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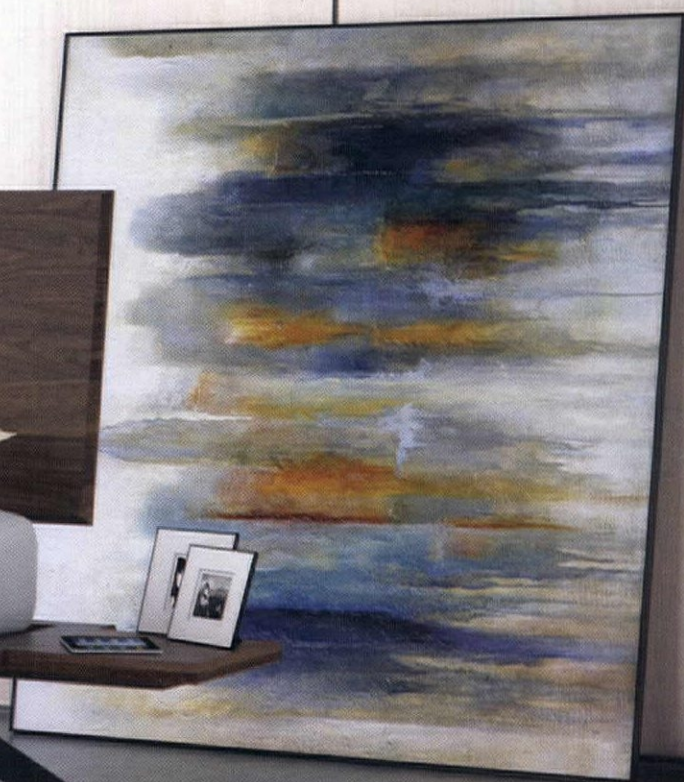
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editor's letter



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WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

Putting together the Palm Springs issue for the past three years has been particularly meaningful to the *Atomic Ranch* team. Not only is Palm Springs the mecca of Midcentury Modern design for a global audience of modernist enthusiasts, but in many ways it's where it all began for us. Soon after our inaugural issue for this crew, we traveled to the desert to introduce ourselves, enjoy the convivial schedule of events and immerse ourselves in the phenomena that is Modernism Week.

And what an introduction! Palm Springs, with its rich history and community so committed to preserving, educating and celebrating Midcentury Modern design and architecture, is such an antidote to a world where newer is better and old can all too often be forgotten. But not in Palm Springs. And for the fourth year, *Atomic Ranch* is proud to count ourselves as one of the forces of preservation, education and—yes—celebration, helping to bring inspiration to that global community so passionate about all things mod.

In this issue we take a retrospective look at the work Modernism Week has accomplished, and we tour homes and gardens—and of course swimming pools—that capture the spirit of the best Palm Springs has to offer. We hope to inspire you to start or continue to push for historic preservation and revitalization of Midcentury Modern treasures in your own towns. Here's to more Modernism Weeks everywhere!

Jackie Torres

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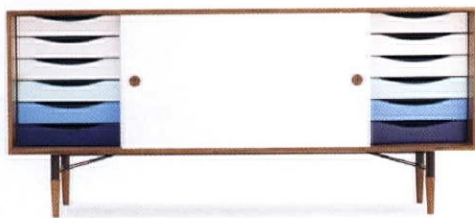
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Contents spring 2020



FEATURES

- 26 Hillside Renewal**
Step inside this meticulously restored 1955 Albert Frey home.
- 36 Won't You Be My Neighbor?**
A spacious 1964 condo gets a new life thanks to thoughtful renovations and impressive décor.
- 46 Good Day, Sunshine**
A cheerful mix of vintage and new furnishings pairs with a cheerful color palette in this midcentury condo.
- 56 Tropical Retreat**
Inside a Polynesian-themed complex, rich colors and textures create a tropical getaway right at home.

- 64 15 Years of Modernism Week: Part 2**
Take a look at even more remarkable private residences that have opened their doors for this annual Palm Springs event.
- 70 Weathering the Elements in Style**
Transformed into a stylish midcentury haven with ample entertainment space, this smartly designed backyard also endures the Palm Springs sunshine.

DEPARTMENTS

- 4 Editor's Letter**
- 14 Web News**
- 16 Cool Stuff**
- 22 Atomic Kitchens**
- 80 Advertisers**
- 82 Last Look**

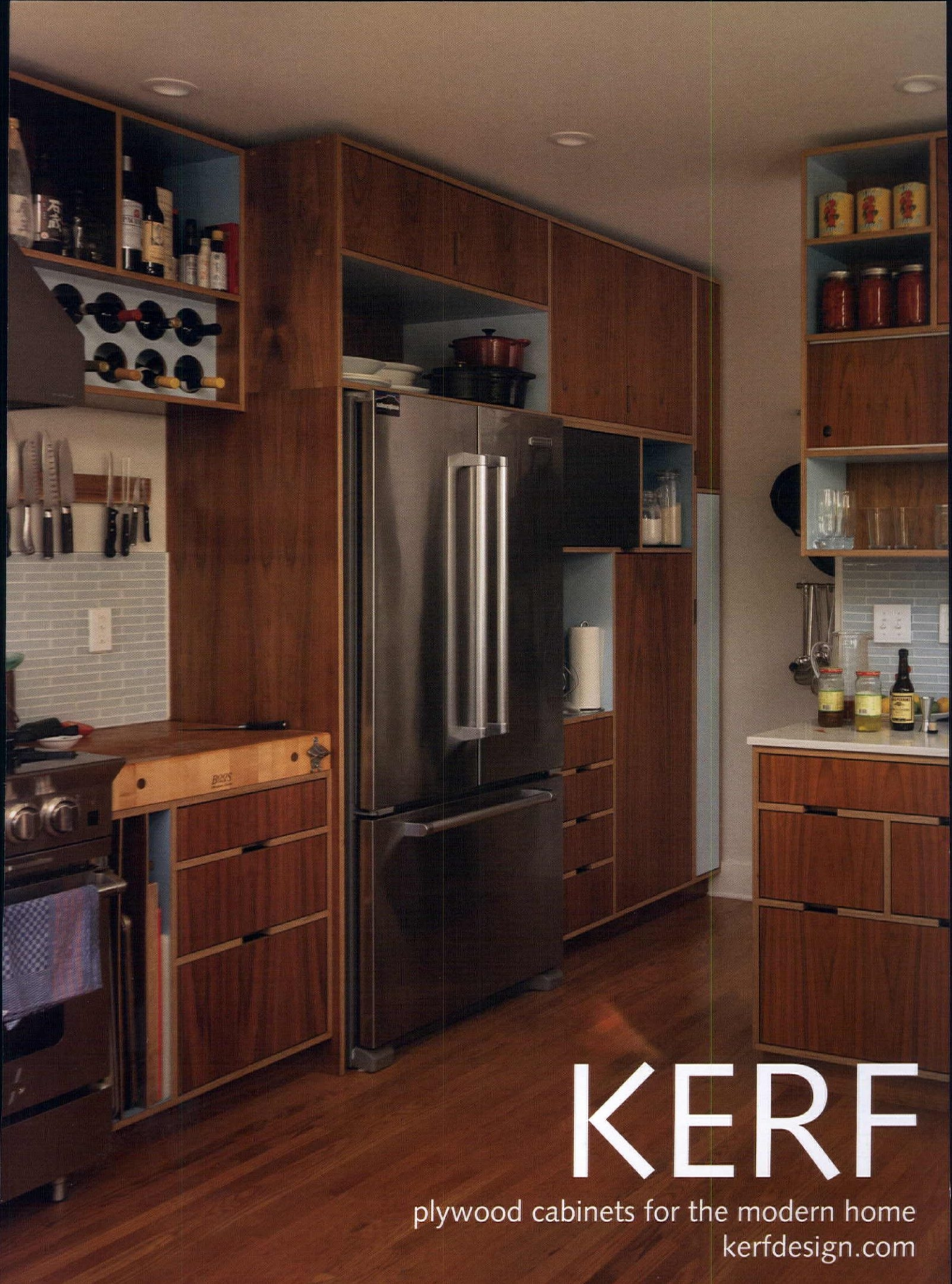
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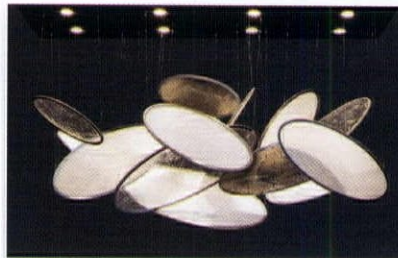


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Inside Scoop!



PHOTO BY JIM BROWN

Hello Alohaus

Check out the roundup of our favorite Charles Du Bois homes in the desert.



PHOTO BY JIM RICHE

Must-See Sights in Rancho Mirage

Take a tour of our recommended stops in Palm Springs' stylish neighbor in the desert.



PHOTO BY JIM BROWN

Cooking Up Retro

In the market for a kitchen with atomic appeal? Take a quick tour of our most colorful and classic ones.



Pattern Pop

Looking for a statement piece for your room? These patterned finds (like this one from essential-home.eu) are sure showstoppers.



PHOTO BY JIM BROWN

Check Out One of Our Most Dramatic Makeovers

From teardown to triumph, this Vista Las Palmas gem was saved and now stuns as one of Palm Springs' biggest success stories.



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Poolside Favorites

By Lindsay Jarvis

Whether you're hosting a pool party or just sprucing up your outdoor space, these poolside picks will make a splash!



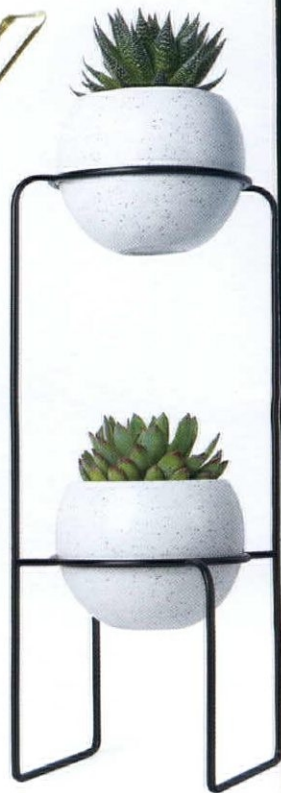
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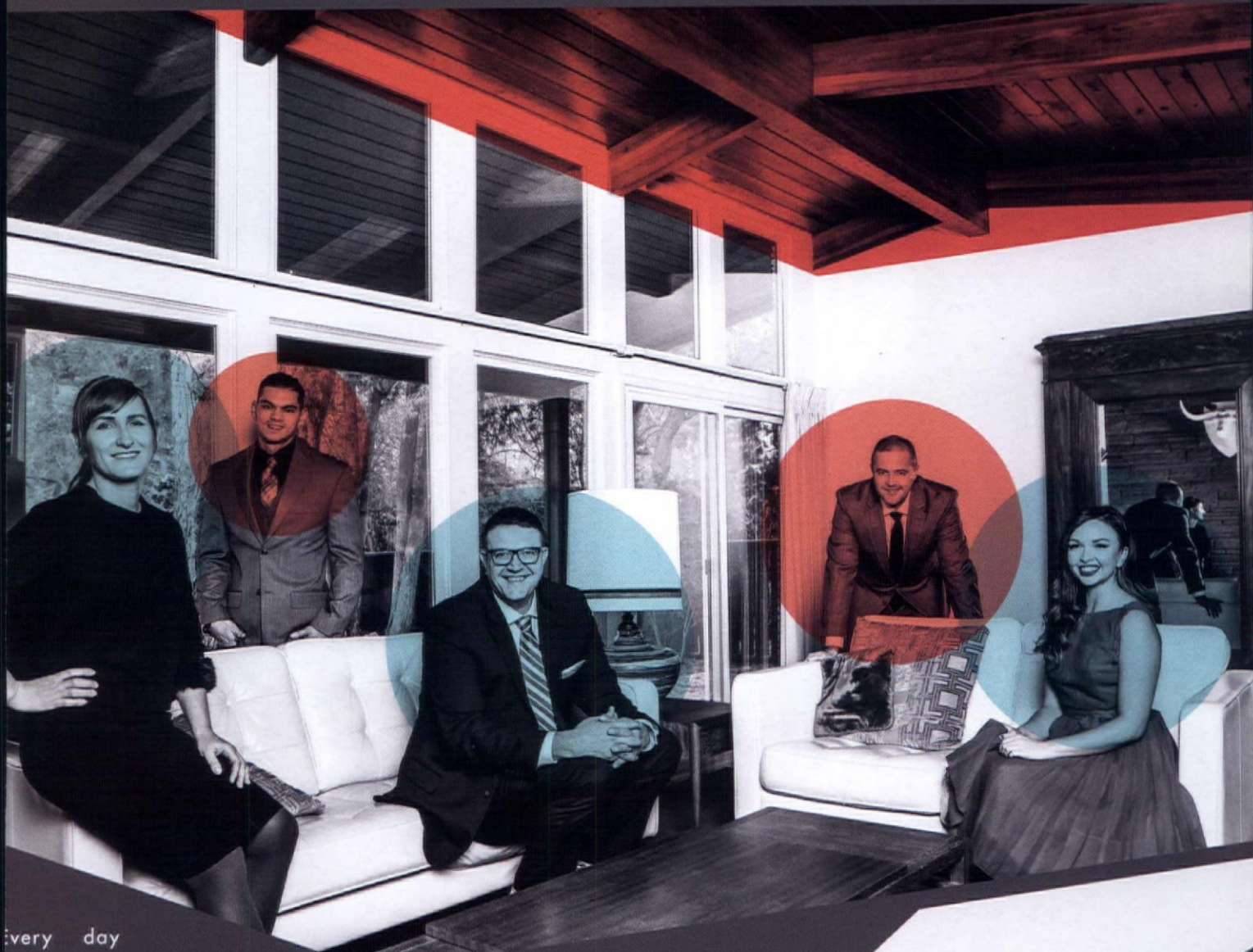


