

[ COVER STORY ]

# SD118 MOUCHKA

by Paola Bertelli - ph. Maurizio Baldi (exteriors), Thomas Pagani (interiors)

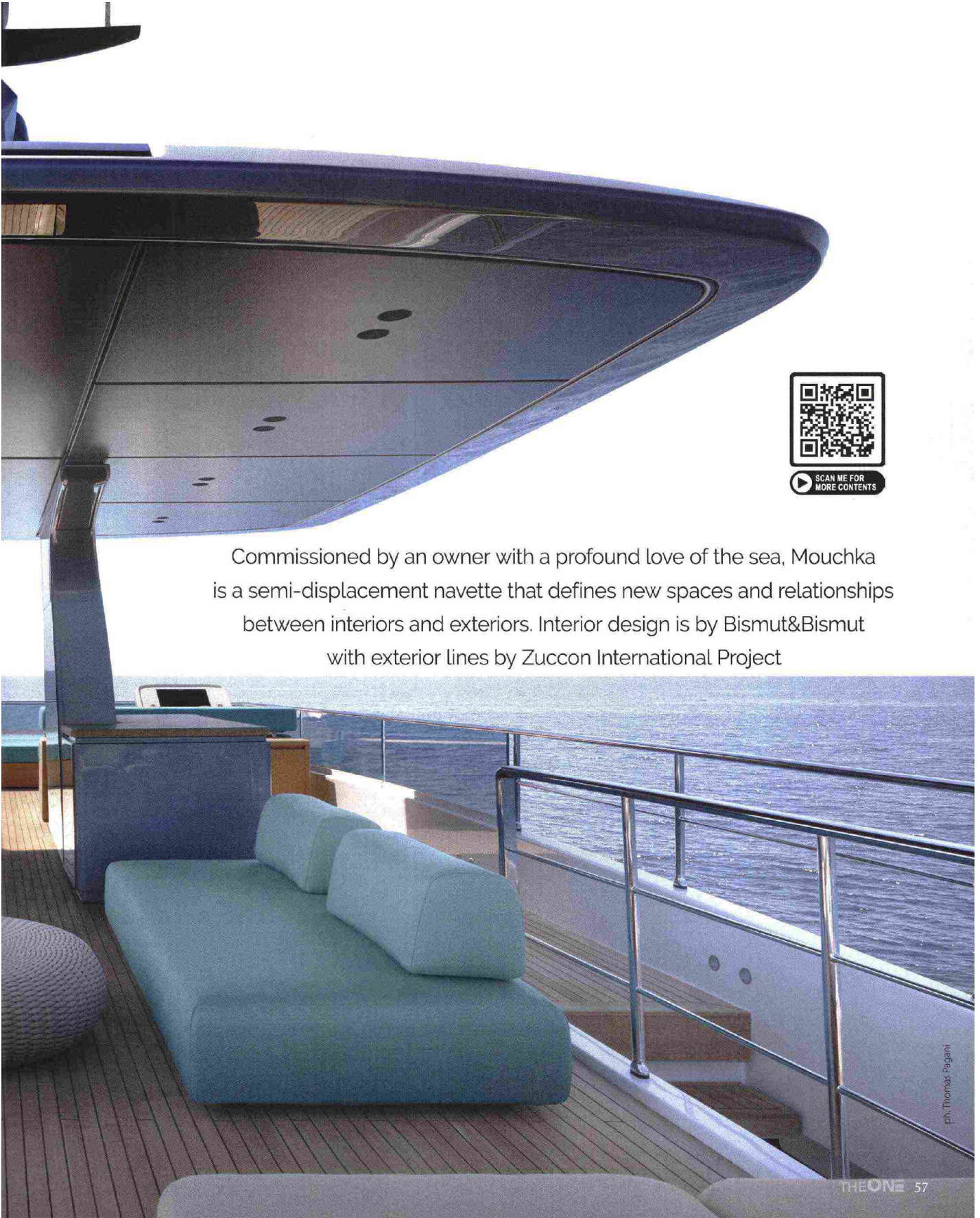


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THE ONE





Commissioned by an owner with a profound love of the sea, Mouchka is a semi-displacement navette that defines new spaces and relationships between interiors and exteriors. Interior design is by Bismut&Bismut with exterior lines by Zuccon International Project

