

Diamonds and Sunsets

The result of the floor-to-ceiling remodel of the fifth floor apartment is a modern blend of European minimalist lines and finishings from France and Germany, and island-inspired organics (like the rich wood flooring throughout).

DRAMATIC VIEWS FROM THIS FIFTH-FLOOR WAIKĪKĪ HOME SPAN FROM DIAMOND HEAD TO WAIKĪKĪ

Architecture design by/ Anthony Eckelberry
Interior design by/ Lore Eckelberry
Text by/ Brian Berusch
Photography by/ Jimmy Forrest



WITH THE WORLD AT HIS FINGERTIPS, WHERE DOES A HARD-charging globetrotter stop to rewind, refresh, and rejuvenate? For Scott Ferguson, CEO of a Los Angeles-based advertising agency, there was only one possible answer: the Gold Coast of Waikiki.

With clients scattered across the Pacific Rim, Ferguson is perpetually on the road. So when he chose to purchase and completely renovate an aging apartment in one of Honolulu's most exclusive Gold Coast buildings, it marked a pivotal point in his life.

His *pied-a-terre* in Waikiki's Diamond Head Apartments is not only central to his worldwide client base, it's also located in one of the few places where Ferguson conducts no business. For such an important venture, Ferguson wasted no time hiring high-profile, L.A.-based architect Anthony Eckelberry, who had previously designed an ultra-modern California home for Ferguson.

"When Scott told me that budget wasn't an issue, I knew he was serious about creating a place where he could really let himself unwind. I knew we were finally going to create a place that was perfect for him," said Eckelberry.

What followed was a floor-to-ceiling remodel of Ferguson's fifth floor apartment that took nearly eight months. The result is a modern blend of European minimalist lines and finishings from France and Germany, island-inspired organics (like the rich wood flooring throughout), and the most exclusive technology available to market. Eckelberry was even able to sew the entire apartment together with a stream of unique objet's d'art that range from paintings to glass sculptures, vases and masks—a collection Ferguson had wanted to amass in one place for decades.

Aiding in the design work was Eckelberry's wife, Lore, who

is an accomplished painter in addition to her role as interior designer. Her eye for color and texture—and their relationship—added a level of continuity that is easy to follow around the entire apartment. Ferguson undoubtedly appreciates it every time he pushes through the front door, after flying double-digit hours to arrive at home.

Upon entering the T-shaped apartment, one arrives in the midst of a wide hallway that extends in to the perpendicular living area. Straight ahead is a grand painting set against a background of etched glass, which was once open to the outdoors (and faced another aging building, unfortunately), and now lets in a tease of natural light. To the right is the master bedroom, while two guest bedrooms stretch down the left side of the hallway. Ferguson, who loves to entertain overnight guests and extended family members, insisted on two complete bedrooms, even if it meant cutting down on his amount of "work" space. After all, this was his place of solace, not business.

"It looks fantastic...understated yet clearly luxurious, welcoming and warm. You were able to give me exactly the contemporary island feel that I was looking for!" said Ferguson about interior designer Lore Eckelberry.

The bedrooms are very comfortable, painted in rich contemporary tones that Lore selected.

The Eckelberrys chose to hire local cabinet and furniture makers for as much of the work as possible. Ferguson commissioned a painting from Lore with an island feel that is nicely displayed in the study. Scott also hired an art consultant to fill spaces within the apartment. Swedish glass fills a section of living room wall. A table that uses moveable, two-inch long, cross-sections of bamboo was made in Hawai'i, but echoes modern

AFTER

OPPOSITE: L.A.-based architect and interior design team Anthony and Lore Eckelberry, who had previously designed an ultra-modern California home for Ferguson, sit in the newly renovated Waikiki apartment they created for Scott Ferguson.

ABOVE: The TV area features a state-of-the-art Audio/Visual system by Design Systems in Pearl City and a custom-made rug from Indich Collection in Honolulu.

European design. It bridges the gap between the Brazilian cherry floors, a modern painting Ferguson bought, and the modern kitchen opposite.