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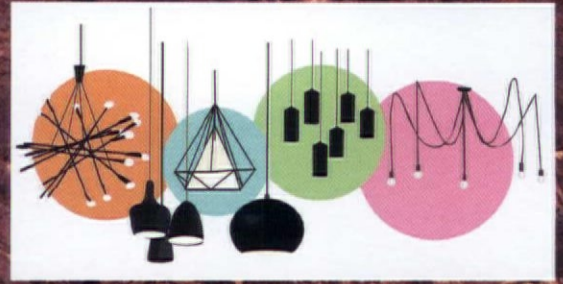
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Photo credit: Bruce Wolf

MAY 8-9

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The Sutor House, above, was Pietro Belluschi's first new house design, completed in 1938. Simple in plan, with large rooms and high ceilings, it is built of natural materials such as spruce, fir, cedar, zebra wood and slate, with wide eaves for shelter and large windows that bring in the light and views of the landscape and gardens. This house is an iconic example of the developing Northwest Regional Modernism Style including oneness with nature and some Japanese influences, such as the woven wood entry ceiling. It is a monument to honest materials and fine craftsmanship. This house is not to be missed!

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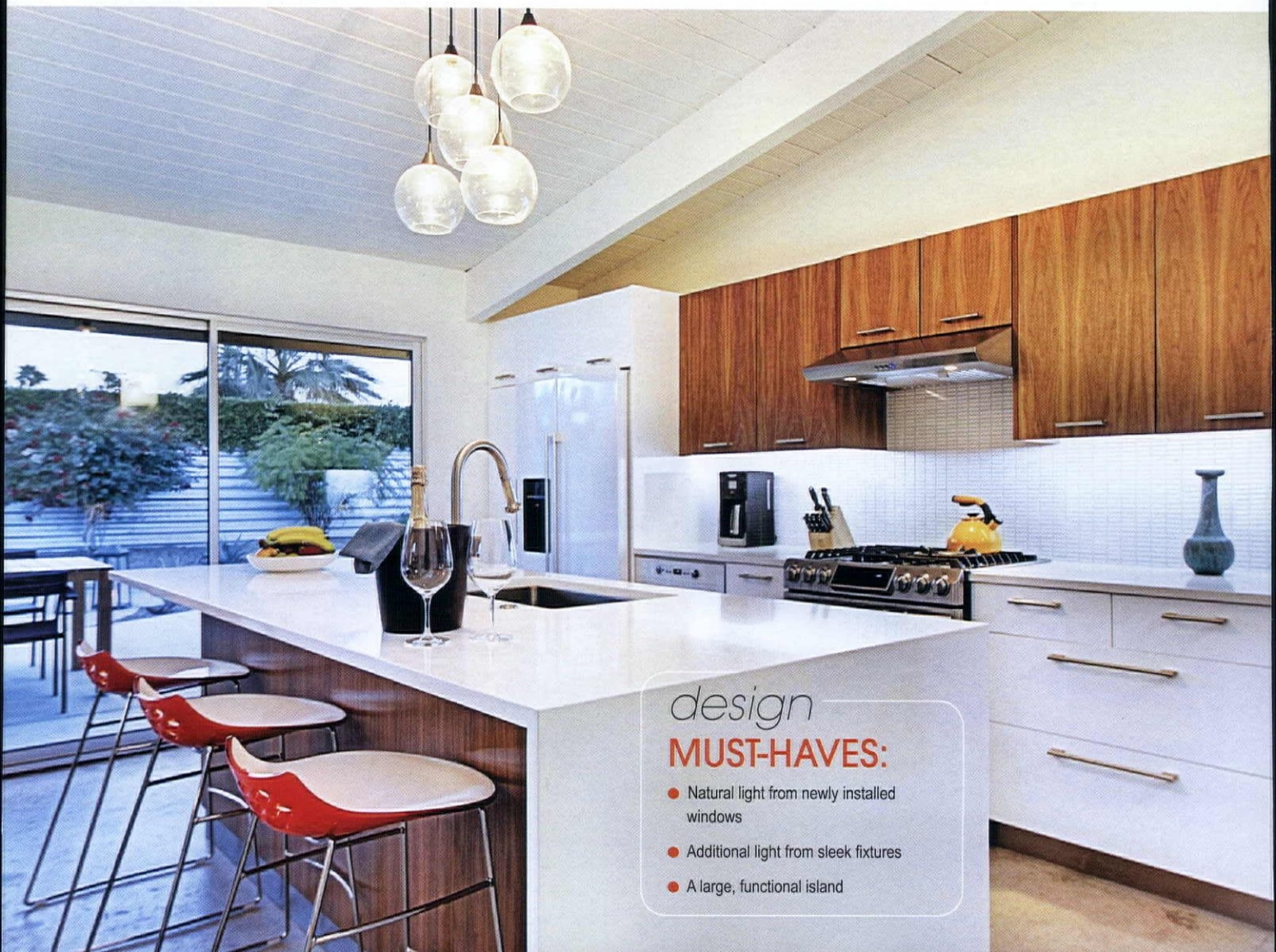
Lighten Up

Paint, cabinetry and new windows are the essential ingredients in this kitchen's modern makeover.

By **Devlin Smith** | Photography by **Kelly Peak Photography**

(BOTTOM) THE ISLAND SERVES A NUMBER OF FUNCTIONS; IT'S A SPACE FOR PREPARING FOOD, SERVING FOOD, EATING FOOD AND GATHERING WITH GUESTS. TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE ALL THESE FUNCTIONS, DESIGNER AVIAN ROGERS CHOSE NOT TO INSTALL MATCHING WATERFALLS ON EACH END OF THE ISLAND BUT INSTEAD SELECTED A LONG OVERHANG FOR ONE END THAT WOULD BE IDEAL FOR SERVING FOOD WHEN THE HOMEOWNERS ENTERTAIN.

The best kitchens blend style and substance—great to look at, fun to hang out in and, most important, easy spaces for cooking and entertaining. This kitchen ticks all those boxes now, but it wasn't the case when Avian Rogers and her team from Moderne Builders in Palm Springs, California, first saw the space. "The kitchen was pathetically dated and, frankly, had been done at some point with very low-grade 'country' cabinets that didn't suit the house in the least and cheap Formica countertops," Avian says.



design **MUST-HAVES:**

- Natural light from newly installed windows
- Additional light from sleek fixtures
- A large, functional island

WHAT MAKES IT MCM?

- Warm-hued wood cabinetry
- Clean lines
- Easy flow between the indoor and outdoor spaces

FITTING UPDATES

For a midcentury home surrounded by mountains in the heart of the Southern California desert, this dated kitchen just wouldn't do. The homeowners wanted something better fitting their modern home that would also be functional when they entertained. Over a six-month renovation, which also included updating both of the home's bathrooms, Avian set about achieving these goals in a manner suiting not only the home's original style but also its stunning natural surroundings.

"Given that the house is a classic Palm Springs midcentury home, in a neighborhood adored by midcentury enthusiasts, we wanted to bring in themes from the period like clerestory windows," Avian says. "Opening up the kitchen and updating the style and function were at the top of the list."

LET THERE BE LIGHT

The clerestory windows were added in the nearby living room (as well as the master) and the sliders were reframed to bring the outdoors—and natural light—in to the once-drab kitchen. A partition wall at the entry was removed to make more space for the island and to make the kitchen more prominent for visitors. Gloss white was selected for the countertops and lower cabinets, with walnut chosen for the uppers and island. The ceilings were painted white to further brighten the space. Light-reflecting polished concrete was selected for the floors. Contemporary furnishings with a midcentury sensibility were chosen for the new space. The hanging light fixtures were installed based on the style and drama they would add.

Combined together, all these elements add up to a kitchen that perfectly suits this midcentury home. "The kitchen is a wonderful complement to the overall vision of the house and certainly 'the hub' of activity for the family and guests," Avian says. "It also works beautifully into the overall space as the walnut treatments add to the furnishings." (For more about Moderne Builders, visit modebuild.com.)



WANT TO SEE MORE?
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(TOP) MODERN IN SPIRIT, THE CLEAN-LINED, CONTEMPORARY APPLIANCES ARE A PERFECT MATCH FOR THE KITCHEN'S OVERALL AESTHETIC. THE BRIGHT WHITE REFRIGERATOR BLENDS SEAMLESSLY WITH THE GLOSS-WHITE CABINETS AND CAESARSTONE COUNTERTOPS.

(ABOVE) NOW RETURNED TO ITS MODERN ROOTS, THE KITCHEN FLOWS HARMONIOUSLY WITH THE REST OF THE HOME. THE WHITE-PAINTED CEILING AND POLISHED CONCRETE FLOOR UNIFY THE KITCHEN AND LIVING ROOM. THE WALNUT CABINETS COMPLEMENT THE FURNISHINGS FOUND THROUGHOUT THE HOME.

/REAL HOME 101/

TYPE OF HOME: 1960 single-story

ARCHITECT: William Krisel

BACKGROUND: Originally a second home, this mid-1950s desert residence had been updated with a cookie-cutter contemporary kitchen that just didn't fit.

COLOR SCHEME: Gloss-white and warm walnut with touches of chrome and black

INNOVATIVE IDEA: Instead of having a waterfall on both ends of the countertop, one end was extended with a long overhang to provide a serving space when the homeowners entertain.


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Hillside *Renewal*



The meticulous restoration of Albert Frey's 1955 Cree House

By **Lindsay Jarvis** | Photography by **Dan Chavkin**

Interior décor by **Nicholas Lawrence Design & Modern Hacienda**, in partnership with **Knoll**

TUCKED INTO THE ROCKY HILLSIDE, THE STONE FIREPLACE ON THE SIDE OF THE HOUSE ANCHORS THE HOME TO THE SITE. CORRUGATED STEEL ROOFING ONLY NEEDED SOME PAINT DURING THE EXTENSIVE RESTORATION.



ALBERT FREY UTILIZED PILOTIS TO ELEVATE THE CREE HOUSE FROM THE ROCKY HILLSIDE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE STONE FIREPLACE, INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS WERE USED FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE HOME.



Architect Albert Frey was born in Switzerland and,

during his early career, worked under Modernist pioneer Le Corbusier. Frey came to Palm Springs in the 1930s and went on to live and work in the desert city, creating many iconic buildings and homes including Palm Springs City Hall, The Aerial Tramway Valley Station and Frey House II. Though not quite as well-known—the home is often referred to as “The Forgotten Frey”—the Cree House was built in 1955 by Frey for real estate developer Raymond Cree and serves as a gorgeous example of Frey’s residential work.

Sam Harris, owner of local favorite Sherman's Deli & Bakery, spent some time growing up in the Cree House during the 1970s when his father owned the home. Sam went on to rent it from his stepmother in the late '80s/early '90s and spent about four to five years living there, noting "When I was there, it was perfect." Eventually he moved out, and the home changed hands several times but stayed within the family. When Sam bought the house back in 2017, he set out to meticulously restore the home with the help of builder and contractor John Vugrin.

