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DREAM

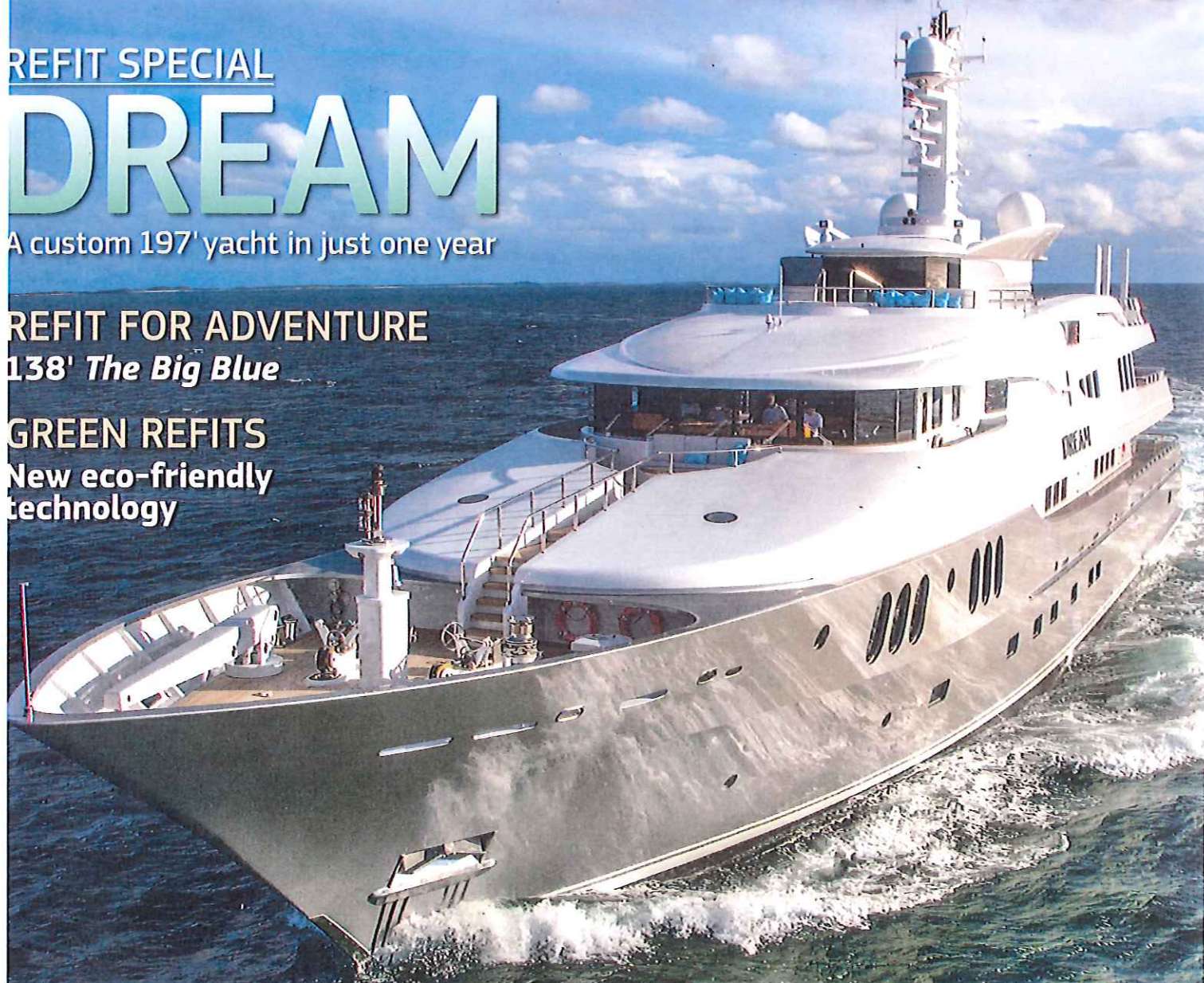
A custom 197' yacht in just one year

REFIT FOR ADVENTURE

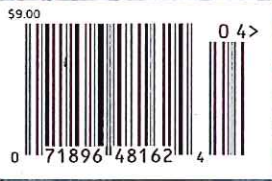
138' *The Big Blue*

GREEN REFITS

New eco-friendly
technology



APRIL 2014



BOAT INTERNATIONAL MEDIA PUBLICATION

EXCLUSIVE!