ph. Thomas Pagani

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**F**or Sanlorenzo, creating a navette is a question of feeling. It's a type of yacht with timeless style, and one that the yard has never ceased investing in. This feeling has captured the imagination of the yard and Mouchka's owner – the 36-metre model from the SD118 line is his fourth Sanlorenzo yacht. He is a Parisian with refined tastes, and chose the Paris-based Bismut&Bismut studio for the interiors of his new purchase. Its external lines are by Zuccon International Project.

Mouchka is an expression of the classic navette style, interpreted with a sober, contemporary feel. The latest technological developments feature throughout the build and on-board systems, also helping to create new standards of comfort and provide more space.

On the water the yacht looks solid and compact, a stance defined by its small number of clean lines where the openings are screened, where possible, by technological one-way glass that can simulate the hull colour. It sails at the more demure speeds typical of a navette, and provides guests with an intense experience of the sea. The interiors also reflect these rhythms - as the brothers Daniel and Michel Bismut explain, they sought to recreate on board the relaxed, informal atmosphere of a beach villa - sophisticated and unique, of course, in line with the owner's passion for art and design.

The key elements of the architecture, laid out over four decks,

focus on the relationship between interiors and exteriors and the dynamic spaces that can adapt to the requirements of the moment. The upper deck embodies the idea of asymmetry, which Sanlorenzo has already experimented with. The lounge integrating the exterior lateral walkway to starboard looks out directly onto the sea, while to port the designers have retained the walkway linking bow and stern. Contact with the exterior is maximised by the bulwark that opens out at the level of the lounge to create a terrace that is also connected to the exterior lounge, the location of the dining area.

The development of the exterior spaces also takes in the stern area at sea level. When at anchor the drop-down sides and platform create a beach area of around 20 square metres. The open-air living area forward, from which the owner has direct access to his main deck suite, marks an advance from classic layouts, developing over two levels and embracing both the main and upper decks. The owner's love of the sea can also be seen in the layout of the interiors – every element, down to the smallest detail, is the result of constant dialogue between owner and designers. The result is an extreme harmony of forms.

All interior deck flooring is matt end-grain oak with open joints emphasizing the natural overall feeling, complemented by sanded, textured wood wall panels recreating the look of driftwood. In the upper deck saloon the wood flooring is covered by a faded blue rug. A similar harmony of shapes and colours can be seen in the main deck saloon – a sculptural table in intense blue surrounded by sofas (to the left by Molteni with custom-designed model by Bismut&Bismut to the right) and a Mark Newson rattan armchair stands in the centre of a perfectly balanced architectural composition. In the forward owner's suite the bed is placed athwart the cabin, an unusual but highly functional choice that has left space for a sofa and desk, both by Bismut&Bismut, and a chair by Hella Jongerius. The clean, uncluttered sun deck has two facing sofas sheltered by a hard top, with storage units integrated into the structure. The four guest cabins and crew area are on the lower deck. Crew movement around the yacht is planned in such a way as to avoid the guest areas.

A sculptural staircase connects the three main decks, the "project's backbone, a very strong element in the main deck's axes of perception. It was conceived as two ribbons unfurling in curves of mineral and fabric print textures" say the designers. [www.sanlorenzoyacht.com](http://www.sanlorenzoyacht.com)