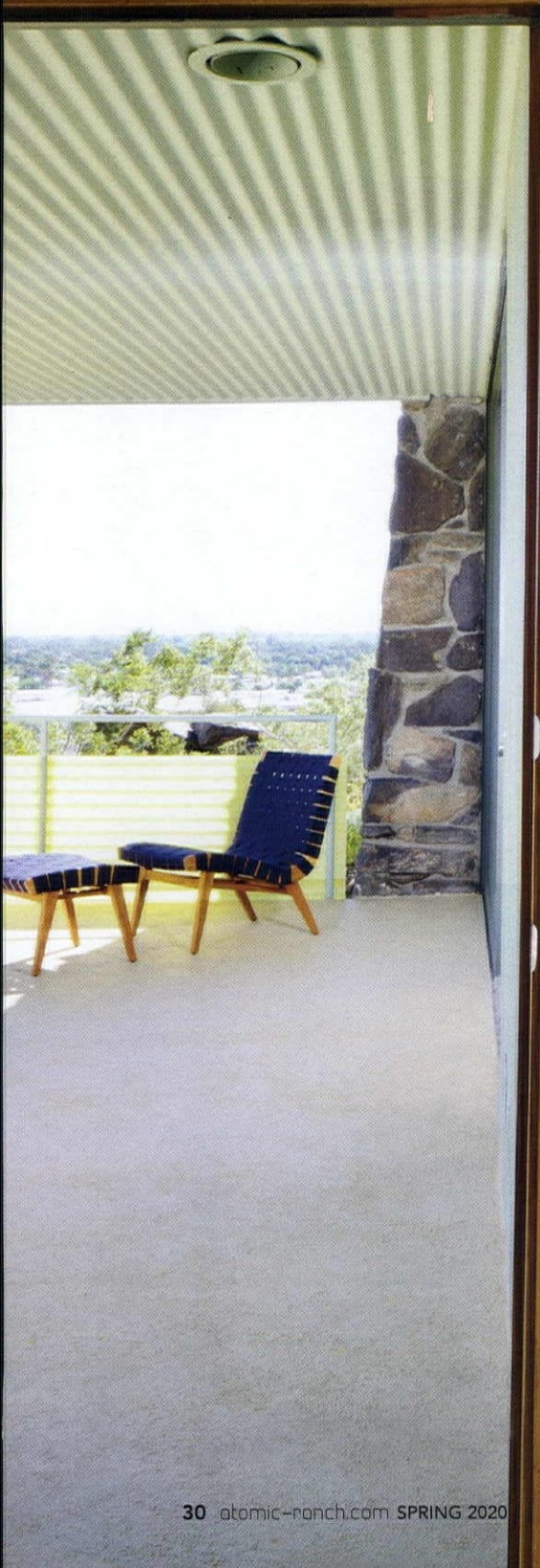
BELOW: THE FIREPLACE WAS CLEANED BY HAND UNTIL THE BLACK GROUT WAS RESTORED, BUT IT TOOK A BIT OF EXTRA EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THE ORIGINAL WHITE COLOR. "THEY HAD BURNED A LOT OF WOOD FIRES IN THERE OVER THE YEARS, AND THE SMOKE HAD RUINED IT, AND THEN SOMEBODY VARNISHED OVER IT. SO AFTER I STRIPPED IT, IT STILL WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH, SO I MADE A FAUX PAINT," EXPLAINS JOHN.



WHERE TO BEGIN

Due to rust, all the piping had to be redone. Sam notes that gas, plumbing and electrical are all new. While not a lot of work was required for the exterior of the house, the whole winding road leading up the hillside had to be completely redone. To avoid damaging the creosote plants on the road edges, they were carefully removed before the large machinery went up the hill, then replaced. "Those same trees are there that have been there forever," says Sam.

The majority of the vertical grain Douglas fir paneling throughout the home's interior needed to be redone. John pulled off the panels that were damaged and brought them to a lumber company, where he searched through "reams of plywood to pick out ones that match the original." Not only were those damaged panels helpful in finding replacements, but John was able to reuse them. "In the kitchen we saved the drawer fronts and everything the best we could, but we had to make some new ones, so what I did was I took the old [panels] and stripped them and used that to make the doors in the kitchen. So, the kitchen is all original paneling, but it came from different places in the house," explains John.





TOP LEFT: WHILE THE UPPER-RIGHT DOORS MAY LOOK LIKE CABINETS, THEY ARE ACTUALLY A HANGING REFRIGERATOR THAT WAS REPAINTED AT AN AUTOBODY SHOP AND FULLY RESTORED TO WORKING CONDITION.

TOP RIGHT: THE ORIGINAL WESTERN HOLLY OVEN BRINGS WARMTH AND DIMENSION TO THE KITCHEN WITH ITS RICH TONES.

BOTTOM RIGHT: SAM AND JOHN WERE UNABLE TO FIND A REPLICA FOR THE ORIGINAL ASBESTOS FLOORING, WHICH HAD BEEN REPLACED WITH TILE, SO THEY MATCHED THE LOOK AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE IN THE NEW VINYL TILE. ORIGINAL DAMAGED PANELS IN OTHER PARTS OF THE HOME WERE STRIPPED AND REUSED AS DRAWER FRONTS AND DOORS THAT NEEDED REPLACING IN THE KITCHEN.



Restoring the original hanging **General Electric refrigerator**, unique in its design and color, was one of the biggest challenges.



BOTTOM LEFT: STONE STEPS LEAD UP FROM THE CARPORT TO THE SUNDECK AND MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE RIGHT.

BOTTOM RIGHT: UNABLE TO REPLACE THE CORRUGATED FIBERGLASS FENCING, JOHN HAD TO RESTORE THE ORIGINAL PANELS ONE BY ONE. "AND NOW IT POPS WHEN YOU DRIVE BY; YOU SEE IT," SAYS SAM. THE YELLOW COLOR Pairs BEAUTIFULLY WITH NEIGHBORING YELLOW FLOWERS IN SEASON.

OPPOSITE: THE EXTERIOR ASBESTOS SIDING NEEDED REPAIRS TO ROUGHLY 30 OR 40 HOLES WHERE PIPES HAD PENETRATED THE HOUSE ON THE BACK SIDE. JOHN USED AN EPOXY FILLER, THEN REPLICATED THE ORIGINAL SILK SCREEN DESIGN USING A TINY BRUSH OR TOOTHPICK. THE ROCK WALL SEEN HERE WAS ADDED TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM FALLING DOWN THE STEPS.



A CHILLING CHALLENGE

Restoring the original hanging General Electric refrigerator, unique in its design and color, was one of the biggest challenges. After taking the heavy unit down, Sam says he “took it to a friend of mine’s autobody shop and had the whole thing all repainted, the vents taken out of it, and then we had a new compressor put in it and had all the shelving redone.” Getting the fridge off the wall was the easy part, but the team had to be extremely careful when replacing the unit. “We had to ramp it all the way up, over the top of the counter. And all the wood had already been put in, so we had to be very careful not to scratch anything when we put it back,” he remembers. Thankfully, the hard work paid off, and the fridge is not only functional, but restored to its original rich hue.



OPPOSITE TOP: THE DECK WAS PREVIOUSLY A "ROOF MATERIAL" AND AT ONE POINT WAS ACTUALLY ASTROTURF. IT WAS IN BAD SHAPE AND HAD TO BE REBUILT, BUT NOW PROVIDES A PLACE TO RELAX AND ENJOY FABULOUS VIEWS.

"It was fun;
it was a lot of
work; it was
crazy."

—Sam Harris

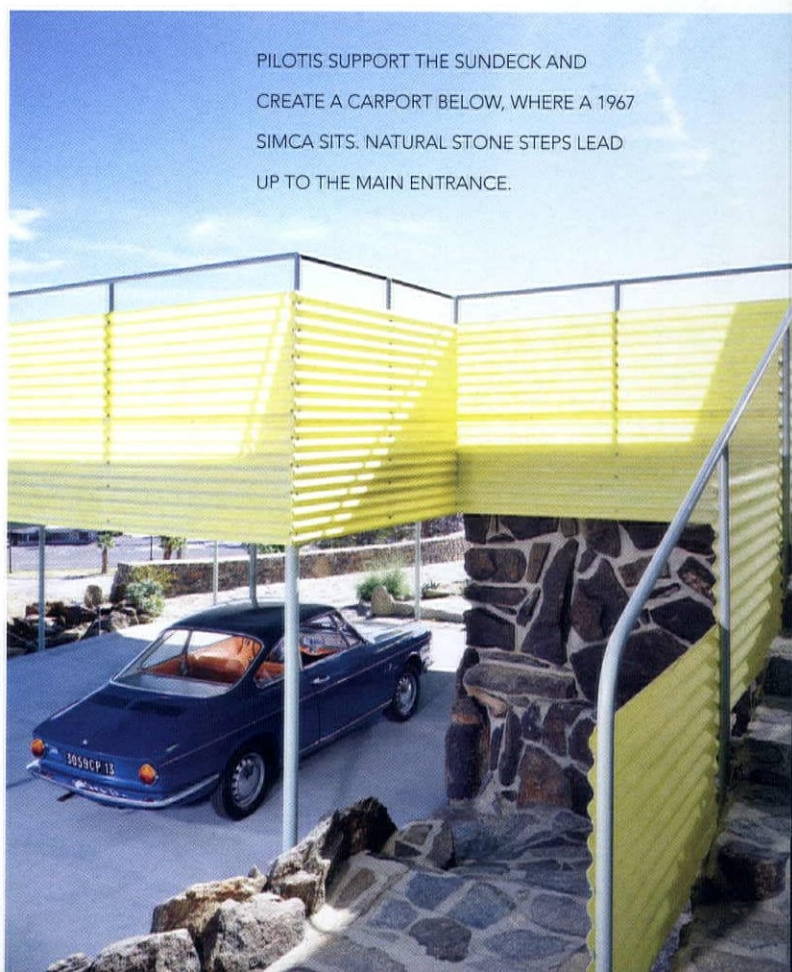




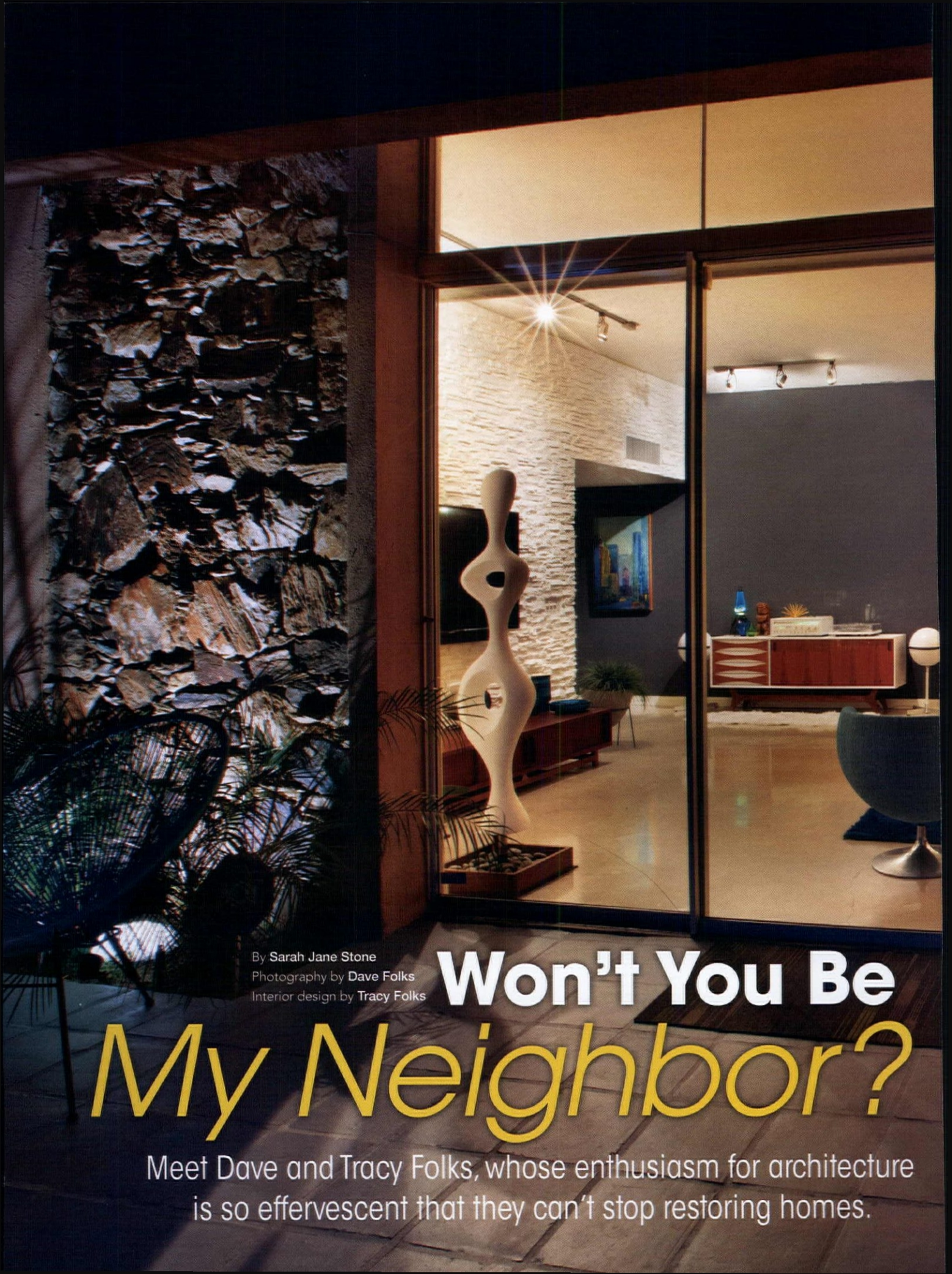
ON THE FENCE

The yellow fiberglass corrugated fencing that surrounds the home is original but had seen some damage and had been painted green over the years. While the green color helped to camouflage the house, Sam decided to restore the fence panels back to their 1955 yellow. John explains the painstaking process: "I took off the paneling; I just made a huge 10-foot long sink and soaked the fiberglass panels in acetone and stripped everything and put it back together."