Lürssen's 279' *Solandge*

Imagine – SWIMMING WITH WHALES IN TONGA



Inukshuk

THIS SLEEK FAMILY YACHT HIDES A SECRET: AN INTERIOR THAT CONNECTS THE OWNER BOTH PHYSICALLY AND SPIRITUALLY TO HIS FAVORITE PLACE.

TEXT BY TIM THOMAS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEFF BROWN/SUPERYACHT MEDIA

*In keeping with Baltic Yachts' reputation for beautiful carbon performance cruisers, the 107-foot *Inukshuk* is sleek—optimized by her carbon fiber rigging, light weight and Germán Frers-designed hull for fast, efficient cruising. But she is also a family yacht designed for comfort and the enjoyment of sailing with friends and family. To this end, behind those sleek lines lies a surprising interior.*

The realization of this interior was a leap of faith by her owner who hired Adam Lay on the basis of an introduction and his mission statement, which emphasized that Lay had no house style; no two of his interiors are the same. The owner's brief was far from ordinary, and right from the start it was obviously going to be a special and challenging project.

Lay signed the contract in August 2011. It wasn't until early 2012, however, that he met the owner and *Inukshuk's* interior theme began to be discussed.

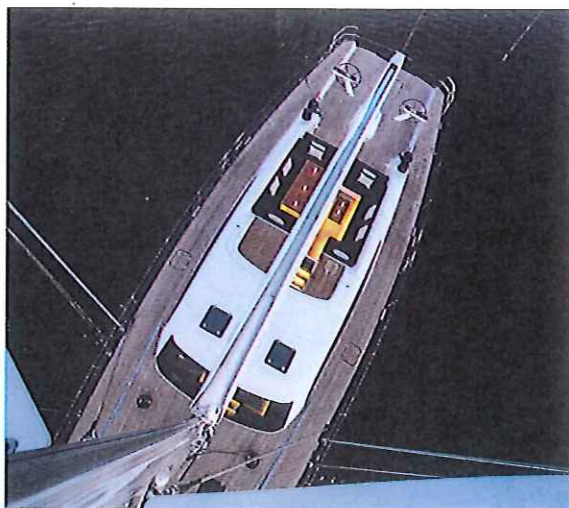
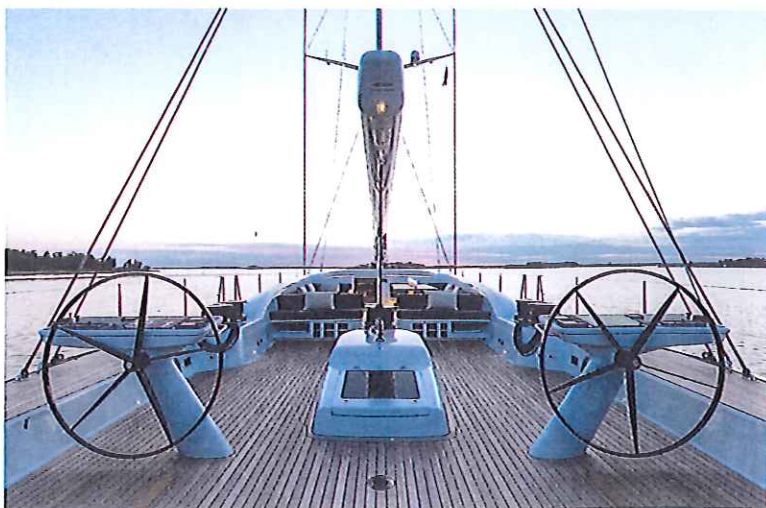
"The pressure was on," Lay smiles. "I'd already been signed up and had to get it right. I turned up with nothing more than a bag of samples, which I laid out on the table. The client disappeared and came back with an armful of magazines, at which point I thought I'd lost it. He flicked through the magazines, said

he didn't like anything he saw and turned his attention to the samples on the table: timbers, bleached and limed; rustic stone with rough surfaces—not your usual pristine stuff but something more natural, less shiny-shiny. Then he went way beyond and showed photos of his houses and an outstanding natural landscape that is very close to his heart."