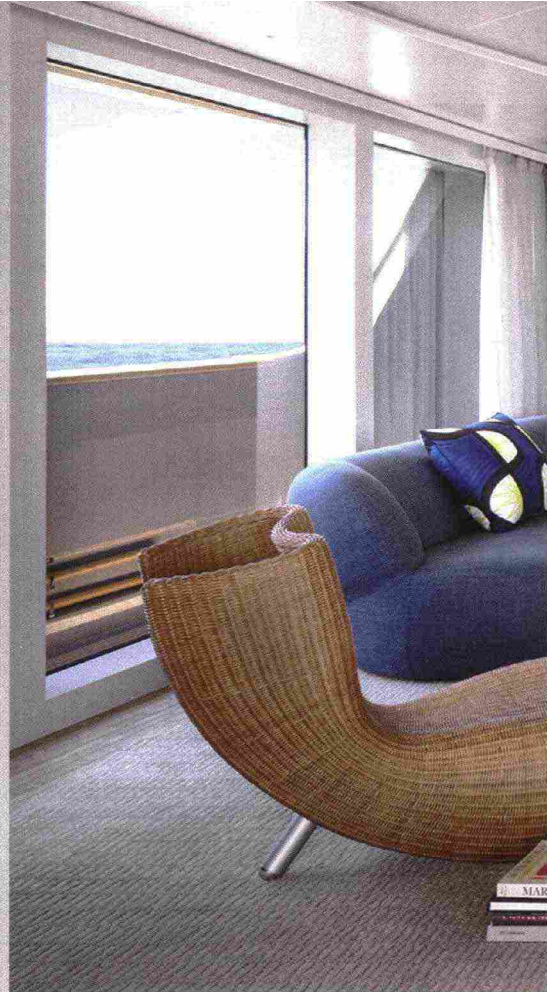
35.75 metres long and 7.9 metres wide, Mouchka has a cruising speed of 11 knots and a maximum speed of 19 knots. Opening page. the essential sun deck lounge. The facing sofas by Paola Lenti are deep and versatile, with backs can be positioned as desired

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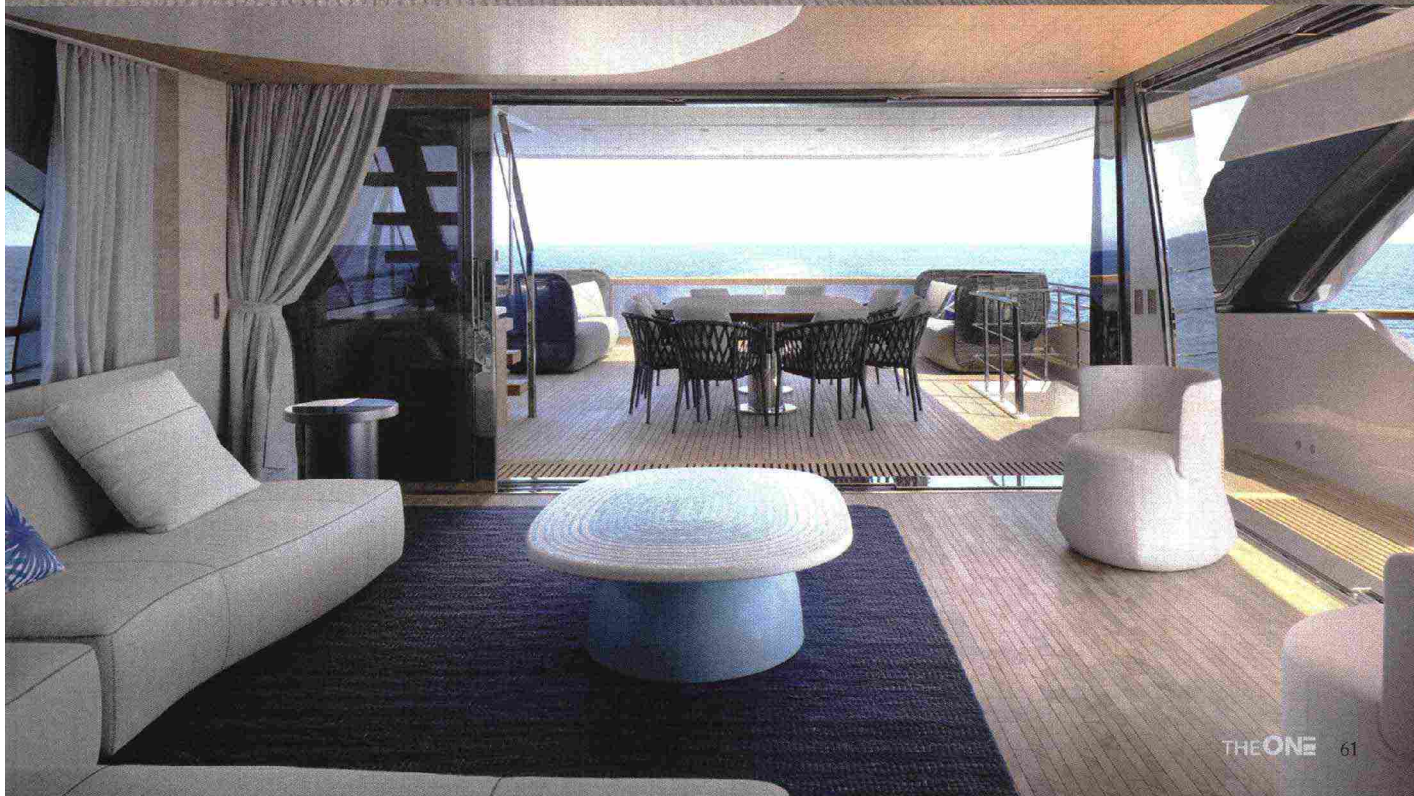
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The staircase linking the lower main and upper decks (left) resembles an enfolding organic sculpture. It becomes a strong architectural element in the main deck saloon (above). When the glass doors at the back and to the side of the upper deck lounge (right) are open the interior blends into the external area to create a single indoor and outdoor space. The blue carpet and Pierre Charpin mosaic coffee table echo the colours of the sea.