The Cree house shines once again, thanks to the detailed and thorough work of Sam and John. "It was fun; it was a lot of work; it was crazy," Sam says of his restoration experience. "When I got this house, I didn't really realize what I was getting into, but once you start you can't stop!"



PILOTIS SUPPORT THE SUNDECK AND
CREATE A CARPORT BELOW, WHERE A 1967
SIMCA SITS. NATURAL STONE STEPS LEAD
UP TO THE MAIN ENTRANCE.



By Sarah Jane Stone
Photography by Dave Folks
Interior design by Tracy Folks

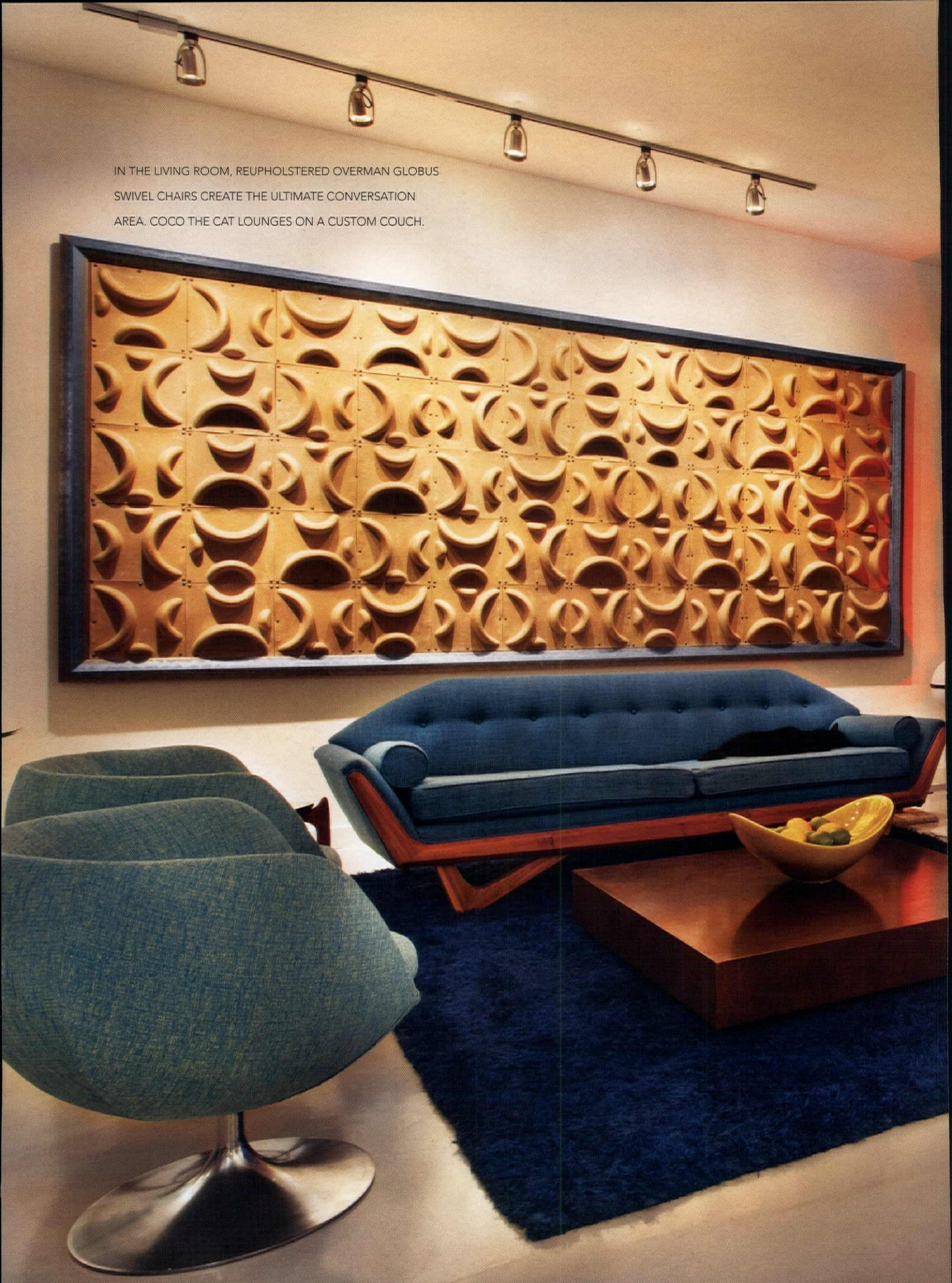
Won't You Be *My Neighbor?*

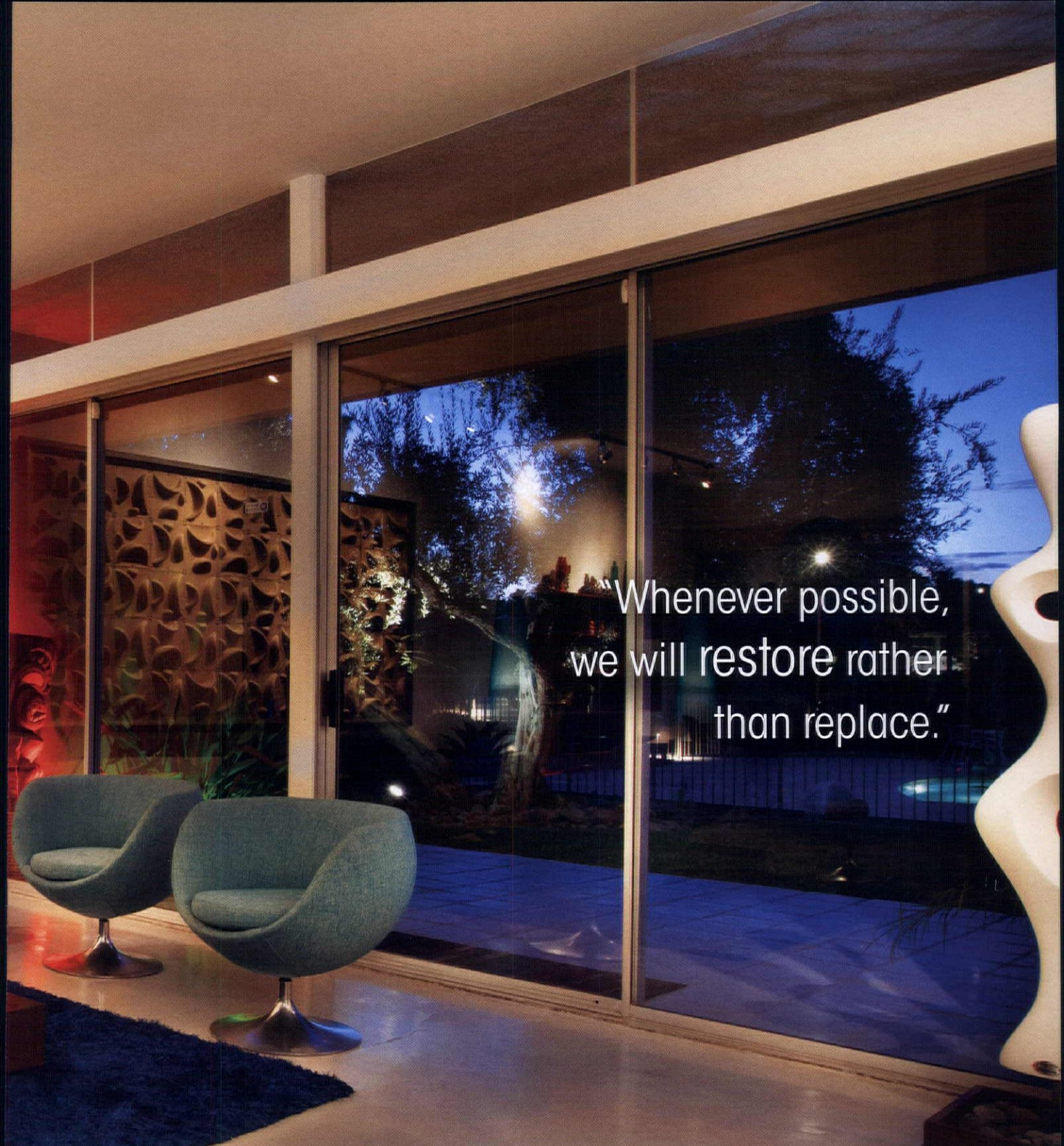
Meet Dave and Tracy Folks, whose enthusiasm for architecture is so effervescent that they can't stop restoring homes.



WHEN ASKED HOW THEY CHOOSE BETWEEN VINTAGE AND NEW FURNISHINGS, THE HOMEOWNERS SHARE THAT IT ALL COMES DOWN TO AESTHETIC. "WE TRY FINDING PIECES THAT WORK TOGETHER REGARDLESS OF AGE OR CONDITION, SO FINDING THE RIGHT PIECES OFTEN NECESSITATES RESTORATION," SAYS DAVE. "IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO FIND UNUSUAL VINTAGE PIECES, BUT WE'D RATHER HOLD OUT FOR SOMETHING WE LOVE THAN SETTLE FOR SOMETHING THAT JUST FITS."

IN THE LIVING ROOM, REUPHOLSTERED OVERMAN GLOBUS
SWIVEL CHAIRS CREATE THE ULTIMATE CONVERSATION
AREA. COCO THE CAT LOUNGES ON A CUSTOM COUCH.





“Whenever possible,
we will restore rather
than replace.”

Architectural purists

typically cringe when they discover that a wake of renovated homes comes with their new neighbors. Fears of builder-grade “improvements” and the loss of period details flash before their eyes as the real estate agent’s sign is ripped from the front lawn. Purists, you can loosen that grip on your pearls because Dave and Tracy Folks have arrived, and you’re going to wish they’d lend their talents to your home.

Dave, a professional photographer, and Tracy, a regional office manager, designer and artist, treat their homes like a large-scale art project—mindfully curating, crafting and cultivating a period-appropriate aesthetic. This 1964 Rancho Mirage gem by S. Charles Lee is their 11th masterpiece, and it certainly won’t be their last.



THE VINTAGE YAMAHA SYSTEM, JVC ORB SPEAKERS AND EVEN THE 1969 HONDA MOTORCYCLE WERE ALL LOVINGLY RESTORED BY DAVE. THE FAUX ROCK WALL PAYS HOMAGE TO THE HOME'S EXTERIOR ROCK FEATURES.

THE DESERT IS CALLING

At the time that this two-bedroom, two-bath Tamarisk West home hit the market, the couple had put the finishing touches on a Palos Verdes beach house with ocean views. Because they had previously owned two midcentury homes in the Palm Springs area, this particular neighborhood had long been on their radar. It wasn't uncommon for them to scroll sites like RedFin or Zillow to keep an eye out for new listings.

During a holiday getaway in the desert over Christmas 2017, Dave and Tracy noticed one such listing and quickly scheduled a viewing with their real estate agent. It was love at first sight. There were beautiful exterior rock walls and floor-to-ceiling glass throughout the house, and multiple skylights flooded the home with light. They were captivated by the original layout, with its high ceilings, enormous rooms and an oversized private interior patio with a dynamic cinder block wall design.