It was the stark beauty of this Pacific Northwest location that would form the basis for *Inukshuk's* design language. "He sent an email afterwards saying the brief was nature, with no glamour, although interpreted as kicked back high-end, as it is a superyacht, of course!"

The first phase was to develop the background finishes: brushed and limed oak with silver-painted oak for the bulkheads and a slightly darker variant for the floor incorporating a varnish that looked like a wax finish. Baltic's joinery department took up the challenge and produced samples. "They did it," enthuses Lay, "and it's a massive string to their bow." At the same time, Lay was looking at bulkhead fabrics to blend in with the timber. He found promising samples from textile maker Lelievre, which used Trevira fabric, so it was naturally fire retardant. "The owner wanted bright fabrics to offset the neutral backdrop," Lay says,

*these pages
The Germán Frers-
designed hull
combines efficient
design with clean
lines. The deck is
clutter free and
suitable for family
recreation and
entertainment.*



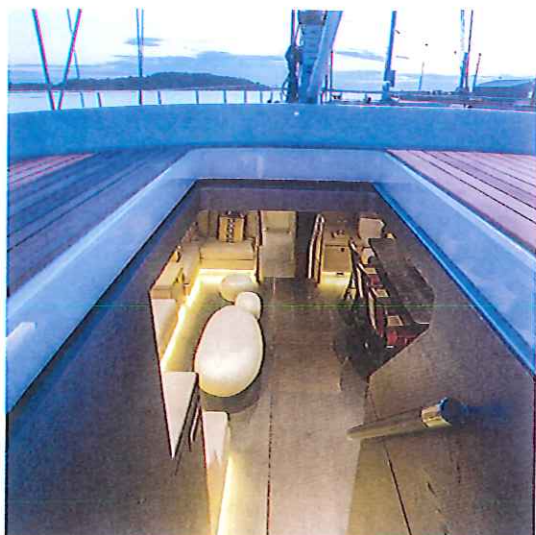
"and his brief was for an interior that could be easily undressed for resale but that would give an eclectic feel with special ottomans, a custom dining table, artwork and some Inuit cues that were subtle but which would always be a part of it."

When it came to the special pieces such as the dining table, Lay turned to U.K. company Parkway Interiors.

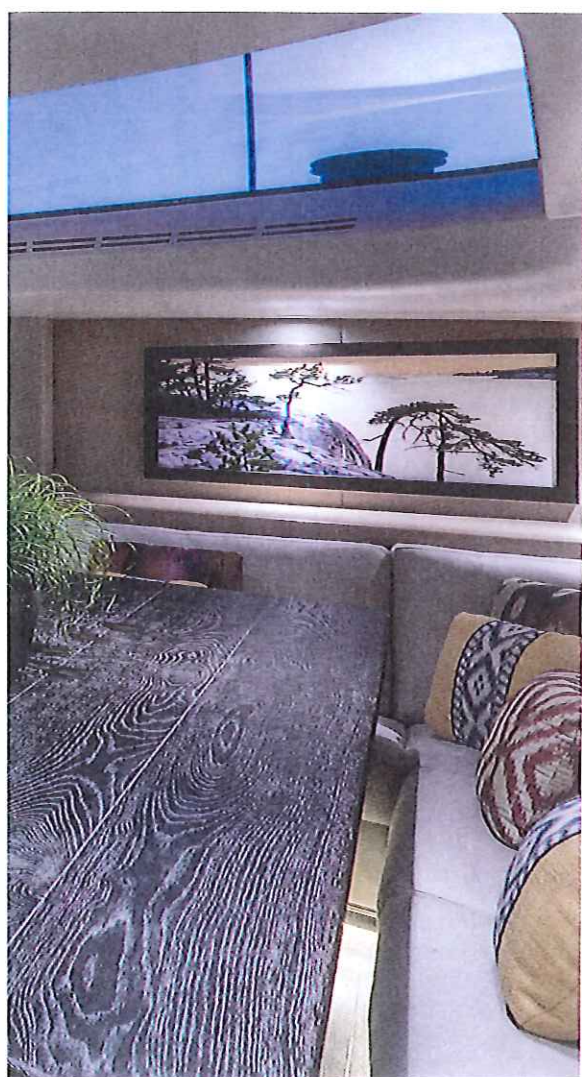
"I hadn't worked with them before but knew the owner, Trevor Bradley, and had seen what he had done for other designers. They were great to work with."

