



## Starry Mirror

*Casa Yvonne*  
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In describing *Casa Yvonne*, where to start? To say that it's beautiful as well as functional doesn't quite suffice, so it may be better to note that it's an architectural feat—a contemporary mood complementing its deep Mexican roots. It might also be apt to say that the walls of this house are actually one expanse, along which shadows spontaneously trace their own designs: it serves as an ever-changing canvas for the dancing afternoon light. Or that seen from afar, it could be a ship eager to return to the sea.





Casa Yvonne fearlessly basks in the noontime sun, completely revealing itself, concealing none of its lovely details. Built on one single level, it takes advantage of the elevations prescribed by the development and maximizes interior heights to produce an instant sense of wellbeing. Its six symmetrically distributed rooms, two main ones in front and four behind, are proud volumes creating a central area for the patio, kitchen and great room.

With this equitable floor plan, the central area is the shared social arena for two family wings: as an axis, it is a beautiful succession of planes that may come together in the entryway to provide a view over the entire complex—and an unobstructed panorama of the sea and horizon. At other times, the succession can be blocked off to allow the kitchen its autonomy, the patio and great room their privacy.

The spectacular ocean views from the main bedrooms highlight the residence's joyous mission; wide staircases and

stylized edges are particularly striking elements; the exquisite handwork of the finishes—carpentry and stone carpets—are resoundingly successful details.

The architectural ingenuity at Casa Yvonne has also created an upper terrace, boasting a tile covered roof.

Afternoons when the temperature declines, residents can climb up and see past the ordinary horizon; at night this area invites intimate gatherings accompanied by hospitable fire, music, and overhead, the starry mirror of the sky.

The small terrace's delights also include the suggestion of a fifth façade, to distinguish the flat roofs; the solution of gently rounded pebbles adds color and texture to the functional aesthetic and serves the technical purpose of modulating the temperature. Another example of materials being efficiently employed are marble floors, with their low heat-retention.

At IDS, architecture offers opportunities for getting to know people and other ways of viewing life, which is why they seek long-term relationships: they don't just deliver a project, they make friends. Casa Yvonne was born of mutual admiration between the company and its clients, with their enthusiasm for IDS' knowledge and preservation of Mexican tradition, and attentiveness to familial and social needs.

With family life as Casa Yvonne's underlying theme, its kitchen and central patio communicate with each other to guard and support activities throughout the rest of the house. Everything else relates back to these areas: cross ventilation, lighting, the privacy of the master bedrooms, myriad views of the landscape. The home's smooth functioning arises from the concept of sharing, of being a family and protecting the nuclear unit for all its members.

An entire poetics of space









*Casa Yvonne* rigorously aims to blend well-assimilated contemporary culture with that of Mexico's past. Synthesis and dynamism can be found in all its building systems, spatial layouts and proportions; in its modern everyday practicality. What's important here is substance, not decorative whimsy; essential forms and functions that really work.

When architecture and the building process are treated with sensitivity, intelligence and passion the result is an entire poetics of space. Extending architecture's metaphors to the water, letting one reflect the other as happens here at *Casa Yvonne*, provides a mirror for musing on spatial relations, but also on the priorities of life itself.

In their real estate and building endeavors for clients and investors, the constellation of projects that make up Integrated Development Services' impressive portfolio, *Casa Yvonne* is a brightly shining star.