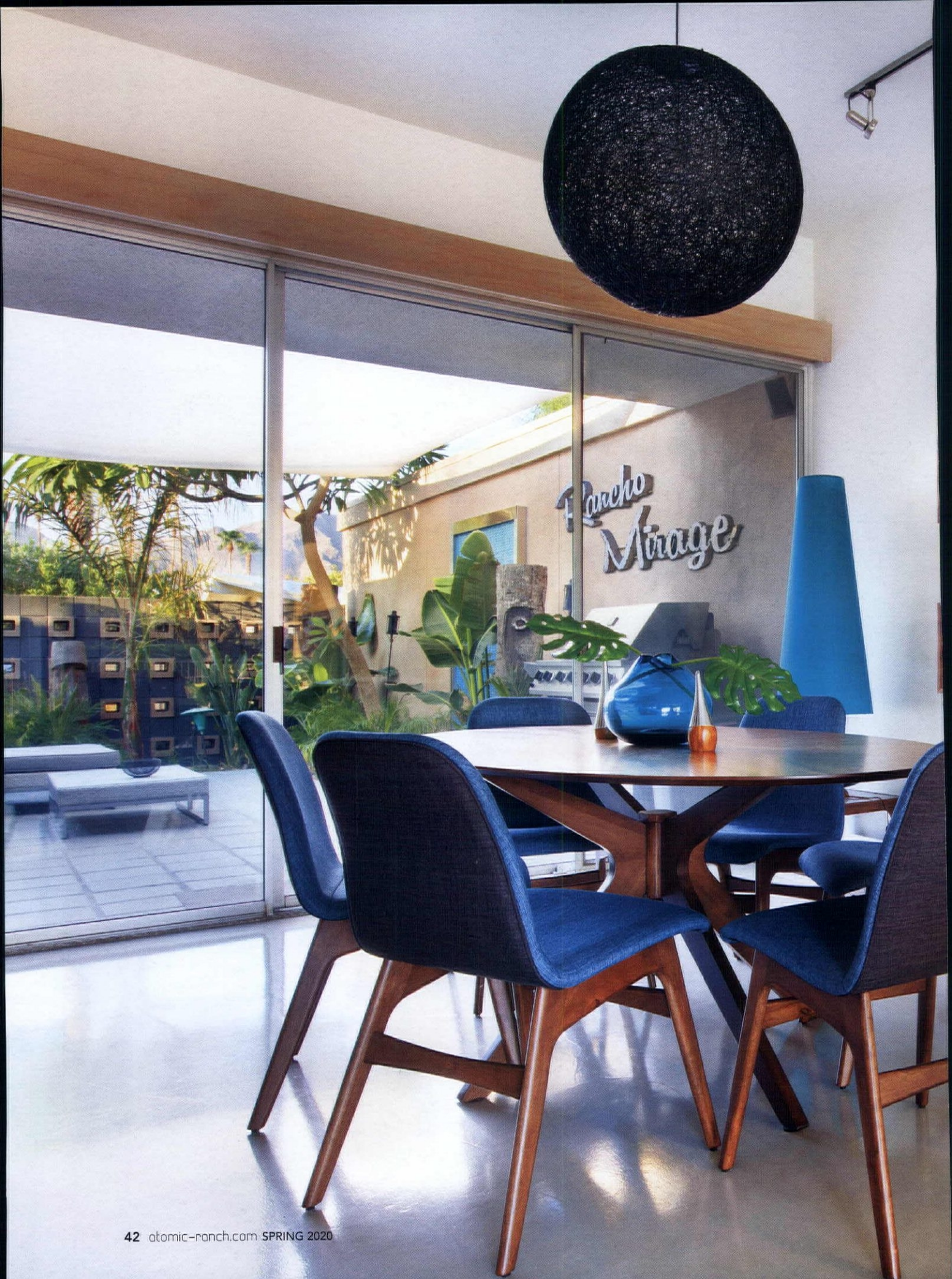


Finding the right furnishings and art sometimes takes months or years, but it is well worth the wait when you find that special treasure.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM LEFT: THE OUTDOOR COURTYARD CONNECTS TO THE DINING AREA AND MASTER BEDROOM. AN IRIDESCENT WATER FEATURE—CREATED BY DAVE AND TRACY—MIMICS THE SOOTHING SOUND OF RAIN AS WATER GENTLY CASCADES ONTO BAMBOO RODS BELOW. PERFECTLY PLACED EXTERIOR LIGHTING FURTHER SETS THE RELAXING MOOD.

OPPOSITE BOTTOM RIGHT: WITH HOMES SITUATED ADJACENT TO THE FAMED TAMARISK WEST COUNTRY CLUB, TAMARISK WEST RESIDENTS CAN ENJOY THE COUNTRY CLUB VIA MEMBERSHIP. “THESE

TOWNHOMES WERE BUILT TO ALLOW MIDDLE-CLASS PERSONS, REGARDLESS OF RACE OR RELIGIOUS PERSUASION, TO OWN A PIECE OF THE PALM SPRINGS RESORT LIFESTYLE,” SAYS TRACY. “FORMERLY, YOU WERE BARRED FROM COUNTRY CLUB MEMBERSHIPS UNLESS YOU WERE WHITE AND CHRISTIAN. THE MARX BROTHERS, WHO WERE COFOUNDERS OF THE TWCC, OPENED UP THE DOORS TO EVERYONE, WHICH WAS AN ENTIRELY NEW AND PROGRESSIVE CONCEPT IN THE EARLY 1960s.”



THROUGHOUT THE HOME'S INTERIOR, SALTILLO TILE WAS REPLACED BY ARDEX FLOORING. IN THE DINING AREA, A CUSTOM HUTCH DISPLAYS AN IMPRESSIVE COLLECTION OF VINTAGE PIECES AND TIKI MUGS.

TOP RIGHT: "THE RAY GUN DISPLAY IS A MIX OF NEW AND VINTAGE MODELS I FOUND AT FLEA MARKETS MOSTLY, AND A COUPLE OF STEAMPUNK GUNS THAT I CREATED," SAYS DAVE.



Unsurprisingly, they submitted an offer on the Tamarisk West house and put their beach home on the market the following day. Fast forward six weeks and both escrows had closed, and the couple were making their way to the desert.

"We knew that relocating to Palm Springs full-time was going to be a life-changing move, but we had to follow our hearts and our instincts, which have always guided us well in our other real estate purchases," says Tracy. "We are always ready to roll up our sleeves and dig into the next renovation project. We are so happy we made the leap of faith and have no regrets."

WHAT WOULD S. CHARLES LEE DO?

When asked why they choose to renovate, Dave says, "It's in our blood. We love doing it." Proving this point, the couple was so involved in the renovation process that, "other than the addition of the Ardex flooring, we did all our own work." That work focused on highlighting the home's midcentury aesthetic and staying true to the architect's original vision. They didn't change the 1,960 square foot floorplan at all.

"The floors had to be done first because we had to rip out 2,000 square feet of Saltillo tile before the Ardex could be poured. After that, we relandscaped the patios for a more tropical look and built the water wall, which we designed ourselves. We also added an interior rock wall that wraps around from the living room to the entry hallway." Additionally, the couple updated the bathrooms and kitchen without removing the original cabinets and countertops and extended a kitchen door entrance.

Despite their commitment to preserving original features, there is one new feature the couple was excited to add: the living room rock wall. Having been drawn to the home's exterior rock features, they felt confident that the natural element needed to extend indoors, especially given the home's fluid indoor/outdoor design, but they didn't want to make the living room feel dark. Tracy's solution was to source white faux rock and create a striking contrast with a dark gray accent wall.



THIS MASTER BEDROOM FOCAL POINT IS "TAKEOUT" ON A WHOLE NEW LEVEL. THE PANELS ORIGINALLY CAME FROM A CHINESE RESTAURANT THAT WAS BEING TORN DOWN. DESPITE NOT BEING ENTIRELY CERTAIN WHAT THEY'D USE THEM FOR, THE HOMEOWNERS BOUGHT TWO PANELS AND LATER WENT BACK FOR A THIRD. EVENTUALLY, THEY BUILT A BASE WITH LIGHTING COMPONENTS, CREATING AN ENTIRELY UNIQUE HEADBOARD.


SWINGIN' '60s STYLE

Rather than work with an interior designer, Dave and Tracy rely on their natural instinct and extensive research. Fortunately, the design-savvy duo agrees on most things when it comes to art and furnishings.

Even so, the couple had differing opinions as to which pieces they were most excited to bring into their Tamarisk West home. For Dave, it's the vintage JVC/Yamaha system he renovated specifically for this house. "It's the third of its type that I've done. The others were sold with previous properties," he says. "I also restored the vintage 1969 Honda CB160 motorcycle in the entry. I've been photographing vehicles for Honda Motorcycles

for many years and have always been a huge Honda fan, so this is a little shrine to my compulsion."

For Tracy, the honor belongs to their custom-made Adrian Pearsall-style couch and the four original Overman Globus swivel chairs, which they had reupholstered. "I am also a huge fan of unique midcentury lamps, and I design unusual lamp shades to enhance the ceramic bases," she says.

Their golden rule is "if you don't both agree on something, be patient until you find something you both agree on." While this approach is perhaps a little more time-consuming, the end result is a home that feels authentically their own. 

"We try to retain the original features wherever possible, while ensuring any upgrades and additions are a **complement to midcentury aesthetics.**"



TOP RIGHT: DAVE AND TRACY HAVE SOURCED MANY OF THEIR UNIQUE VINTAGE TREASURES FROM FLEA MARKETS, THRIFT STORES, YARD SALES, EBAY AND CRAIGSLIST. SHE SAYS THAT ANYTIME THEY CAN GET THEIR HANDS ON PIECES BY FAVORITES SUCH AS RICHARD NEUTRA AND ADRIAN PEARSALL, "IT IS A GOOD DAY." THEIR PENCHANT FOR SPOTTING SUCH FINDS HAS RESULTED IN AN IMPECCABLY STYLED HOME.

BOTTOM RIGHT: WHITE DECALS CREATE A MOD BACKDROP FOR THE GUEST BEDROOM.



THE HOMEOWNERS CHOSE A TUFTED LOUNGE BY JOYBIRD NEAR THE WINDOW TO PROVIDE SEATING WITHOUT OBSTRUCTING THE VIEW. THE PALE-YELLOW CHAIRS ARE VINTAGE BY THE DARING 20TH-CENTURY DESIGNER JAMES MONT (1904–1978).



GOOD DAY, *Sunshine*

By Kathryn Drury Wagner
Photography by Ruben Vargas Jr

An iconic Palm Springs neighborhood and rich collection of vintage furnishings gave these homeowners an irresistible palette to play with.



Palm Springs' Park Imperial South neighborhood dates to 1960 and was designed by Barry Berkus. With 30 homes featuring distinctive folded roofs, concrete block and floors made using poured terrazzo, the desirable area had been calling out to Ossie Saguil and Craig Mann. The couple have enviable style and impressive resumes: Ossie is a practicing physician, a vintage collector and CEO of Mr. Mann's Design in Palm Springs. Craig Mann is the chief designer at Mr. Mann's Design, which provides interior design as well as production and event services. He is also an accomplished singer and performer. (For more about Mr. Mann's Design, visit mrmannsdesign.com.)

IN ORDER FOR THE HOME TO GET HISTORICAL STATUS—AND A NICE TAX SAVINGS—IT HAD TO HAVE TWO KEY ELEMENTS PARK IMPERIAL SOUTH IS KNOWN FOR: THE CONCRETE BLOCK AND THE FOLDED ROOF. THE BLUE ON THE DOOR IS THE HOA-SET COLOR FOR DOORS IN THE DEVELOPMENT.

The home's unique folded roof creates sun and shade patterns that shift throughout the day, adding further visual interest.



(BOTTOM) ORIGINALLY THE YARD HAD SEVERAL FIGUS TREES, WHICH WERE REMOVED TO OPEN UP THE VIEW. TO INCORPORATE SOMETHING GREEN, YET DROUGHT-FRIENDLY, THE COUPLE WERE MULLING OVER ARTIFICIAL GRASS. "AND THAT LED US TO THINK PUTTING GREEN," SAYS OSSIE. "THIS IS PALM SPRINGS, AFTER ALL." THE MIDCENTURY CONCRETE PLANTER WAS REIMAGINED AS BENCH SEATING.





Longtime residents of Palm Springs, they had been eyeing the Park Imperial South neighborhood, and in 2015 opportunity knocked. "We took a look at the property and from the outside, I knew that regardless of what was on the inside, I was going to buy it," says Ossie. "You just know when something this rare comes up." Sure, the place smelled like old dog, but there were tons of original features and chic midcentury style. The couple took on the project.

