

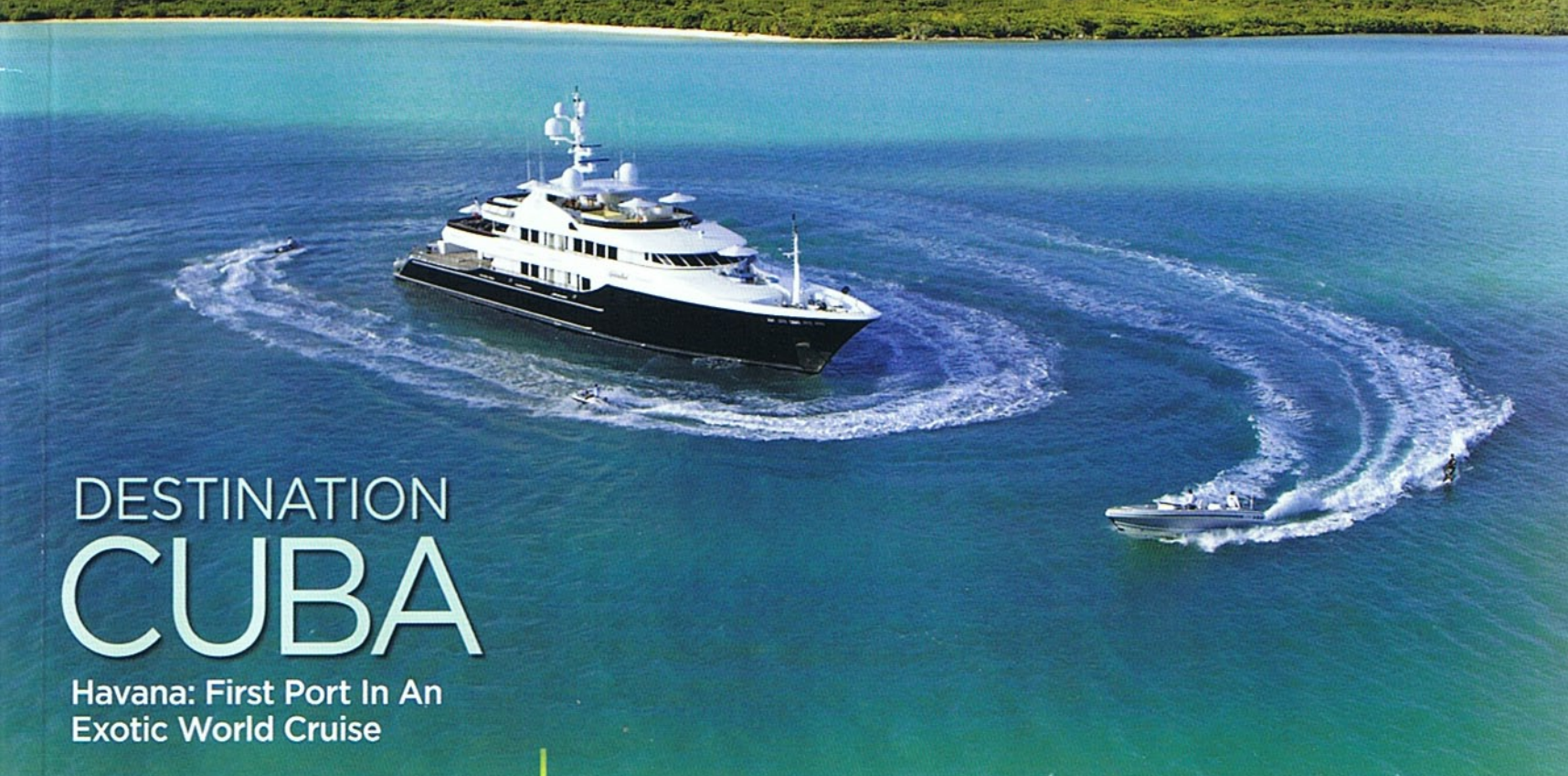
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CAKEWALK UPDATE

The highly anticipated American superyacht approaches her launch date. BY LOUISA BECKETT

This is the fifth in a series of exclusive articles leading up to the launch of the custom 281ft Derecktor motor yacht Cakewalk.



As *Cakewalk* nears completion, Merritt Woodwork's handcrafted millwork is taking shape in the master suite and "his" closet. Zepsa created the guest bath.

Cakewalk's Captain William Zinser. "We're pretty much on target with everything; we haven't had to make any drastic changes."

Zinser is excited to see the plans executed by exterior stylist Tim

THE LARGEST YACHT currently under construction in the United States is rapidly closing in on the day her hull will feel the water for the first time. The 281ft *Cakewalk* (No. 46 on the Top 100 Largest Yachts list in this issue) is well into the interior outfitting phase at Derecktor's Connecticut Shipyard.

"The structural work is all done. The master stateroom woodwork is almost completely installed, as well as the marble and woodwork in five of the six guest staterooms," reports

Heywood—who also collaborated on space planning for the project—and interior designer Liz Dalton come to fruition—particularly on the owner's deck.

"The master stateroom is amazing," he says, citing the two gyms, private study, his-and-hers bathrooms, four-poster bed, and nearly 180 degrees of panoramic windows.

He is happy with the level of craftsmanship displayed by the project's U.S.-based furniture builders. Merritt Woodwork of Mentor, Ohio, provided the millwork for the master suite. Zepsa Industries of Charlotte, North Carolina, crafted the guest staterooms, all of which are located on the main deck.

"A worrying part of this project is getting to the same quality as the old boat," Zinser says, referring to the previous *Cakewalk*, a 204ft Feadship. Merritt and Zepsa have "stepped up to the plate," he says. "They know what our standards are."

He also has high praise for the efforts of the 260 Derecktor employees currently working full time on the *Cakewalk* project. "The outfitting is a tricky part of any job," he says. "They know there's a lot riding on what the world thinks of this project. They are all striving to do the best they've ever done. It's pretty extraordinary, really."

Zinser says *Cakewalk* is due to launch by early May, and delivery around the end of June. After that, *Cakewalk* will head to the Med.

The owner, he says, "wants to get it done so we can get it out there and show the boat to the world." Contact **Derecktor Shipyards** at 203-336-0108 ext. 125. www.derecktor.com >

SPECIFICATIONS

BUILDER: Derecktor Shipyards
NAVAL ARCHITECTURE: Azure Naval Architects
EXTERIOR DESIGN: Tim Heywood Designs
INTERIOR DESIGN: Elizabeth Dalton, Dalton Designs
LOA: 281ft (85.6m)
BEAM: 46ft 11in (14.3m)
DRAFT: 13ft 1in (4m)
EXPECTED SPEED (MAX/CRUISE): 17/15 knots