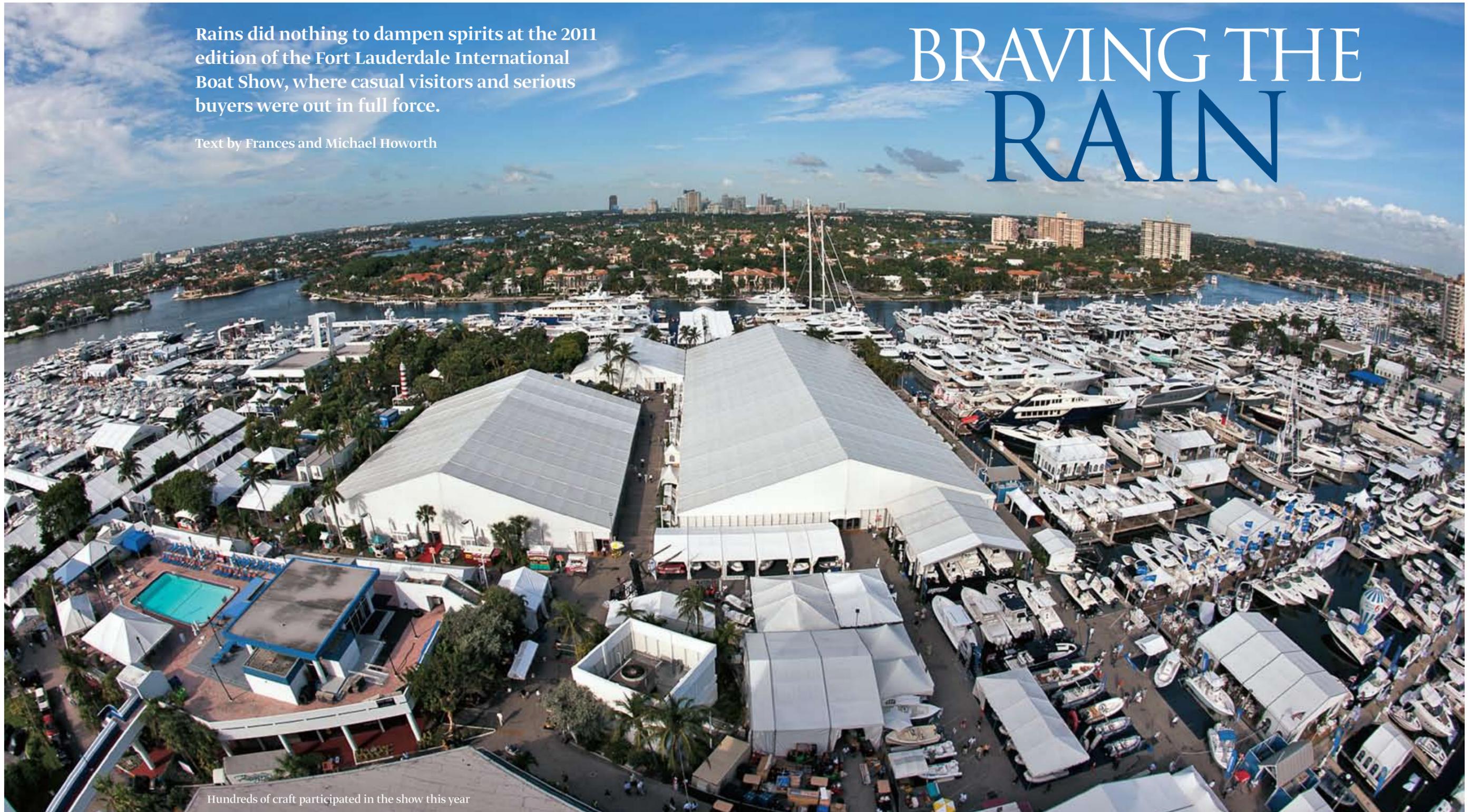


## Show Review/Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show

Rains did nothing to dampen spirits at the 2011 edition of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, where casual visitors and serious buyers were out in full force.

