided to be different. We believe every home should be an extension of the person who lives there, and unique according to their lifestyle," Horacio added.

While considering their designs, aesthetic influences are very important.

"We want to consider every detail, so that the final atmosphere of the home is flowing, beautiful and pleasing to all the senses. From the choices of colors, to the lighting, to the choice of fabrics, to the sound of water flowing in the pool ... even the selections of plants and flowers is important in creating a lovely and relaxing

home environment,” Graciela said.

Horacio and Graciela also frequently travel to Argentina and Europe to look for the latest style trends, materials and influences available, and provide those suggestions to clients. Their subcontractors include skilled artisans who provide unique touches in European handcrafted designs in woodwork, moldings and hand-painted murals.

Each of their projects reflects imaginative solutions inspired by the American spirit and European design. They work hard to ensure that their clients experience real-world solutions to their family’s needs, and are proud of the number of homeowners who continue to refer them to family and friends.

“We are very proud of the homes we build, but we take the most pride in the relationships we build with each client,” Graciela said.

The home featured on our cover is the Aquarella, located in Spring Lake Pointe, in Altamonte Springs. This is the personal home of Graciela and Horacio, and as in all of their projects, is an example of the adventure they create through use of light, space and panoramic views. This home, located on Lake Silver, was the first-place winner in the category of Custom Builder Winner, \$2,000,000 – \$2,500,000 for the Metro Orlando Home Builders Association.

This house, which covers a total of 10,000 square feet (6,000 under air), has five bedrooms, a living-bonus room, seven bathrooms, a third-floor study, a four-car garage and complete guest quarters, which is used as the Silver Sea company office.

Reflecting a Mediterranean and Neo-Classic style, this home is truly unique.

The initial entrance to the home is through an iron gate, which leads to a luxurious outdoor living area. This area was created with the intention of providing an exterior entrance to the interior of the home, as well as providing an outdoor haven rich in details pleasing to the senses.

The atmosphere of this initial entrance to the home creates an environment for relaxation and serenity, with two sitting areas, accented with soft fabrics, a fireplace and a complete view of the pool. Tropical plants, such as papaya, pineapple and flowers, chosen to attract butterflies, add to the ambiance, along with the sound of the waterfall.

There is a bridge, accented with columns, that leads from this area, across the pool, to the front door entrance to the home, providing views of the pool along the way through open spaces and majestic columns.

The main entrance is a magnificent double Cedro wooden door from Argentina. The Spanish cream and ivory tile provides the flooring and leads to a stunning sitting area, accented by an integral window along the back of the room, designed to provide a view of the lake behind the property, and appears to be “in the air” since the ground is not visible from the view.

A marble arched foyer entrance leads to the master suite and master bath area, and is accented with custom Argentinean designed furniture, and combines contemporary and traditional touches. Hand-chosen traditional marble, in combination with more contemporary sink and lighting fixtures, create a luxurious atmosphere.

The kitchen, also on the first floor, features elegance in custom-built, cream-

colored wooden cabinets, and range hood, with chocolate brown chiseled accents. Granite and marble countertops, high-end stainless steel appliances and unique lighting accents provide a perfect kitchen setting. Another sitting area near the kitchen for family gatherings is also accented with light through many windows, luxurious fabrics and a custom-made entertainment center dividing this room from the front entrance sitting area.

A spiral iron and wood staircase leads to the second floor, which houses another sitting area and four bedrooms. The west wing of the home is the location of the girls' rooms and bath areas; these rooms also provide integral window views of the property. The east wing continues a similar design, with the boys' rooms and baths as well.

In the sitting area of the second-floor, there is another iron and wood spiral staircase that leads to a third-floor office and is accented with hand-painted murals on the ceiling, and another amazing view of the lake in back of the property.

The foyer of the second-floor sitting area leads to another door opening, and across a bridge over the pool to the guest quarters, which is the location of the Silver Sea office.

In the true and unique style of Silver Sea Homes, Inc., this home is magnificent with too many details to mention. It is simply a reflection of the excellence Silver Sea Homes provides in home building. "Every detail passes through our hands, and every detail chosen is important in creating the perfect atmosphere desired by our clients," Graciela said. The result of this attention to detail produces the unique architectural design and solace of the spacious atmospheres synonymous with their unique homes.

When homeowners select Silver Sea Homes, Inc., they gain much more than their eight years of construction management and experience; they receive the best possible quality service that is available.

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