(TOP) THE REMODEL EXPANDED THE KITCHEN, RECLAIMING SPACE THAT HAD BEEN A VERY SMALL, UNUSABLE OUTDOOR LANAI. THE HOME HAS ORIGINAL FORMICA IN THE BATHROOMS; THE KITCHEN HAS A SIMILAR SUNNY STYLE BY JONATHAN ADLER FOR FORMICA THAT CLOSELY MATCHES.

(RIGHT) WHILE THE APPLIANCES ARE APPEALINGLY RETRO IN APPEARANCE, THEY ARE MODERN CONFECTIONS CREATED BY ELMIRA STOVE WORKS. THE RANGE HOOD CAME FROM ANOTHER NEIGHBORHOOD BY BARRY BERKUS AND WAS RESTORED BY A BODY SHOP.



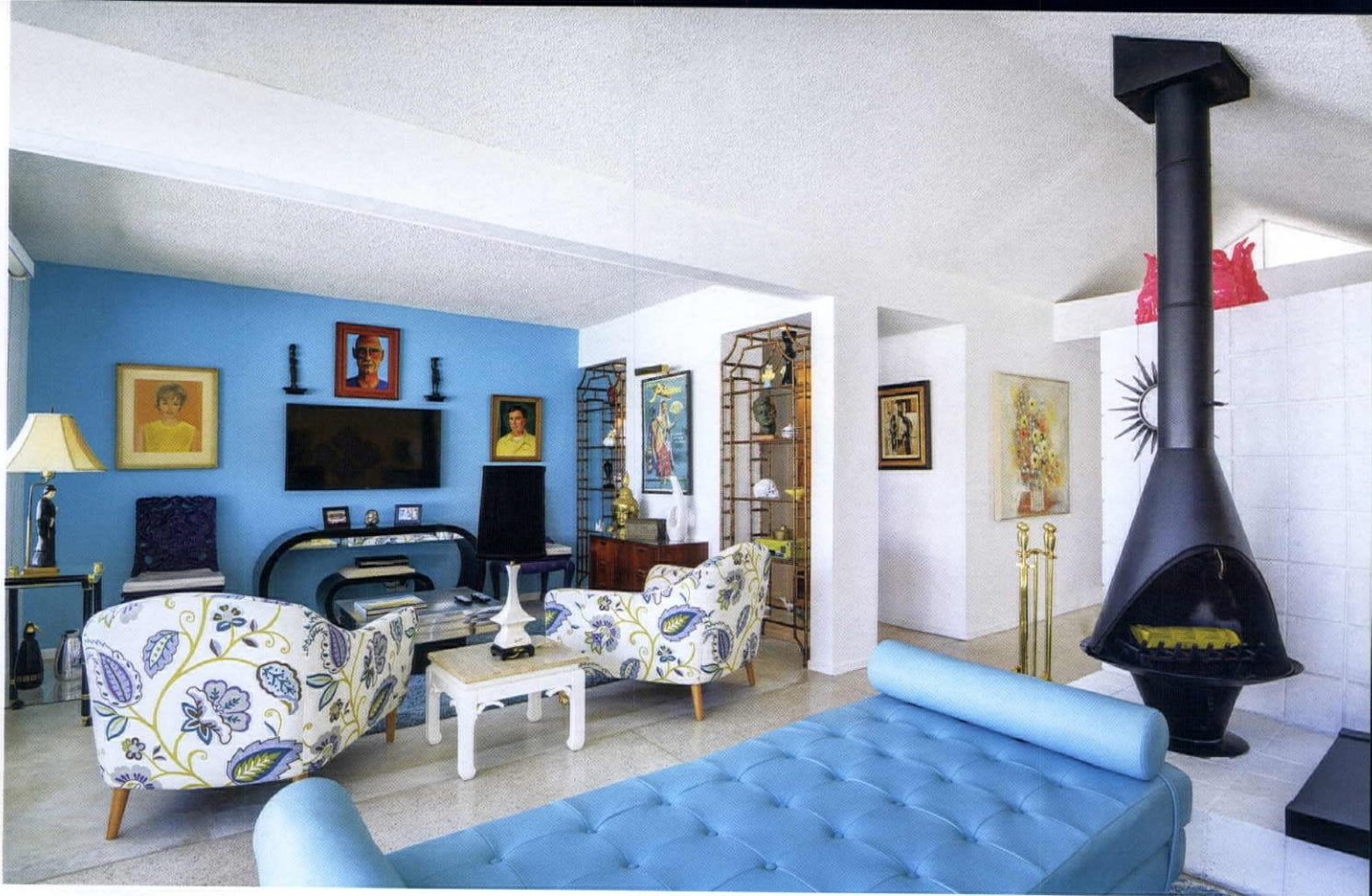
“Here in Palm Springs, if you see something, **you** have to buy it, or it will be gone.”



LOVE A COLORFUL KITCHEN? CHECK OUT A ROUNDUP OF OUR FAVORITES AT [ATOMIC-RANCH.COM](http://atomic-ranch.com).

THE VINTAGE HUTCH WAS DISCOVERED IN PALM SPRINGS. "WE TROLL THE STORES HERE," SAYS OSSIE. THE CUTOUTS ON THE WALLS—LIKE GIANT LACE—WERE MADE BY HIS MOTHER. THE CAMPAIGN TABLES ARE ALSO VINTAGE; HE GOT THEM AT A CONSIGNMENT STORE.





(TOP) THE FIREPLACE IS WORKING AND PERIOD-APPROPRIATE, BUT NOT ORIGINAL TO THE HOUSE. THE DESIGNERS CHOSE TO KEEP IT BLACK TO PROVIDE CONTRAST WITH ALL THE SUNNY YELLOWS AND ROBIN'S-EGG BLUES. PORTRAITS ON THE WALL ARE VINTAGE AND WERE CHOSEN BECAUSE OF THE COLORS THE SUBJECTS ARE WEARING. (BOTTOM) A GARAGE-SALE FIND, THE MIRROR WAS REFRESHED WITH BLUE PAINT.





(TOP) "A LOT OF OUR ART IS PERSONAL," SAYS OSSIE. "CONTEMPORARY ARTIST ALEX KOLESSAR CALLED THIS PIECE '1969' BECAUSE THAT IS WHEN THE MOON LANDING WAS, WHICH GOES WITH THE 1960s HOME THEME." THE NIGHTSTANDS ARE VINTAGE ELLO. THE SHAG RUG WAS REDONE AND ALSO PERIOD APPROPRIATE.



(LEFT) IN THE MASTER BATH, YOU CAN SEE THE ORIGINAL FORMICA COUNTERTOPS. "WE HAD TO FIND TWO SINKS THAT WOULD FIT THE AREA AND LUCKILY FOUND SOME, BARELY, THAT FIT," SAYS OSSIE. THE MEDICINE CABINET IS ORIGINAL, AS ARE THE GLOBE LIGHT, JALOUSIE WINDOWS, TERRAZZO FLOORS AND CABINETS.



THE VINTAGE ART IS BY LEROY NEIMAN, AN AMERICAN ARTIST KNOWN FOR HIS VIBRANT DEPICTIONS OF SPORTING SCENES. "THAT WAS A REAL SCORE; I GOT IT FOR \$25," SAYS OSSIE, "I LOVE THAT THE GUY IS PLAYING HANDBALL, WHICH IS SO RETRO."

Pro tip: Mismatched vintage nightstands echo each other, giving a more Bohemian vibe than identical twin tables.

One big challenge lurked in the kitchen: replacing an iconic—but missing—atomic-era range hood that resembles a mermaid tail. The style can be found throughout the Park Imperial South complex, but a previous owner had taken this one out. "I wasn't sure how to get another one, or to get a blueprint of it and try to have a new one fabricated," says Ossie. But the original architect, Barry Berkus, had also done Palm Springs' Merito Manor neighborhood, and Ossie happened to find someone there selling an original hood. "It was the same hood, but in terrible condition." A body shop helped get it back in fighting shape, and the enamel, a robin's-egg blue, provided inspiration for the rest of the home's color palette. Throughout, it's a sunny lemon and robin's-egg blue color scheme that calls to mind a Slim Aarons' poolside daydream.

Now, says Ossie, "You feel such happiness when you walk into this house." We couldn't agree more. 🌀

Want more?

Watch a video about this home on Joybird's Style Stories webpage! blog.joybird.com/the-weekend-retreat/

THE HOME'S COLOR PALETTE WAS INFLUENCED BY THE TROPICAL THEME AND THE HOMEOWNERS' FAVORITE COLORS OF TURQUOISE AND PINK.



By Devlin Smith
Photography by Patrick Ketchum, Courtesy of H3K

Tropical Retreat

With the help of an enthusiastic design team, a retired couple creates their forever home in this tiki-themed unit at a famed Palm Springs complex.



W

hen Carlos Cardoza and his team at H3K Design began work on Darryl and Michele Burns' Palm Springs home, they had a blank slate. "It was essentially an empty space with just a little wallpaper on a few of the walls," Carlos says.

With the full support of the Burnses, Carlos was able to transform the space into a tropical paradise befitting its locale—a unit within the Royal Hawaiian Estates, designed by Donald Wexler and Richard Harrison. Built between 1959 and 1960, the complex is made up of 12 buildings with 40 units across five acres in the Southern California desert. Now a historically designated property, Royal Hawaiian Estates features a blending of tropical and modern styles, with elements including peaked rooflines, clerestory windows, triangular apexes and bright pops of color.

The couple—former Los Angeles residents—retired to Palm Springs two years ago after many years of vacationing in the city. Drawn to the desert community by its serenity, beauty, feel and midcentury architecture, the Burnses knew they wanted to



reside in a historic property. Their first Palm Springs home was contemporary, not at all what they were looking for. When this unit became available in the Royal Hawaiian Estates, they knew it was the one. "We viewed a unit that was available for sale, and it was truly love at first sight," Michele shares. "We had finally found what we'd been looking for! We immediately purchased it and have been having fun with it ever since."

GETTING STARTED

In Carlos, the couple found a designer as excited about their new home and its aesthetic as they were. "When Michele first came into our H3K Design office to inquire about our decorating services, she told me that she and her husband Darryl had just purchased a unit at The Royal Hawaiian Estates," Carlos remembers. "I immediately said, 'I would love to decorate your place if you let me do it in full tiki style,' to which she replied with an enthusiastic 'Yes!'"

BELOW RIGHT: THE TIKI THEME IS A CONSTANT THROUGHOUT THE HOME, INFORMING EVERYTHING FROM THE WALL COVERINGS TO THE LIGHTING TO THE CUSHION UPHOLSTERY IN THIS EATING AREA.

BOTTOM RIGHT: AN UNUSED BEDROOM WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A BAR/LOUNGE AREA. THE DESIGN TEAM SAVED TIME AND MONEY BY HANGING A PHOTOREALISTIC ROCK PAPER MURAL INSTEAD OF INSTALLING A ROCK WALL.





TOP: COOL BLUES AND GREENS ARE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE DESIGN, CALLING TO MIND THE OCEAN AND TROPICAL GREENERY, WHILE VIBRANT TONES POP THROUGHOUT.

Carlos and team set to work delivering on this vision. The Burns use just one of the home's three bedrooms, which gave H3K the space to create a private media room and lounge/bar area for the couple. The homeowners' favorite colors of turquoise and pink informed the palette and various design choices. "I used complementary colors of cool blues and greens in the living area and incorporated the owners' favorite color and pink flamingos-theme in the kitchen and dining rooms," says Carlos.

CREATIVE SOLUTIONS

Wall coverings played an important role in giving the home just the right feel. "[Michele] wanted to have a rock wall in the lounge/bar area, which would have been extremely expensive," Carlos explains. "I was able to give her a lounge/bar area with the feel that she wanted by using a photorealistic rock paper mural. Some of the old wallpaper was removed and replaced with more updated tiki prints to tie everything together."