Text by Frances and Michael Howorth

# BRAVING THE RAIN



Hundreds of craft participated in the show this year

**T**he 52nd Annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show had a high turnout of visitors. It was an optimistic affair and many exhibitors reported it was their best show in five years with many motivated buyers. Across six locations, over 1,000 boats were on display in the water and on the hard, ranging from dinghies to superyachts. The yachts were not the only expensive toys on display; Ferraris, Maseratis and Mercedes seemingly precariously balanced on the dock attracted attention, as did a yellow submarine and a helicopter.

Unfortunately, as was forecast, the weekend brought heavy rain, thunderstorms and, reminiscent of the Show in 2007, the tents were heavily flooded. Subsequently the sound of machines sucking out rainwater became background noise

for the rest of the show and squelching over sodden carpets meant boat shoes became safer and more desirable than more fashionable footwear. While floods dampened the enthusiasm of those families who came just for fun, dedicated visitors were still there and showing interest. "I can't recall a moment during the show that our Beneteau GT booth wasn't buzzing with buyers examining our new power line-up," said Bob Denison, co-owner of Denison Yacht Sales, the exclusive Beneteau power dealer in South Florida.

"Overall we are very pleased with how this year's show turned out," said Efreim Zimbalist III, CEO of Show Management, the company that produces the show. "There was a strong presence of serious buyers and our exhibitors were ready with great new products and realistic pricing." Sean Blue, AVP and director of yachts with

Chartis, a global property and casualty insurance provider whose display was among the superyacht builders in the new SYBAss Pavilion, concurred with the positive feedback, adding, "Despite the weather at the show, traffic was good and chatter on the docks was definitely up, in terms of buyers in the crowd."

Compared with the Monaco Yacht Show, the events for networking and fun are fewer at Fort Lauderdale but Thursday and Friday were busy all the same. On Friday night the annual Lurssen Beach Bash was held in the Hugh Taylor Birch State Park with a White Hot Casino Night themed party and hundreds braved the rain to attend. Others attended the 'Boys N' Toys' yacht hop sponsored by PNC Bank and hosted by Northrop & Johnson which raised over US\$100,000 for Kids in Distress. **IB**



Large and small yachts crammed around show tents

# OUR PICK AT FORT LAUDERDALE

Superyacht experts **FRANCES** and **MICHAEL HOWORTH** pick their five favourites at the 2011 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

## **DREAm** **Hargrave**

The third yacht from the yard delivered to this experienced owner who personally handpicked everything on board. She is the largest Hargrave to date, and the first built in Turkey. Designed to feel spacious, with furniture scaled to give a roomy, open feel, this is not a yacht interior that is easy to categorise or ignore. Glossy Matorie mahogany wood with an amber stain, crocodile leather and ultra-suede are used throughout the boat with lots of curves and textures. Even the crew cabins have been finished to the same standard as the guest areas. We loved the spectacular master bathroom with its free-form mosaic tile floor, custom rounded spa bath and frameless, curved glass shower.



Year: 2010  
 Length (overall): 41.5 m (136' 2"ft)  
 Range: 3,300 nm @ 10 kts  
 Exterior Designer: F O Celikkol  
 Interior Designer: Sam Shalem  
 Number of Guests: 12  
 Number of Guest Cabins: 6  
 Number of Crew: 8  
 Contact: Hargrave Custom Yachts  
 Website: [www.hargrave.org](http://www.hargrave.org)



Year: 2011  
 Length (overall): 54.9 m (180' 2")  
 Exterior Designer: Murray & Associates  
 Interior Designer: Claudette Bonville  
 Number of Guests: 12  
 Number of Guest Cabins: 6  
 Number of Crew: 12  
 Contact: International Yacht Collection  
 Website: www.iyc.com