Getting the balance right on the interior would prove critical. Descending the five companionway steps from the guest cockpit, the upper salon area beckons with a dining area to starboard and comfortable seating area to port. While the low-profile wrap-around windows in the sleek superstructure flood the area with natural light, a confusion of colors and finishes would overwhelm the space. Likewise, as you move forward and down another level, the open lower snug area to starboard and sofa and desk to port could be overpowered with materials too dark





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A stone landmark, or "inukshuk" is prevalent in this 107-footer's interior and name. The owner's brief called for nature with no glamour, although with a high-end feel. Brightly colored fabrics contrast with the brushed lined oak and the silver painted oak.



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Adam Lay's design was inspired by a lakeland region of the Pacific Northwest. Native pine tree bark and driftwood are the basis for the woodwork aboard. The dining table's legs appear to be tree trunks protruding through the tabletop. Lay himself carved the "boulders" that serve as coffee tables (left).

or imposing in their design. Lay's design avoids such confusion, and it is the custom furniture and subtle color hints that help create the interior's cohesive, natural feel as a whole.

The dining table took its inspiration from a tree trunk painting, and creates a clever illusion where a series of narrow trunks appear to penetrate the tabletop and support it. Of course, the design was more involved, due to the table's location. "The table had to be strong so it could be used as a handhold while sailing, or to withstand the impact of someone falling against it," says Lay. The answer was to create the log-effect legs out of foam wrapped in fiberglass with a strong aluminum frame core. "The trunks themselves are false," Lay explains, "but the sections

where the legs 'penetrate' the table top are solid timber." Each trunk has been placed to line up perfectly with the timber cross-section laid into the tabletop, and the whole piece was stained quite dark, as Lay describes, "to look like it's been pulled from the bottom of a lake."

On the opposite side of the main salon, three large "granite" boulders appear to defy this performance yacht's weight limits, offering a comfortable rest for trays of drinks or somewhere to put your feet up. This illusion also was created by Lay, whose philosophy is to blend art with design. "I did a quick sketch right at the beginning," Lay explains, "as I couldn't see how standard coffee tables would fit in that environment. I suggested boulders. I didn't want them too Disney, too whimsical or to look like a design item that was more perfect than the real thing. The solution was simple: I went to Parkway Interiors, and they gave me a sharp knife and an electric sander. I spent a morning shaping them out of high-density foam and didn't know when I started what they were going to look like. I whittled away until they were right. I used to do a lot of work in clay at school so it obviously paid off!" Parkway faired the pieces, GRP-ed them and finished them with spray paints to make them look like granite. The effect is startling and highly realistic.

Hannah Woodhouse was brought in to do the lights and, eventually, the cabin's distinctive headboards. "I met her through Turnstyle Designs, which supplied the custom interior hardware," says Lay. "Everything she does is bespoke in terms of patina. We were persnickety about making sure all the colors tied in. It was quite challenging but she developed special pieces like the *Inukshuk* lamps in the salon, the niche lamps and others. They have switches in a matching style which are separate from the cast bronze and cast aluminum table lamps themselves, as she felt otherwise a switch on the fitting would ruin the form."

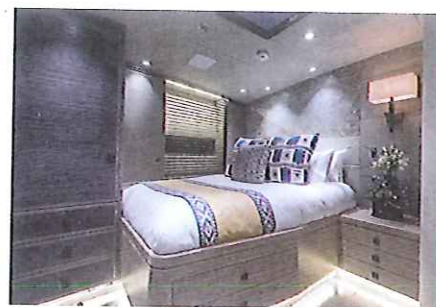


WINNING DESIGN

Inukshuk wowed the judges this year at the ShowBoats Design Awards on February 24, sweeping both the Sailing Yacht Interior Design and Exterior Design & Styling awards. Because more than half of the judging panel this year comprised experienced sailors, all of the sailing design categories were highly anticipated and debated.

