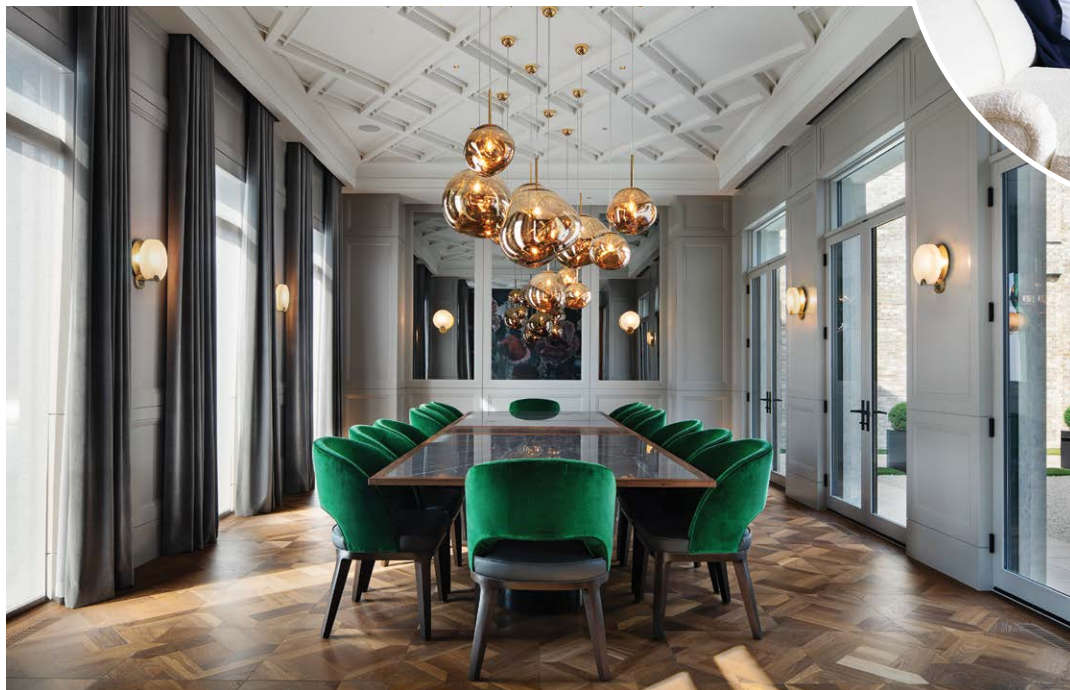


COMPILED BY LUIS R. RIGUAL

Island Debut

A DESIGN POWER COUPLE FROM TORONTO SETS UP SHOP IN PALM BEACH



ABOVE: The leaders of Audax, architect Gianpiero Pugliese and interior designer Mariya Naumov, bring a holistic approach to luxury real estate.

LEFT: The Italian-inspired design, with both modern and classical references, in the dining room of this Canadian home reflects Audax's approach to timeless, elegant interiors.

As prices and sales of luxury real estate in Palm Beach continue to rise, the timing for Canadian design firm Audax to plant its flag on The Island couldn't be better. With a focus on architecture, design, and construction, the Toronto-founded studio specializes in the type of vast oceanfront estates that are so common to the area.

"Palm Beach felt like a natural step for us," says founder and architect Gianpiero Pugliese, who runs the company with his wife,

Mariya Naumov, an interior designer. "The region has such a rich architectural heritage and a deep appreciation for craftsmanship, beauty, and design, values that are at the heart of what we do."

Audax's South Olive Avenue office will continue to focus on the firm's brand of "human architecture," a response to the sometimes impersonal nature of contemporary design. "Too often, modern environments prioritize efficiency over beauty," says Pugliese. "Our goal is to restore the enduring principles of symmetry, proportion, materiality, and harmony, which have historically ensured beauty in the built world."

In addition to custom homes, Audax will also pursue projects in the hospitality and commercial space sectors in Florida and the Caribbean. The local office is currently at work on a massive private home in the Albany community of the Bahamas.

"We're building a meaningful portfolio and have a book in progress about our human architecture philosophy," says Pugliese. "2026 will be a year of expansion and creative evolution." audax.ca



LEFT: Audax is currently overseeing the final construction phase of this oceanfront estate in the Bahamas.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AUDAX