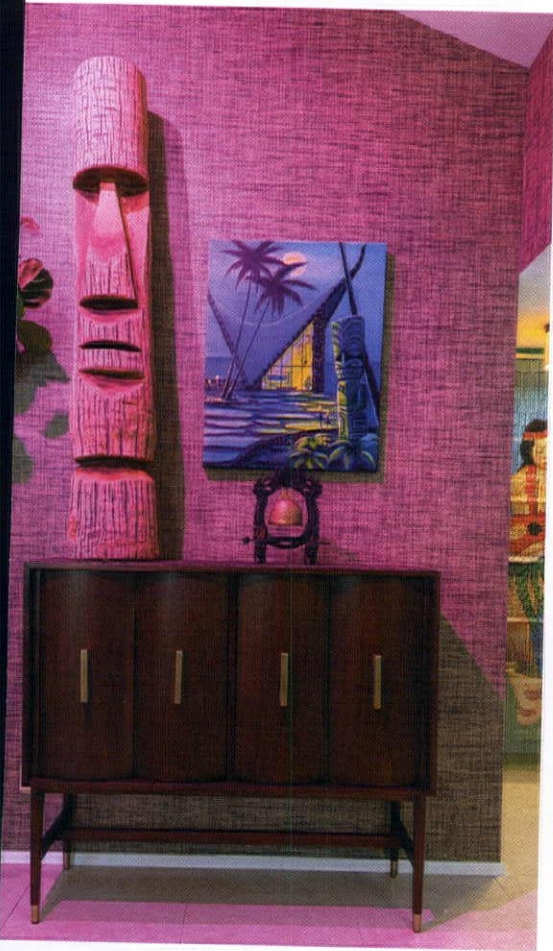
H3K also worked its magic on the home's exterior, giving the lanai space some special tropical touches. The home's previous owners get credit for a standout feature. "The tiki

head on the wall out in the lanai was a tiki that the previous owner had left on the floor," Carlos explains. "I created the round wooden frame and hung it on the wall. The tiki is called 'Suffering Bastard' after a tiki drink that is the best cure for hangovers; that's why the tiki is holding his forehead from the headache of too much drinking."

FINISHING TOUCHES

Like the piece on the lanai, décor and furnishings throughout the home are a blend of vintage and contemporary, with many items refreshed or reimaged by Carlos and H3K. Once-beige chair cushions, for example, were re-covered in floral fabrics much more befitting the tropical theme. The tiki torches found in the home's indoor and outdoor spaces offer a warm glow from LED flame light bulbs that replaced the original gas canisters.

The completed design has far exceeded the expectations of Carlos and his clients. "They have received a lot of attention and many great compliments," he says. (For more about H3K Design, visit h3kdesign.com.) "As an interior designer, it fulfills my soul to see how very happy they are living in their new space." 🌿



TOP LEFT: WHEN DECORATING, DESIGNER CARLOS CARDOZA RECOMMENDS STARTING OUT WITH A MAJOR PIECE OF FURNITURE AND BUILDING THE LOOK AROUND THAT. ACCENTED WITH COMPLEMENTARY DÉCOR, THIS STRIKING RICH-TONED MAKATI CABINET HELPS DRAW ATTENTION TO ONE WALL IN THE LIVING ROOM. TOP RIGHT: THE DESIGN TEAM AT H3K USED WALL COVERINGS THROUGHOUT THE HOME TO HELP ACHIEVE THE DESIRED AESTHETIC.

THE BAR SPACE IN THE KITCHEN HAS A WARM TROPICAL FEELING THANKS TO ITS GRASSCLOTH-LIKE WALL COVERING.

BOTTOM LEFT THIS TIKI HEAD WAS LEFT BEHIND BY THE HOME'S PREVIOUS OWNERS. DESIGNER CARLOS CARDOZA CREATED THE ROUND FRAME AND HUNG THE VINTAGE PIECE ON THE WALL.

BOTTOM RIGHT: THE HOMEOWNERS ARE ABLE TO USE THE OUTDOOR LANAI SPACE FOR LIVING AND DINING THROUGHOUT MUCH OF THE YEAR.





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15 Years of

Modernism Week: Part 2

By **Bob Bogard**

Photography Courtesy of **Modernism Week**

The annual Palm Springs event has offered visitors and locals alike the opportunity to tour iconic Midcentury Modern homes seldom open to the public. In our Winter issue, we explored some of these remarkable private residences that have been available throughout 15 years of Modernism Week, and here we share more favorites! (For more about Modernism Week, visit modernismweek.com.)



Canyon View Estates

(1962, Palmer & Krisel)

South Palm Springs

Built in the early 1960s in six stages, Canyon View Estates in South Palm Springs is a Midcentury Modern community developed by Roy Fey and designed by Dan Palmer and William Krisel. The community showed a new kind of architecture for the era, which featured innovative solutions that have now become defining features of midcentury design, such as imaginative butterfly rooflines and triangular clerestory windows that allowed light in and made the most of the views—but also provided privacy. Many of the 180 condos in this community have been meticulously restored to reflect their visionary design and its six HOAs strive to preserve the architectural style and the neighborhood's distinctive feel. The popular "Cul-de-Sac Experience" tour is held here during Modernism Week Fall Preview, and some homes are also offered as a special neighborhood tour during Modernism Week.



Theodore & Claire Morse Residence (1961, Palmer & Krisel)

Vista Las Palmas Neighborhood

This home, part of the Alexander tract designed by the firm of Palmer & Krisel, was built in 1961. Theodore and Claire Morse commissioned renowned Los Angeles architect Harold "Hal" Levitt to glamorize and expand the home, turning it into a Hollywood-style "entertainment residence." It features distinctive characteristics that make up the modernist style, including overall horizontality, a combination flat and low-pitched roof, large eaves to block the desert sun and indoor-outdoor flow. Custom lifetime materials such as terrazzo, stone, huge glass sliding pocket doors, custom wood paneling and a swim-up bar are all intact today. As an important example of a modern structure, the private residence exhibits numerous stylistic markers that place it within the historic context of Palm Springs' modern period and is considered by many to have the best pool and bar entertainment combo in Palm Springs. Currently owned by Joan and Gary Gand, the home features all vintage furnishings, accessories and art, including a collection of Alexander Girard environmental panels. The residence will be open for tours during Modernism Week.

Seven Lakes Country Club

(1964-1972, Richard Harrison)

South Palm Springs

Seven Lakes Country Club is a Midcentury Modern sprawling gated community of 341 graceful homes on 120 acres of land in South Palm Springs. The condo units were designed by Richard Harrison, and the newly refurbished clubhouse was designed by William Cody. The residences are low-profile, rectilinear, flat-roofed buildings artfully angled throughout the 18-hole golf course; they command dramatic views from putting greens to distant mountains and, of course, the seven lakes scattered about the complex. Seven Lakes Country Club is generally not open to the public, but a popular Modernism Week neighborhood tour sells out each year and provides a unique opportunity to experience the stunning grounds and tour the restored interiors of several units.

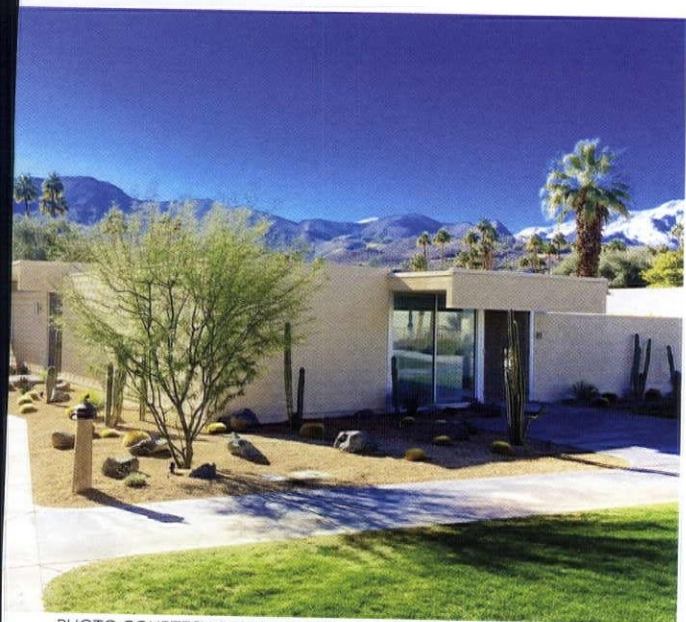


PHOTO COURTESY OF SEVEN LAKES COUNTRY CLUB



Walter Annenberg Residence, “Sunnylands”

(1963–1966, A. Quincy Jones)

37977 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage

Billionaire philanthropist and Ambassador Walter Annenberg and his wife, Leonore, asked A. Quincy Jones, the master of Southern California modernism, to design their Rancho Mirage retreat. The result was a 25,000-square-foot main house with 22 guest rooms and three cottages. The house is quintessentially Jones’s style with the exception of the Mayan roof, requested by the Annenbergs. It features a spacious floorplan with open rooms on a single floor and vast stretches of glass walls offering views of the pool, the golf course, and the San Jacinto Mountains. William Haines and Ted Graber designed the majority of the furniture in the house including long, low, cream linen sofas featuring “biscuit” tufting, exquisite trapunto relief patterns and pale-blue floral embroidery and dark-brown lacquered coffee tables that display rare Chinese and European antiques. Now managed by a foundation, tours of this iconic structure are some of the most popular during Modernism Week and usually sell out almost immediately.



Raymond Loewy Residence

(1946, Albert Frey)

600 W Panorama Road, Palm Springs

Design legend Raymond Loewy lived in a brilliantly creative desert villa nestled among the boulders in the neighborhood of Little Tuscany. Built as a bachelor retreat and designed by desert modernist architect Albert Frey (and later enlarged after Loewy got married to accommodate his wife and daughter) the house has been meticulously restored. Floor-to-ceiling glass provides impressive views of the surrounding desert and mountains, while the backyard pool extends into the living room for a true indoor/outdoor living experience. Though the house may be relatively small in size, the innovative design and layout create a substantial impact.



Pete Siva/Russell House

(1959, Hugh Kaptur)

660 Palisades Drive, Palm Springs

This 1959 hillside perch, embedded in the hills above Palm Springs, is one of the few homes on the exclusive Palisades Drive. Designed by modernist Hugh Kaptur, the two bedroom/two bathroom post-and-beam home features a panoramic 180-degree view of Palm Springs' cityscape. Conceived as a "spec" house and built by Joe Pawling, some of the noted residents have included tribal leader Edmund Peter "Pete" Siva and Douglas Russell. Expansive floor-to-ceiling windows and sliding-glass doors wrap around the living room area and allow access to the spacious outdoor terraces. Albert Frey later added the property's infinity pool (claimed to be the first in the desert) and designed the awnings. Rarely open to the public, this house has been made available to Modernism Week in the past to use as a venue for parties.

PHOTO BY DAVID A. LEE

The Grace Lewis Miller Residence

(1937, Richard Neutra)

2311 North Indian Canyon Drive, Palm Springs

Richard Neutra's 1947 Kaufmann house might be the most famous in Palm Springs, but 10 years before it, he made his mark on the desert with this special house designed for St. Louis socialite Grace Miller. The design is like a glass box with multiple windows for ventilation and deep overhangs on the south and west facades to shade the home. North-facing windows were textured to provide light with privacy. Inside, custom built-ins met the specific needs of Grace Miller, from workspace to seating. Even the closet was designed to separate her ventilated shoe closet from the clothes, and the house has many space-saving, efficient design elements. After years of neglect, the home was purchased in 2000 and beautifully restored—and was recently featured in a Modernism Week Signature Home tour. 🌀



PHOTO BY DAN CHAVKIN

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Homeowners Larry and Craig wanted the furniture and outdoor structures—like breeze blocks—to duplicate the midcentury-theme lime greens, turquoises and oranges found in their in-home artwork.



By Dani Grace
Photography by Benjamin Veronis
Styling by JJ De Sousa

Weathering the Elements *in Style*

See how designer JJ De Sousa composed a chic midcentury-style backyard that can entertain multitudes and withstand extreme California sun.



Infusing a backyard with bold patterns and vivid colors

is one request to manage. But how do you create a striking sanctuary that can survive—and be usable in—an average forecast of full sun and almost 100 degrees?

JJ De Sousa, designer and owner of Digs Inside & Out, says this 1963 Hugh Kaptur Palm Springs house and pool boasted near-perfect condition when homeowners Larry Neill and Craig Quirk secured the property in January 2019. But JJ had to double down on finding textiles that could sustain a daily baking in the Southern California sun. (For more about Digs Inside & Out, visit shopdigsportland.com.)

BEAT THE HEAT

"I wanted material you can sit on without completely frying and that wouldn't fade or deteriorate, because the sun can break so much down," explains JJ. Homeowners Larry and Craig also wanted the furniture and outdoor structures—like breeze blocks—to duplicate the midcentury-theme lime greens, turquoises and oranges found in their in-home artwork.

JJ settled on more modern picks, like Kanna dining chairs, and midcentury-style pieces, like melon-striped umbrellas from California Umbrella and Telescope Casual chaise lounges, that withstand heat and won't singe backyard-goers trying to tan or enjoy a meal. "The furniture, colors and textiles really mesh to look as cozy as the midcentury style can feel," she says.