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## Exterior Design

### Bernardo Zuccon, Zuccon International Project

**T**he navette concept still stimulates and fascinates me. It's a yacht type that I always associate with a sort of romanticism that takes me back in time.

I think the SD118 is an important project because it expresses a balance between conserving some of the stylistic features that have always characterised the navette type and the technical innovations that have in some ways influenced this return to these evocations of classic ideas in what is, I believe, a very respectful way.

As a designer I think that one of the most important aspects of my work is creating objects that can resist the passage of time. Our project seeks to communicate this message by means of one fundamental element – defining the equilibrium in the relationship between hull and superstructure. On the SD118 the hull once again acquires great dignity. In the relationship between interior and exterior spaces we developed dynamic, flexible approach that enables many of these spaces can be used in different ways, depending on the time of day or guest requirements.

Two of the three sides of the upper deck lounge in direct contact with the sea can drop down completely to create new scenarios that enable exterior and interior spaces to blend in a unique way.

The owner's suite on the forward main deck also has a privileged contact with the exterior – half of the wide central staircase linking the open-air lounge forward with the upper deck runs inside the superstructure, providing the owner with direct access to the owner's suite forward and the upper deck. This flexibility should be exploited in-depth because it also means creating different on-board opportunities. There isn't one specific element of this navette that I take pride in more than any other, but what does make me proud is understanding that there are many avenues of research into experiencing the yacht that still remain open. This yacht is proof that we can still produce something new with small alterations to some equilibria. From my point of view it's one of those things I've set myself to achieve, one of my professional objectives – always to tell new stories.





Sober lines and clean essential shapes characterise Mouchka's exterior. Below, part of the central staircase connecting the two levels of the forward external lounge becomes concealed in the superstructure. The staircase provides direct access to the exterior from main deck owner's suite



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## Interior Design

### Daniel and Michel Bismut, Bismut&Bismut Architects



We were asked to think of another way to imagine a boat interior... a boat that would not resemble any other, breaking away from the traditional codes prevalent in the previous generation of yachting design. Definitely not urban, with a "smooth" atmosphere, user-friendly and easy to live in, lent additional interest and appeal by attractive touches of colors and textures.