For the exterior award, the judges commented on the seamlessness of the design vocabulary between the naval architect, Germán Frers, and the owner. There is nothing contrived about the exterior—everything supports the aim of fast and safe family sailing in exceptional comfort, and even utilitarian things such as cockpit table supports have been well designed. The deck layout is uncluttered, even to the absence of a mainsheet track, and sports flush hatches and a retractable bimini cover. Although the yacht is built of carbon fiber, its forms are sculptural and rich.

For the interior design award, *Inukshuk* was deemed a runaway on visual appeal, functionality, use of space and innovative features, said the judges. The passion of the method by which Adam Lay's cerebral design approach met the owner's brief was key to the win. By investigating the stones, trees and even the shrub colors of the owner's favorite place, he designed a highly personal and harmonious interior with unique finishes and furniture that put builder Baltic Yachts to a supreme test.



The owner's brief was for the cabin headboards to become pieces of art in themselves. "He said early on he wanted lichen growing on them to give a natural feel," says Lay. At first, the team tried *trompe l'oeil* pieces, but it became clear Woodhouse would be able to create something far more interesting. After researching the lichen colors of the area that was providing inspiration—bright green, orange, yellow and ochre—Lay researched native plant species and Woodhouse then used fruits and berries to create pigments that were used to add the colors—one for each cabin, with fabrics to match. The result is not only beautiful and subtle, but also adds a spiritual and a physical connection to the owner's favorite place.

It is perhaps indicative of the nature of the project as a whole and the faith and trust the owner put in Lay, that he didn't see the finished headboards until the first time he stepped on board when the yacht was nearly finished. "We had a Dropbox (file hosting) account so he saw how things were coming together," Lay says, "but even the yard was skeptical as the interior looked pretty boring until the lights and soft furnishings went in literally hours before the owner arrived. Only the

designer has the grand vision..."

When the owner arrived at the yard in July 2013 it was the first time he saw the yacht finished. "We put the kite up and had a nice sail," says Lay. "Then we watched a squall roll up the coast, which hit the yard where they'd erected the marquees and blew them all away. We hit the end of the squall as we came back in, charging at full chat with two reefs. The owner was very happy and was blown away with the boat as a whole."

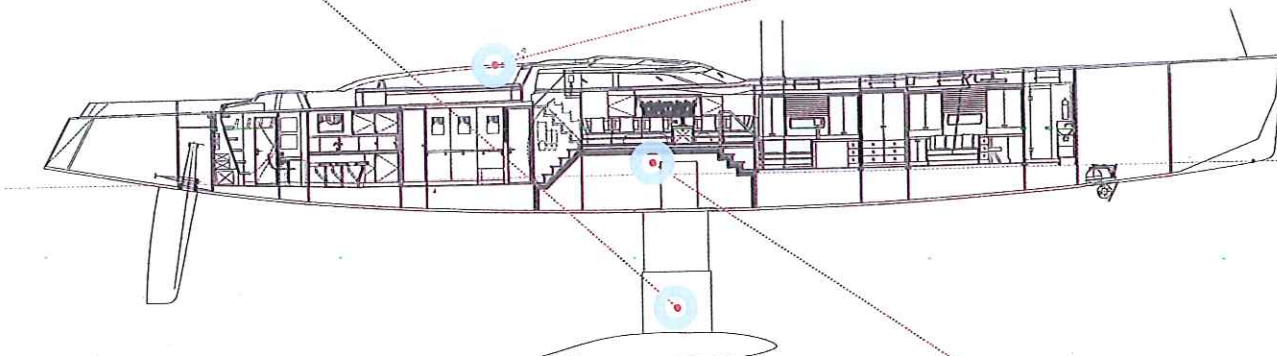
Carbon construction usually implies an element of weight consciousness, and much of the furniture and fittings are lightweight, with foam cores used throughout. However, *Inukshuk* has been designed as a safe family cruiser—evident in deck details such as flush hatches and the lack of a mainsheet track—rather than an out-and-out racer, which gives flexibility in the design and construction. The result is a superb cruising yacht with outstanding sailing capability, combined with an esoteric and personal interior that inspires whether you know its genesis or not. She creates a unique experience, a perfect example of the art of boatbuilding and the art of design.

