



THE WORLD'S MOST GLAMOROUS HOMES

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QUIETLY REFINED COASTAL REIMAGINING

NAMASTE REBOOT BY STUDIO BARTOLOTTA









“... a home that establishes a seamless dialogue between architecture, interiors and the harbour landscape beyond.”

Set along the shoreline of Darien, Connecticut, Namaste Reboot represents a thoughtful departure from the conventions of the traditional American coastal home. Completed in June 2025 by Studio Bartolotta, the residence has been shortlisted in The International Design & Architecture Awards 2026, celebrating a project defined not by excess, but by precision, craftsmanship and an understated sense of luxury.

What began as a renovation ultimately evolved into a complete reimagining of the property, resulting in a home that establishes a seamless dialogue between architecture, interiors and the harbour landscape beyond. Rather than relying on familiar nautical references, the design embraces a more nuanced approach, where proportion, light and materiality become the defining elements.

Organised to maximise its connection with the water, the house unfolds through a series of deep verandas and terraces that extend living spaces outward. These layered thresholds not only frame ever-changing views across the shoreline but also create a gentle interplay of light and shadow throughout the day. The architecture strikes a delicate balance between openness and shelter, allowing the home to feel both protective and deeply connected to its surroundings.

Inside, the palette is intentionally restrained. Wide-plank white oak flooring, softly pigmented plaster walls and meticulously crafted millwork establish an atmosphere of quiet continuity. Natural light takes centre stage, animating surfaces and revealing subtle textures that might otherwise go unnoticed. Broad oak-framed openings blur the distinction between inside and out, while steel-framed glazing introduces a refined rhythm that lends structure without overwhelming the softness of the interiors.

A curated selection of suppliers reinforces the home's sophisticated yet understated aesthetic. Kitchen elements from Gaggenau are complemented by fittings from Waterworks and Samuel Heath, while furnishings and lighting from Studio Liaigre, Matter Made, InCommonWith and

Crosby Street Studios contribute layers of sculptural simplicity. Rich textures are introduced through Apadana Rugs & Carpets, alongside fabrics from Mark Alexander and Romo, with bespoke tilework by Kristen Falkirk Tile and lighting from Urban Electric Co. completing the composition.

Among the project's most striking features is the entrance foyer, where a dramatic installation of Douglas fir panelling transforms a transitional space into an architectural statement. Executed with remarkable precision, the faceted geometry creates a play of depth and shadow that introduces visitors to the home's material language from the moment they arrive. Extending seamlessly onto the ceiling, the panelled surfaces create a sculptural sense of enclosure while retaining warmth and approachability.

The foyer also serves a functional purpose. Acting as a visual anchor, it draws occupants deeper into the house while establishing clear circulation patterns. Throughout the residence, spaces that were once underutilised have been given renewed purpose, supporting a lifestyle centred around working from home and entertaining an extended family. The result is a home that feels active and engaging, where different activities can take place simultaneously without sacrificing a sense of togetherness.

This careful balance between openness and definition is one of the reasons the design succeeds so effortlessly. Rooms flow naturally into one another, yet each possesses enough individuality to stand independently. Rather than concentrating life into one central area, activity is distributed intuitively across the home, creating a richer and more dynamic experience of daily living.

Equally impressive is the way the interiors integrate with the wider environment. The warmth and grain of the Douglas fir resonate with the natural landscape, while softly finished plaster walls with eased edges diffuse light and soften transitions between spaces. This contrast between geometry and softness creates an atmosphere that feels structured

yet relaxed, echoing the rhythms of the coastal setting itself.

Achieving this level of refinement demanded exceptional craftsmanship. The Douglas fir panelling required furniture-grade millwork, with careful grain selection and flawlessly executed joinery ensuring the faceted pattern maintained its rhythm and depth. Skilled plaster artisans were equally essential, creating luminous surfaces whose subtle variations bring warmth and atmosphere without appearing overly worked. Close collaboration between trades was critical, particularly where wood and plaster meet, ensuring transitions remained crisp yet never severe.

Throughout the project, restraint has been the guiding principle. Richness emerges not through ornament, but through proportion, texture and the integrity of materials. Every detail contributes to a cohesive whole, resulting in interiors that feel timeless rather than trend-driven.

The team's shortlist placement in The International Design & Architecture Awards 2026 represents an important recognition of the project's commitment to craftsmanship, thoughtful execution and collaborative design. For Andrew Bartolotta, Principal of Studio Bartolotta LLC, the awards provide a valuable international platform for celebrating projects where concept and materiality are brought together with precision and purpose. As he explains, "Ultimately, their value lies in elevating projects that balance innovation with restraint and execution with intention, reinforcing the importance of thoughtful, well-made design in the built environment."

More than a singular design gesture, Namaste Reboot is defined by the harmony between its many elements. Grounded in craftsmanship and shaped around the realities of contemporary living, it offers a sophisticated interpretation of coastal architecture – one where calm, clarity and enduring material beauty take precedence, creating a home that feels both deeply rooted and effortlessly timeless.

Photography: Joshua McHugh