

# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

## NEWSROOM

### Ron Radziner on Marmol Radziner's First East Coast Development

The California firm brings a new kind of modernity to Brooklyn

TEXT BY [HADLEY KELLER](#) · Posted April 20, 2018



The living room at Quay Tower, Marmol Radziner's first East Coast development.  
Rendering: Courtesy of MOSO Studio

"It's about creating open spaces that move from one to the other to create a flow instead of rooms that are compartmentalized, and always having the strongest possible connection to the exterior and the views beyond," says [Ron Radziner](#) on his concept of modern design. Of course, that idea, which Radziner has honed alongside partner Leo Marmol through their own projects as well as restoration work on modern icons like [Richard Neutra's](#) Kaufmann House in Palm Springs, looks a bit different in a downtown Brooklyn tower than a sprawling Los Angeles bungalow. Yet Radziner hopes to bring the same sense of openness and light to his latest project—the Quay Tower, a new development in Brooklyn Bridge Park by RAL Companies and Oliver's Realty Group in partnership with Vanke—as he and Marmol have to their many projects in California.



Marmol and Radziner attempted to carry the colors of the skyline through to the interiors to mimic the indoor-outdoor living style of their California projects.  
Rendering: Courtesy of MOSO Studio

That's not to say, of course, that Radziner didn't look to the development's surroundings for aesthetic cues, too. The 28-story, 126-unit tower (prices start at \$1.9 million), which is slated for completion next year, overlooks the waterfront on one side and bustling south Brooklyn neighborhoods on the other. "Brooklyn still has a rawness to it, a lot of texture," Radziner observes. "I love Manhattan, but it's lost a lot of that, and Brooklyn still has it. It's been nice to see people really use that architectural history and that roughness that makes it a really vibrant place to live. People don't want the spaces to be a slick as in Manhattan."



The powder room.  
Rendering: Courtesy of MOSO Studio

To highlight that, Radziner and Marmol brought that same texture into the interiors, effectively opening up the apartments by connecting them visually with their surroundings. "They're all materials that are natural, that age well," Radziner says of the oak, quartzite, bronze, and other interior finishes. "We try to bring materials through the space, whether it's wall surfaces or ceiling surfaces. We try not to have abrupt transitions with materials, but to let them knit together and overlap as much as possible. It's more difficult to do that in a condo building than a home, certainly, but the colors and the tones in this neighborhood are a bit earthy. I think that helps to soften the transition between the interior and the views beyond. They're not harsh, stark white and black versus the views beyond."



The master bath.  
Rendering: Courtesy of MOSO Studio

It's a focus that ties the project back into the firm's restoration work. "There's no doubt that our designs continue to be influenced by the fundamentals of modernism that we get to experience as we restore these old buildings from the '20s to the '60s," Radziner says. "I think that the fundamentals of modernism are about how materials come together, and expressing the intersection of those materials in clean ways."