TOP: THE SHERBET-ORANGE, PAGODA-STYLE UMBRELLAS SWOOP ROMANTICALLY BY THE POOL-SIDE AS SHOW-STEALING SHADE CREATORS. JJ SAYS THE HOLLYWOOD-ESQUE UMBRELLAS ADD CHEER TO THE BACKYARD.

OPPOSITE: THE RETURN-ON-INVESTMENT OF THESE LIME-GREEN BREEZE BLOCKS IS THREE-FOLD: THE STRUCTURES BLOCK THE BREEZE, SLIGHTLY PRIVATIZE THE FIRE PIT AREA AND CLEANLY CONCEAL THE AIR CONDITIONING UNIT. PLUS, JJ CHOSE THE ADIRONDACK CHAIRS FROM HER FAVORITE MODERN EURO LINE AT POLYWOOD, WHICH MANUFACTURES FURNITURE OUT OF MILK BOTTLES.



TOP: THE HOMEOWNERS ARE PLANNING A FRONT YARD FACELIFT WITH THE HELP OF LAURA CROCKETT FROM GARDEN DIVA DESIGNS. BUT THE PAIR FIRST WANTED TO SPRUCE UP THE BACKYARD, WHERE THEY SPEND MORE TIME THAN THE FRONT.

BOTTOM: JJ PULLED FROM THE COLOR SCHEME INSIDE THE HOUSE WHEN DECIDING ON THE PALETTE FOR THE FURNITURE AND STRUCTURES. THE VARYING HUES OF LIME GREEN, TURQUOISE AND ORANGE ON THE INTERIOR WALLS AND FURNITURE ARE REPLICATED IN THE UMBRELLAS AND BREEZE BLOCKS OUTSIDE.

BACKYARD BEGINNINGS

JJ says an expansive, unused space remained after she removed a volleyball court and one of three towering olive trees. But after she planted a perimeter of about 150 laurel hedge shrubs, fenced in the fire pit with breeze blocks and erected a few seating areas, a truly homey backyard started to form.

Between the patio's sectional seating, the fire pit, pool steps and an eight-seater, 60-inch Fermob dining table, nearly 30 people can comfortably enjoy Larry and Craig's backyard. "Breaking that big area into smaller spaces just gave the yard more emphasis; and creating an intentional spot for the firepit made the space feel cozy," says JJ. 🌻



The Frank Lloyd Wright Signature Series

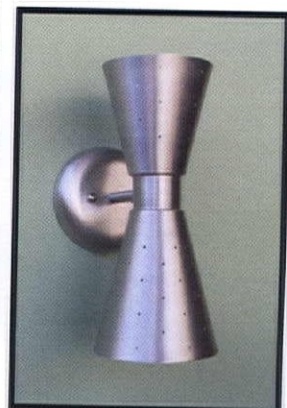
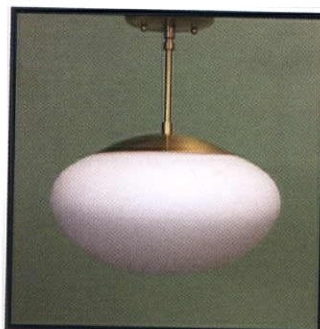
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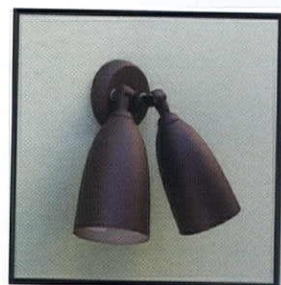
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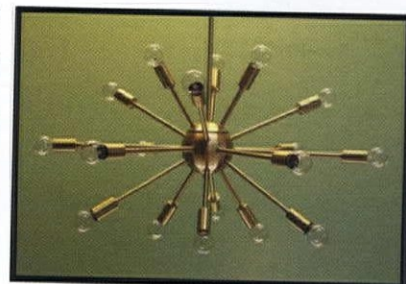
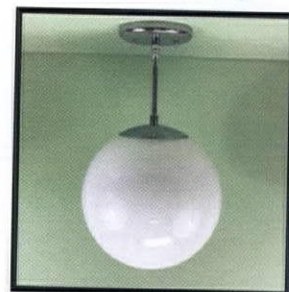
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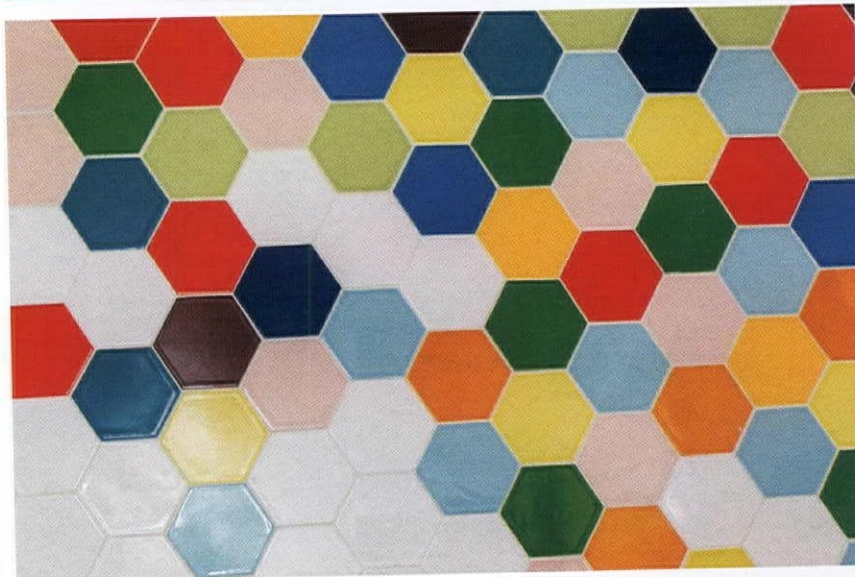
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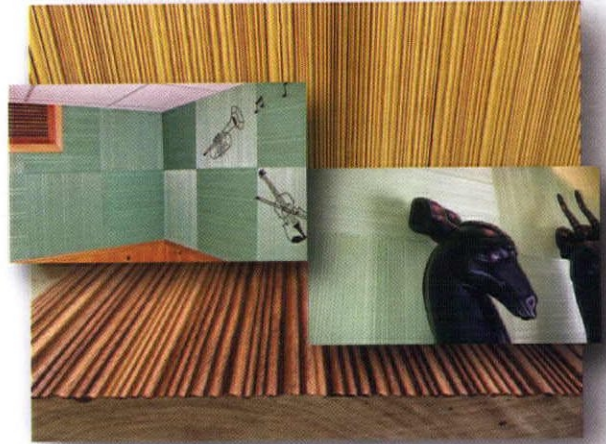


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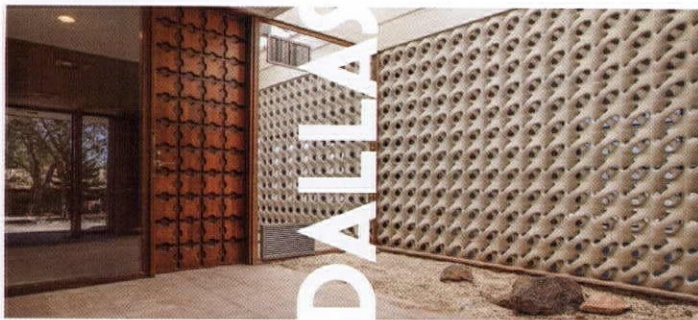
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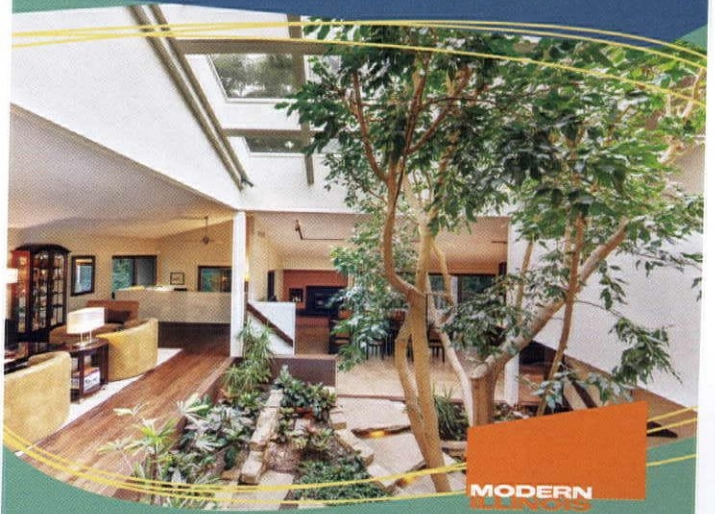
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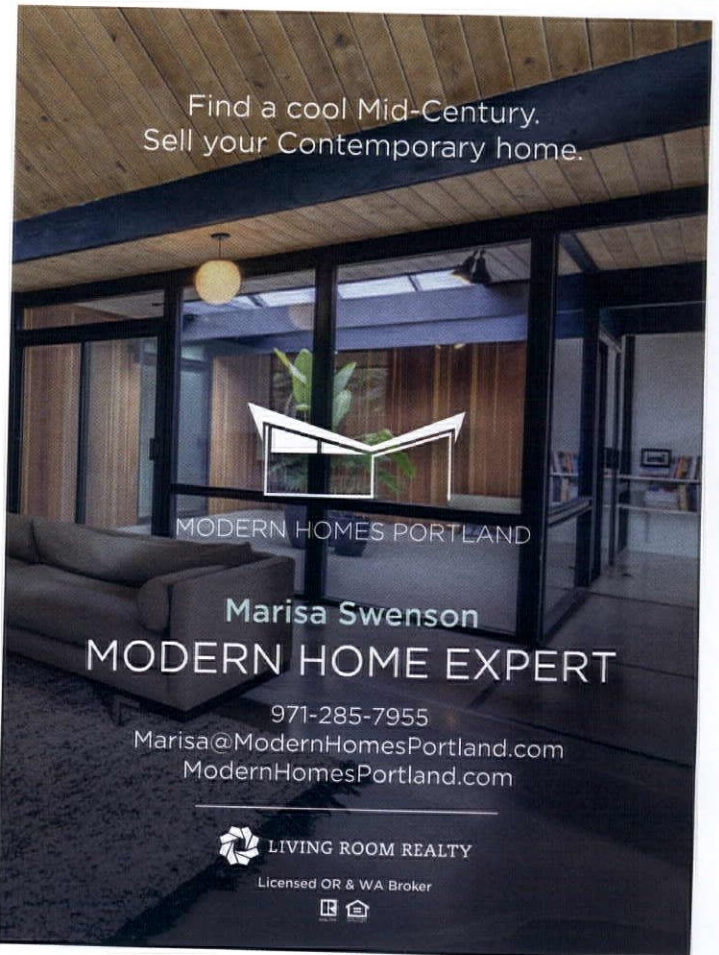
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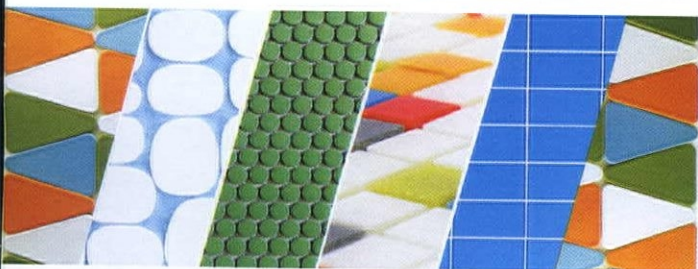
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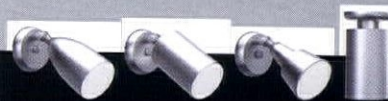
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By Lindsay Jarvis

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Opening in 1956, the Ocotillo Lodge was built by father and son developers George and Bob Alexander with the architectural firm of Dan Palmer and William Krisel. The team went on to create many modern tract homes throughout several neighborhoods in Palm Springs. Today the Ocotillo Lodge's iconic key-hole-shaped swimming pool is still intact, and the units are individually owned. Fun fact: The lodge was once owned by Gene Autry.

The Town & Desert Apartment Hotel was built in 1947 by Herbert Burns. Originally designed as a home for Burns and his wife that would allow for guests, living spaces were cleverly separated by jutting stone walls. Burns went on to build several more apartments and homes throughout the Palm Spring area, often utilizing thin stacked-stone in his stunning Late Moderne-style architecture. Visitors to Palm Springs can book a room in this gorgeous boutique hotel, now called "The Hideaway."





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