

The four-level home harnesses passive solar energy with south-facing windows and cooling double-tint glass.

CLASSICAL COMPOSITION

Architect Pamela Glazer hits all the right notes in a commission for a concert pianist in Southampton. BY JIM SERVINO

A sleek 6-bedroom, 6,000-square-foot home in Shinnecock Hills, the second residence of a classical pianist based in New York City, brought to the fore the ingenuity and style of architect Pamela Glazer, whose work on the project began with the challenge of an abandoned concrete foundation that the client wished to keep. "I think the person who built the foundation wanted to manipulate the site enough to get the house higher than natural grade to get a better view," says Glazer. The architect's eclectic residential and commercial properties over the years have ranged from the elegantly minimal Swarovski offices in Manhattan to the modern Hampton Bays Cowfish restaurant, its jutting glass open-air pavilion resembling a docked ship, to a wide-ranging portfolio of luxurious, sustainable homes and inspired renovations.

Here, the directive, as always with a Pamela Glazer project, was to find the flow. "How the house flows is very important—how the rooms relate to each other. How it works when you have guests, how it works when you're home alone, all the different scenarios. Then the aesthetics fall into place," says Glazer. "If a house isn't properly organized, it's very hard to make the rooms flow from one to another."

So Glazer set to work, integrating client needs with practical considerations. At the top of the client's—and architect's—wish list was extending the foundation to accommodate an 18-by-25-square-foot music room. A



The kitchen is a seamless blend of flow and function.

Steinway grand piano is the focal point of the performing space, where a wall of glass doors opens onto a patio, for guest overflow during concerts. "It was the room I needed to add and make special, because the original plans for the house didn't allow for any kind of scaled space," Glazer says.

Eco-friendly elements of the home include solar energy ("It's passive solar, because everything faces south," says Glazer), cooling double tint on windows and porcelain deck pavers, which have a minimal carbon footprint. "I've hiked in the Himalayas, in Patagonia and the Alps," she says. "As an outdoor person, you become sensitive to how fragile our ecosystem is. As architects, we have the power to offer better solutions."

Born and raised in Baltimore, with an architecture degree from the University of Maryland, Glazer, a long-time resident of Manhattan and peripatetic designer with extensive experience in both public and private sectors, moved out to Southampton in 2005 and opened her own architecture firm to immediate enthusiastic response. The mother of two adheres to a whole foods diet and enjoys hiking locally on the weekends. "Every Sunday, my husband and I get up and do somewhere between 5 and 10 miles," Glazer says. "A few weeks ago, we did one called Bay to Bay—8 1/2 miles from the Peconic Bay to the Shinnecock Bay, with trails through the Red Creek area." Her other favorite Hamptons activity: a long sunrise swim on the Peconic. pamelaglazer.com