The central idea was to create a sophisticated beach hut by using worn textures, introducing bright and warm colors and curves. We wanted a wraparound shell and atmosphere. Modern, cosy, cool, chic & natural and with a "sea attitude".

We wanted very open main spaces, oriented as far as possible to provide exterior views. They should also be extremely flexible, providing the opportunity to dine inside or out and use a space as a saloon or dining area. We also wanted to disrupt conventional yacht styling codes by introducing luxurious comfort with an unostentatious feel. We've paid great attention to design details, seeking to create a calming atmosphere.

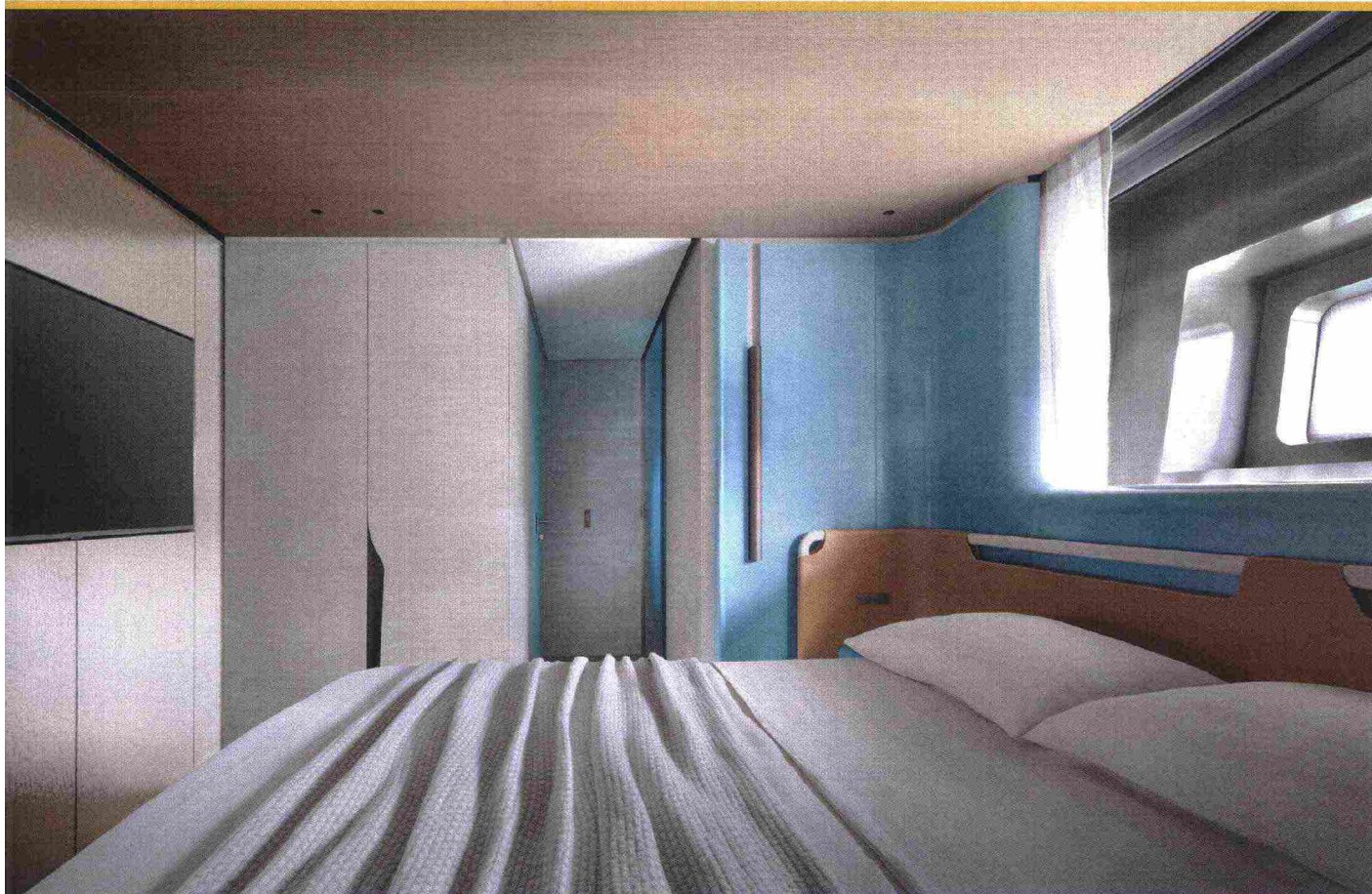
For the surfaces we've mixed textures and integrated touches of colors into the project - rough oak, traditional lacquered panels, terrazzo, lava stone, copper and glass in a graduated green deep color. The wraparound headboards are in a traditional blue-green.