Connecticut-based lighting designer Barbara Boueya was hired to weave in a style of illumination. Considering the art and sources of natural light, Boueya chose to use cove lighting throughout the entire apartment. The ceiling, wall-mounted art, recessed areas for sculpture, and so forth all are lit from behind without so much as a bulb viewable to the eye. It creates a feeling of uniform serenity, essential to Ferguson's needs.

In addition, the lighting is entirely controlled by a "zoning" system that allows for different and uniform mood changes in multiple rooms with a single touch to a keypad. From his bedside, Ferguson can adjust the apartment's lighting to a low-lit evening mood. In contrast, when entering the apartment, he can touch one button and the entire apartment can either be lit to its fullest, or completely blacked out with electronically controlled blinds and curtains.

Triple-layered "Verde Butterfly" granite (from Selective Stone in Honolulu) is all that separates the kitchen from the living room, which is perfect for entertaining—a pastime of Ferguson's.



ABOVE: Triple-layered “Verde Butterfly” granite (from Selective Stone in Honolulu) is all that separates the kitchen from the living room, which is perfect for entertaining—a pastime of Ferguson’s. An original Ossipoff building, before the renovation the kitchen was closed off to the living area. (Below and Left)



ABOVE: A formal dining area enjoys access to the outside. The ratan and glass top table sits on an Indich Collection throw rug. The interior wood flooring stretches nearly to the edge of the building on both sides.



An original Ossipoff building, the kitchen was formerly closed off to the living area. Eckelberry opened it, and left room for both Ferguson’s “must haves” (two separate dish washers, a \$12,000 refrigerator, separate refrigerated cabinets and wine cooler) and his wife’s eloquent design touches. Lore paired Sapele wood cabinets with the granite counter, the grain of which runs horizontal throughout the kitchen—a dramatic touch, considering the same wood grain runs vertically on all the doors in the apartment. The final element for the kitchen was a mosaic tile backsplash behind the stove as well as kitchen sink. Lore carefully chose the seven different colors in the mosaic; they echo the ocean’s colors as it changes throughout the day.

“I like using a modern contemporary style with comfort,” said Lore Eckelberry “I also like playing with combining a variety of colors to create a sense of welcome and luxury.”

The renovation’s most impressive change altered the whole

dimension of the dwelling. The apartment commands stunning ocean views on the south side of the living room. Directly behind it, Diamond Head is perched a stone’s throw from what was formerly a rear lanai. Cement flooring and aging metal railings skirted both lanais. Eckelberry chose to remove the walls on either side of the apartment that led to the lanais, and extend the interior wood flooring nearly to the edge of the building on both sides. He saved a few inches for partitioned, glass walls that could be slid open, and hidden. With both walls open, the apartment allows for a cross-breeze coming and going, directly through the living space of the entire apartment.

The views of the Waikiki skyline, the western ocean horizon, and West O’ahu’s mountains are unique to the entire island, thanks to a gently curving coastline and Eckelberry’s modern vision. Whenever globetrotter Ferguson arrives, he is finally home, here among the Diamonds and sunsets.



LEFT: The master bathroom is equipped with Vola plumbing fixtures, a Dornbracht rain shower head, a heated towel bar, Italian tile and a vanity and mirror custom designed by Anthony Eckelberry.

BELOW: The guest bath is finished in limestone from Ann Sachs selected by Lore Eckelberry. The bathroom features a shower-tub equipped with Dornbracht fixtures, a wall mounted Phillippe Starck-designed toilet from Duravit and a custom-designed vanity with Kohler vessel sink and Vola faucet.

OPPOSITE TOP: The study room features a home office space designed by Anthony Eckelberry and island-inspired furniture from C.S. Wo in Honolulu, specially selected by Lore Eckelberry.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM: The master bedroom features a flat-screen TV recessed into the wall and remote-controlled, motorized shades and drapery by Window World in Honolulu.



AFTER



BEFORE

