

DESIGNER NOTES ON 97' M/S CAVU (ex OSPREY)

Joseph Artese Design

Mr. Baldwin was familiar with some of my designs such as the interior of Bruce King's 90' sloop WHITEFIN and the interior and exterior styling for the ISLANDER 36 production sailboat and 72' ketch Victoria.

He wanted something more than what S&S could provide. In addition to the exterior styling and all of the practical, functional and human engineering considerations, Mr. Baldwin charged me with coming up with something ***“arty and very unique”***, he specifically asked for ***“a spaceship...with an exotic use of mirrors”***. At our get acquainted dinner at the Baldwin's home in Laguna Beach, Nancy Baldwin casually asked me, *“Can you have plants aboard a boat?”* And that was my point of departure. The yacht's interior would have a lush sky lighted garden amplified by the use of strategically placed mirrors.

OSPREY would incorporate judiciously placed planters in three staterooms under the side decks where they could be skylit via flush thru-deck deadlights. The trick was to meet Baldwin's desires but in as practical a manner as possible. “Ease of maintenance” dictated easily removable planters, fabricated of 316 stainless steel and located in the shower areas where they could be simply watered by showerhead and able to drain overboard.

The planters in the port and starboard staterooms would be positioned at standing eye level and the lavatory mirrors angled to reflect the greenery into the interior. All other mirrors would be framed in wood, as well as some behind open louvers on the hanging locker door.

The spacious owner's stateroom allowed us to carry the concept a bit further. In the shower and Jacuzzi area, the planter would be larger and two tiered. The adjacent bulkheads were to be mirrored and were angled precisely to create a congruent reflection of the tiered plants, all of which then would be reflected in the lavatory mirror. As one traveled through the boat, there was both a direct, as well as a subliminal peripheral hint of sun-drenched greenery to expand the space and multiply interest.

Of course, all of this had to be without sacrificing any of the functionality of this world cruising vessel.