ENHANCED DIGITAL CONTENT ON THE IPAD APP

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Each cabin
features a color
from the owner's
favorite place.
Native plant
species were used
to stain the head-
boards while the
rough hewn feel
extends into the
en suites where
the basins are
carved out of
cream-colored
limestone (oppo-
site page, center).
They have a rough
finish on the
outside and are
smooth on the rim
and inside.

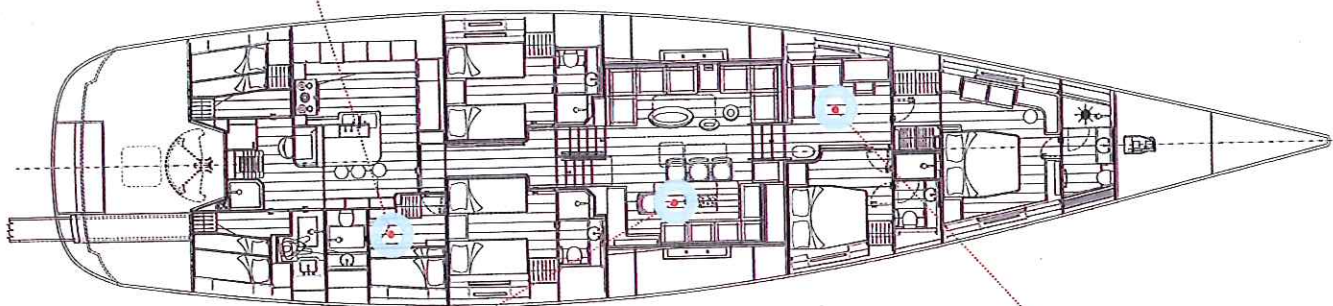
KEEL: Performance is generated by a canoe body and telescopic keel with an 11-foot minimum and 16-foot maximum draft.

COCKPIT: The seating area is protected by a specially designed retractable bimini system.



MULTI-PURPOSE CABINS: The crew quarters aft are finished to guest standards in order to accommodate extra guests.

TECHNICAL SPACE: The telescopic keel is located below the raised cockpit so it does not impede the guest areas.



SEAKINDLY: The designer took care to make all furnishings sturdy enough to serve as hand-holds while sailing.

OWNER'S STUDY: An office and sitting area in view of a large TV flatscreen sits opposite the VIP and before the master.

Specifications:

Builder: Baltic Yachts
Bosund, Finland
Tel: +358 6 781 9200
U.S. Tel: (401) 846-0300
www.balticyachts.fi

LOA: 107' (32.6m)
LWL: 95' 8" (29.2m)
BEAM: 24' 5" (7.4m)
DRAFT (KEEL UP/DOWN): 11' (3.35m)/15' 11" (4.85m)
DISPLACEMENT (LIGHT): 78.2 tonnes
GROSS TONNAGE: 111 GT
MAST AND RIGGING: Southern Spars, EC6 carbon
SAILS: Quantum

POWER: Cummins QSB5.9-355
SPEED (MAX UNDER POWER): 12.5 knots
FUEL CAPACITY: 1,057 U.S. gallons
GENERATOR: 32kW Northern Lights
FRESHWATER CAPACITY: 396 U.S. gallons
OWNER AND GUESTS: 8-10
CREW: 3-5
TENDER: Flexboat

CONSTRUCTION: Carbon composite
CLASSIFICATION: DNV 1A1 LC R0 Yacht, commercial yacht code (MI-103)
NAVAL ARCHITECTURE: Frers Naval Architecture & Engineering
INTERIOR DESIGN: Adam Lay Sturt
PROJECT MANAGEMENT: Nigel Ingram, MCM
CHARTER: Fraser Yachts
www.fraseryachts.com