

## SWIMMING POOLS BY JACK ANTHONY INC., SOUTHAMPTON, NY

**By Katherine Wang** The goal of any builder who serves elite customers is to create a work of art in the backyard. This time, Michael Inzerillo had to design a masterpiece for actual artists.

The clients were a well-known painter and his wife, a university art professor. This home functioned as a weekend retreat. The couple asked Inzerillo to create an environment that would provide inspiration.

To meet their needs, the president of Swimming Pools by Jack Anthony Inc. crafted this quaint cottagelike setting, complete with a pond-style pool and wood-sided studio. The scene itself appears to come straight from a painting.

### SMALL SPACES

The lot size was under 10,000 square feet, and Inzerillo had to take into account the location's stringent setbacks, so he got creative. The yard featured a 4-foot grade change that sloped down from the back of the property toward the house. This largely directed the concept.

"In small areas, grade changes help you design the space better. It gives more interest," Inzerillo says.

But a simple retaining wall wouldn't do. "Rather than creating a single 4-foot wall in back of the yard, we built two 2-foot ones," he says. One wall houses a planter while at the other grade change Inzerillo raised the pool out of the ground and veneered the outside with stone.

The strategy gave the illusion of more depth to the yard.

### POND THEME

The couple wanted their pool purely for decoration, and requested that it look like a pond.

In designing it, Inzerillo stuck with a basic philosophy. "Ponds appear simple and clean," he says. "Less is more."

He selected a subtle, free-form shape with a black liner to reinforce the impression of depth that you see in a natural pond. Inzerillo also used custom-radius steel steps inside the pool that would be camouflaged by the liner. ↪



Michael Inzerillo

### >> JUDGE'S VERDICT

"This is a beautiful project. The pool is spotlighted, but they keep the elements complementary. The siding on the [studio] goes well with the coping and deck. It's a unique design."

— Tommy Johnson, President/Owner, Johnson Pools & Spas  
Masters of Design Winner, Vinyl-Liner Pools, 2006