▲ **Harbour Island**  
 Newcastle Shipyards

The largest new superyacht from Florida-based Newcastle Shipyards was launched last August and debuted at this show. Her exterior includes an eye-catching split-level sun deck with an infinity pool and lounging chairs for sun worshipping. Her interior is classical American, comfortable and elegant. In addition to the conventional four guest staterooms on the lower deck, she has two master suites. The one on the main deck has eight oval windows almost two metres tall for spectacular views to port and starboard. The other suite is forward of the sky lounge with a 270-degree circular view. It is hard to decide which one to choose, but we predict that because of the choices she offers she will make a highly successful charter yacht.

▼ **Helix**  
 Feadship

The fifth yacht in the F45 Vantage custom series built by Feadship's Royal Van Lent Yard. Unlike her sisters **Harle**, **Space**, **TV** and **Gladiator** (ex **Sirius**) she features the first nautical interior created by Sinot Design. With all the guest cabins on the main deck everyone has a prime location, perfect for chartering. Despite the use of classical mahogany wood, this is not a dark yacht. The mahogany has been combined with light, fabric-lined wall panels, off-white carpets and lots of light through large windows. The huge skylight over the super-king-size bed in the master suite helps flood this area with light and brings the stars into your bedroom.



Year: 2011  
 Length (overall): 44.7 m (146' 7")  
 Range: Transatlantic  
 Exterior Designer: De Voogt Naval Architects/Sinot Design Associates  
 Interior Designer: Sinot Design Associates  
 Number of Guests: 10/12  
 Number of Guest Cabins: 5  
 Number of Crew: 10  
 Contact: Feadship  
 Website: www.feadship.nl

**Kismet**

**Lurssen**

A unique yacht designed and built by some of the most famous names in the industry. Her exterior blends soft curves and more aggressive angles, and inside she is a superb art deco meets Persian showpiece. This is a remarkable yacht in every way from her grand main lobby to her imposing two-deck high engine room. No visit to this incredible yacht can be quick; there are just too many wonders to see wherever you look. This is perhaps the hardest yacht on which to select one thing to admire. The stunning master bathroom with its handmade glass panel with peacock feathers? The art deco dining room with its two spectacular murals of the New York skyline perhaps? The circular upper saloon lit up by the glass-bottomed spa pool covered with bright glass jellyfish artworks? We will leave the choice to you.

Year: 2007  
 Length (overall): 67.9 m (222' 8")  
 Range: 5,000 nm @ 14 kts  
 Exterior Designer: Espen Oeino  
 Interior Designer: Reymond Langton Design  
 Number of Guests: 12  
 Number of Guest Cabins: 6  
 Number of Crew: 17  
 Contact: Moran Yacht & Ship, Inc.  
 Website: www.moranyachts.com



Year: 2008  
 Length (overall): 38.1 m (125')  
 Range (under power): 1,700 nm @10 kts  
 Exterior Designer: Philippe Briand Design  
 Interior Designer: Perini Navi  
 Number of Guests: 9  
 Number of Guest Cabins: 3  
 Number of Crew: 5  
 Contact: Perini Navi  
 Website: www.perininavi.it

**P2**

**Perini Navi**

Philippe Briand-designed, semi-custom, gentleman's fast cruiser, **P2** was created for a Perini Navi owner bitten by the superyacht racing bug. She is the first of a very different series from a yard better known for its cruising sailing yachts. Built with an aluminium alloy hull, 51-metre carbon mast, PBO-fibre standing rigging and slab reefed main. She is not brand new nor is she for sale, but was being shown at Fort Lauderdale as an example of the series. The yard has her sister as hull/project currently for sale at €19 million for delivery in 18 months. We love her light interior, in all senses of the word; it is simple and uncluttered with teak and maple flooring rather than the more traditional teak and holly. There are only three guest staterooms but, as the yacht needs plenty of hands for racing, each cabin can accommodate up to three people.