The choice of colours was obvious as we wanted to create a very soothing atmosphere in the main areas. Less natural light enters the lower deck cabins, though, so we decided to use traditional artisanal techniques with green/blue lacquered paint creating a sensation of depth and giving the space a strong personality. We've tried to allow as much natural light as possible to penetrate the yacht interiors, and we decided to make the artificial lighting rather discreet, using lamps that tend to create a daylight effect and won't alter the colours in the spaces.

If you asked about our favourite place on board, we'd say we are very happy with the staircase, but spending a night in a VIP cabin, with all the colors and embracing shapes gives an extraordinary feeling of wellbeing. It feels wonderful to wake up!







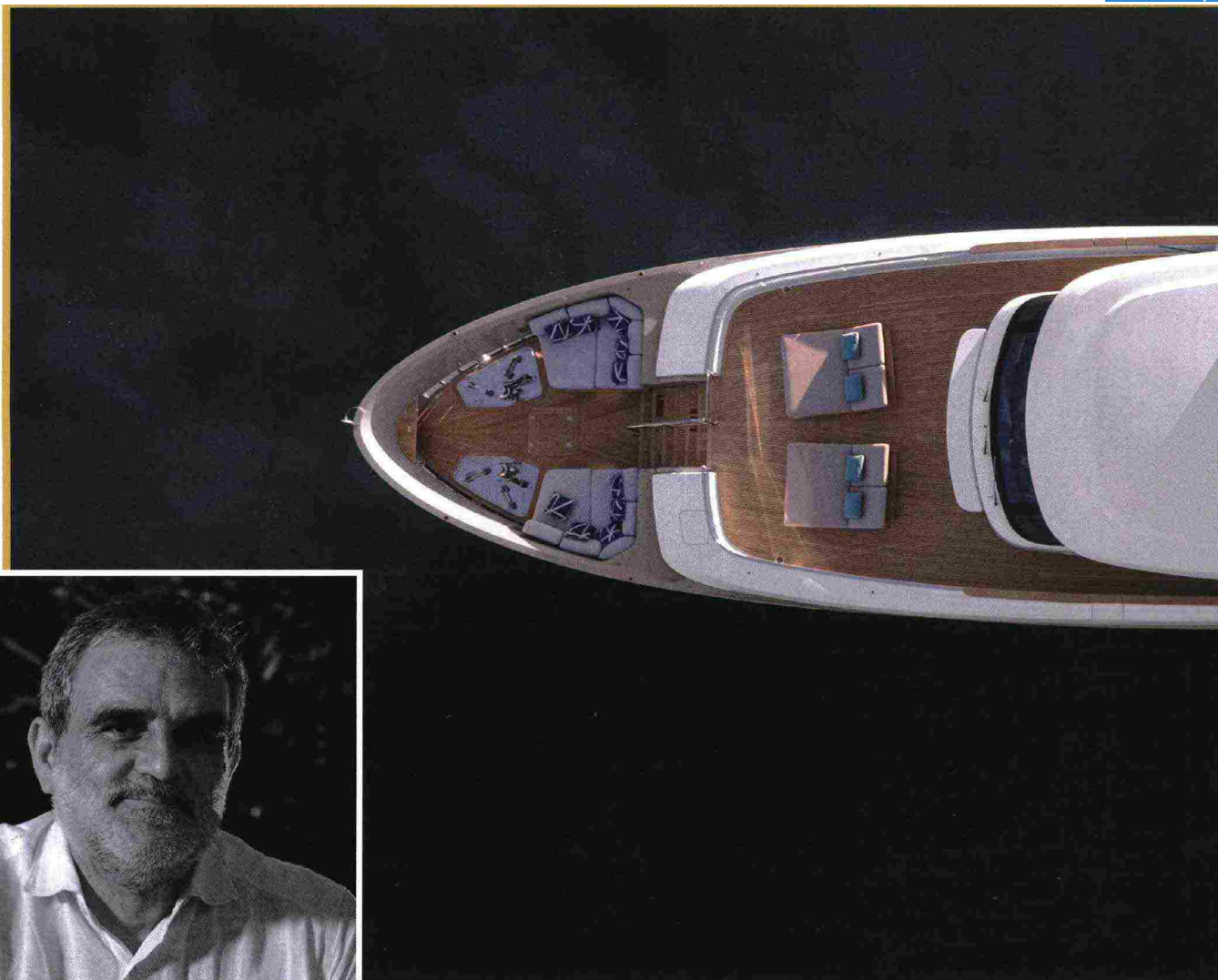
Enfolding shapes and striking green/blue lacquer paint for the five guest cabins: two VIP cabins (above) and two doubles on the lower deck. The owner's suite (below and opposite page) is on the main deck. Opposite page, bottom, left, the suite's opening to the forward lounge. Also visible, the bathroom with Terrazzo surfaces. Top, the two designers and brothers, Daniel and Michael Bismut.



