

THE NEW MIAMI

—with industrial-finished railings fabricated of fresh and polished metal—are perfect for parties. Inside lies unfinished 10-foot-high ceilings (8-foot-high in the penthouses) with exposed air conditioning ducts and raw cement floors. Common areas include a large rooftop pool, open-air cabanas and a modern fitness complex.

Then there is the much-talked-about residential and mixed-used development destined to become a neighborhood itself, **Midtown** (3110 NE 2nd Ave., Miami; 305-331-137; 305-757-0001; [miamimidtown.com](http://www.miamimidtown.com)). Architect Peter Dinklage has incorporated urban style into the project, blurring the visual impact of the building and unifying it to the natural landscape of its surroundings—these include the Performing Arts Center and Miami Design District. 69 studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom units with 60 different floor plans range from \$100,000 to over \$2 million and are scheduled for completion in summer 2006.

It's reminiscent of New York's SoHo district with a touch of luxury: Think amenities such as a meditation garden, concierge, private storage facilities, a swimming pool overlooking Biscayne Bay and a diverse range of retailers on site, including restaurants, a hotel and residential square. A block north you'll find **Platinum Condos** (4800 Biscayne Blvd., Miami; 305-573-6522; [platinumcondo.com](http://www.platinumcondo.com)), a 22-story, 119-unit high rise designed by Fullerton Diaz architects and Michael J. Diaz interior designers. One-, two- and three-bedroom units and apartment homes are still on sale from \$100,000s to \$600,000. Scheduled for a March 2006 completion, the residences—some with 17- or 18-foot ceilings—feature floor-to-ceiling glass windows, private balconies (offering great views of the Bay), imported designer baths and Italian fixtures with energy efficient stainless steel appliances. Common areas include amenities such as a pool, spa and meditation garden, fitness center, valet parking, concierge service and 24-hour security, and you're close to all the brand-new offices on Biscayne Boulevard.

You'll be just down the street from **Shinwellness Center** (2125 Biscayne Blvd., Ste. 540, Miami; 305-571-9090; Shinwellness.com) where you'll find nutritionists, psychologists, massage therapists, life and business consultants, chiropractors, acupuncture and Tai Chi. It's a unique wellness studio—which helps guests "maintain vitality in the body, mind, body and spirit shop"—and offers the deep tissue and hot stone massages

among its treatment highlights. After you fix your body, fix up your new home. Mention Ocean Drive all month at **Luxe + Natura** (3214 NE 2nd Ave., Miami; 305-438-1231; Luxenatura.com) and receive 20 percent off everything at this contemporary, high-end

accessories; they'll even help you read your blueprints and assist with installation, warranty and delivery specifications. Aqualumi can also assist developers and real estate investors looking to finish up their units. Bring in your project's specifications and a

specialist will expertly orchestrate the layout of your bathroom and kitchen fixtures. To spruce up your living room, visit **Jalan Jalan** (3921 NE 2nd Ave., Miami; 305-572-9998; Jalanmiami.com), where "clean, simple design with a global point of view" is the motto. This 4,000-square-foot showroom is an eclectic, ethnic bastion of furniture and accessories. Shop for comfortable, modern, unique pieces—including sofas, tables, lighting, beds and casegoods—discriminatingly imported from Asia, Africa, Europe and South America. If ultra-modern and ultra-sleek is your look, visit **Aluma Design** (5 NW 36th St., Miami; 305-401-5948; Alumadesigns.com) for more

home furnishing accents. This cutting-edge framing and furniture store's first products resulted in the Aluma patented Art Framing System. Based on a main structure of perforated high-grade aluminum combined with other contemporary materials and hardware, it presented a simple-yet-versatile way of custom-framing any media. Architects and interior designers loved the industrial, minimal look of these frames so much, Aluma Loft was born: The Loft line features panels, furniture and mirrors based on this same Aluma signature high-grade perforated aluminum, ranging in sizes from 15 x 18 to 42 x 50. The store also sells artwork for the frames, including photographs by respected British photographer Michael Thoenes.

Biscayne Boulevard's "Upper East Side"—the area that crosses streets in the 60s and 70s—is a five-minute drive from the Miami Design District and downtown. It's where you'll find amazing spas and boutiques with quality services and merchandise at reasonable (read: rents are still cheap!) prices. For example, **Meduhr Day Spa** (7285 Biscayne Blvd., Miami; 305-758-5750; Meduhr.com) is a neighborhood spa that's bright, cheery and modern, named after a word the owner claims means "feel beautiful." The tiny hideaway is known for its already inexpensive nail, wax and facial treatments, yet posts different weekly discounts on its website. Then there's the two-year-old **American Brazilian Body Waxing** (6815 Biscayne Blvd., Miami; 305-756-7794; Abbfashion.com), a clean-and-simple waxing center. It's casual, relaxed and private, and famous for its

Cynergi, located in the middle of the Wynwood Art District



bathroom furnishing store. It's the best source in Miami for high end, hand-carved stone vessels and vanity tops, acrylic panels embedded with various materials, beach pebbles and fine European bathroom furniture. If you want a distinctive traditional or contemporary kitchen or bathroom, start looking at one of Miami's best showrooms. Expect only the best in quality, and spectacular selections, Luxe + Natura will engage even the most refined tastes. **Aqualumi Luxury Bathware** (5050 Biscayne Blvd., Ste. 101, Miami; 305-759-5300; Aqualumi.com).

Aqualumi Luxury Bathware



Here, you'll find a well-informed sales staff who can direct you toward the finest products from the world's most respected manufacturers: Kohler and Toto, American Standard, Delta, Watermark, Blanco and many more. Product specialists are on-hand to help home remodelers select appropriate fixtures and