Dutch superyacht builder Oceanco has broken the mold with its latest concept yacht that was just unveiled the Dubai International Boat Show. The nearly 400-foot-long Tuhura was conceived in collaboration with the Lobanov Design studio, BMT Nigel Gee, and interior designer Achille Salvagni to be unlike any yacht on the market. And they succeeded.
The exterior styling is reminiscent of early dugout canoes that the ancient Polynesians made across thousands of miles of open Pacific Ocean. And while this state-of-the-art yacht is designed to be a technological marvel with every conceivable comfort, the thinking behind the design was to celebrate our basic and primal desires to explore and discover. In fact, the actual name, ‘tuhura’ is derived from the Maori verb meaning: to discover, bring to light, unearth, open up, explore, and investigate.
“Our Tuhura is a simple idea,” explains Igor Lobanov, “The thought was to take a natural shape similar to those seen in the earliest canoe-type craft and augment it multifold to a larger scale, using modern technology.” The main inspiration for the interior design is East Asia and the Pacific islands. Achille Salvagni refers to the interior as a “brushed teak habitat” (floors, walls, ceilings) including thin reveals in gunmetal and natural bronze with tatami floors. “Tuhura is a megayacht conceived for a dynamic owner, nevertheless the timeless sense of peace and calmness are the main characteristics,” says Salvagni. “This softness and dynamicity are reflected in the humble elegance and sensuality of the primitive organic shapes echoed throughout.”

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*Tuhura*’s hull and propulsion system have been developed in collaboration with BMT. The pure simplicity of the canoe form leads to a naturally efficient hull with low overall resistance, good seakeeping and excellent maneuverability.
Innovation and cutting-edge technology is evident throughout the design. The hull has been conceived with multiple horizontal windows, utilizing an advanced glass technology that consists of a series of dots, allowing the view from within to be completely transparent, while from the exterior, the windows appear the same color as the hull, disguising their appearance. Glass features further in the impressive black superstructure made up of flat glass panels.
Creative thinking extends to all the systems aboard. LuxLab, the custom design label from Van Berge Henegouwen (VBH) has joined the team to ensure that this is an
extremely “smart boat.” Not only are there controls for HVAC, lighting, audio, video, curtains and such, but controls will also monitor behavior aboard regarding preferences such as music and temperature. Furthermore, there are plans to create a 360 room, a multipurpose space for both interactive design and information.

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