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## The Shipyard

### Sergio Buttiglieri, Style Director Sanlorenzo

**M**ouchka is the fourth Sanlorenzo yacht this refined Parisian owner has commissioned from us and the second to include interior design by the French Bismut&Bismut studio.

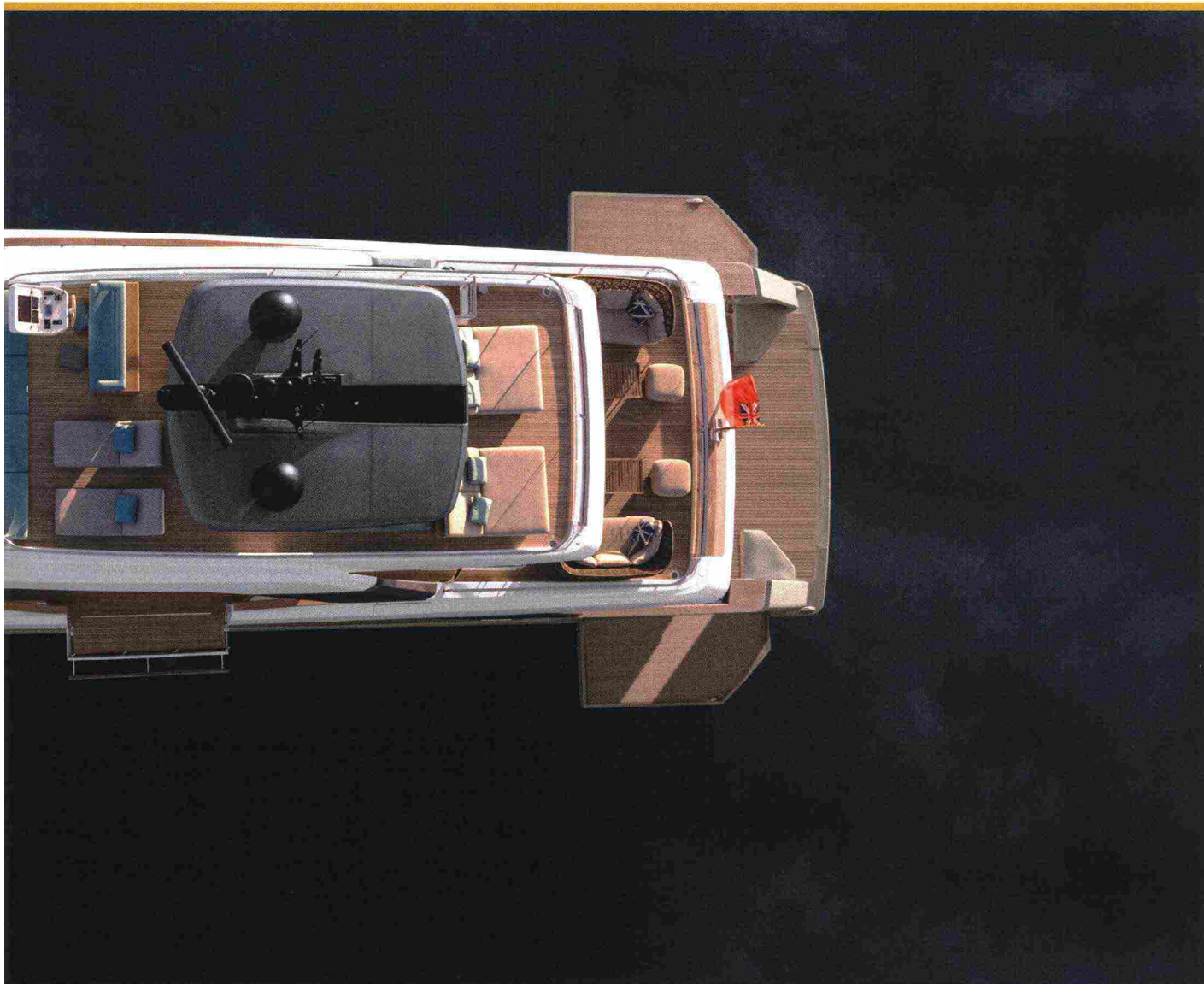
All this is typical of the relationship our clients have with the brand, which I believe is the most suitable and sartorially-skilled yard to make their villa on the sea, with all the details they love and all the opportunities we can offer with every model. Mouchka is a 35-metre craft, quite a large yacht, but we devote the same attention to the tailor-made concept in our smaller models, too.

There has been a constant dialogue between owner, yard and designer. The owner was a constant presence and worked alongside the architects to develop even the smallest details, from design pieces to materials and surfaces, the sculptural staircase to the design of the handles and the Parisian studio's typical wall and furniture shapes – never banal, they lend even greater beauty to the spaces.

The asymmetry of the upper deck has made it possible to gain precious floor area in the saloon, generating an unusual

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This aerial view emphasises the close relationship with the sea guests on board Mouchka can enjoy. Careful optimisation of the spaces has enabled the designers to create a large outdoor living area forward. It is equipped with loungers, some freestanding and some integrated into the yacht's structure

spaciousness. For me, this asymmetry is a sort of homage to the great architectural historian Bruno Zevi, who in his book *The Modern Language of Architecture* described how of the seven invariables of modern architecture, asymmetry was of special interest in its ability to enhance the dynamism of contemporary architecture. The SD118 is a development of the SD112 and is part of Sanlorenzo's SD line of semi-displacement yachts with exterior lines reinterpreted by Zuccon International Project, which after the 96 and 118 is now working on the new 132, which is to replace the 126. With the elegance Sanlorenzo always insists

on, Bernardo Zuccon brings an especially skilful touch to the sobriety of the lines.

Our yachts are the result of extensive technological and design research. At the moment, for example, we are currently in partnership with Siemens to develop hybrid methanol and fuel cell engines. The search for a greener nautical industry continues – it's no coincidence that Patricia Urquiola is about to complete the design for the SD90S, where S stands for sustainable, as she has devoted all her efforts towards creating a greener model using recycled or recyclable materials.

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