

atomic

MID CENTURY MARVELS

ranch

The Furniture Guide:
Product picks, collecting
tips and decorating advice

Modernist Icons
From international
buildings to design legends

**+ Curb appeal ideas,
a mod kitchen makeover &
tips for designing with tile**





Shag has teamed up with legendary jazz label BLUE NOTE RECORDS to create this piece of art celebrating the company's 85th anniversary.

"THE BLUEST NOTE" (detail right) is an eleven color silk screen edition.

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Cover design by Gabby Oh

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editor's letter



THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

I'VE OFTEN TOLD THE STORY of how I fell in love with Mid Century Modern style—or, rather, how I fell in love with simple yet bold yet futuristic designs, warm walnut wood, turned legs and brass details, and then later discovered they were all called Mid Century Modern. It was a furniture-first love affair born out of thrift shops and garage sales and, later, a collectible obsession fueled by eBay and antiques markets.

My furniture collection was built haphazardly and opportunistically, and every once in a while I find a mate out in the wild. Such was the case last month when an estate sale Instagram account I follow (I've been following more and more of these kinds of accounts and they are hands down the best deals you'll ever find on mod items) posted a sneak peek of a sale—and I spotted in the background what looked to be the desk version of an MCM dresser my husband and I bought when we were still in college. I couldn't believe my eyes! I let out a gasp, which caused my husband to quickly turn my way. I sprang up from the couch and leapt over to him. "Do you see that?" I yelled. He, a few degrees calmer than me, responded, "Hey, that looks like a match to our dresser." It was. Long lost partners, 20 years removed. Within seconds, I was DM-ing the account runner and after they confirmed it was still available, I stuffed a wad of cash in my husband's hands and pushed him out the door and into his truck—even buckling his seatbelt for him. I waited, my eyes fixed on my phone, praying for a text from him that said, "We got it!" Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, it rang instead. "Someone beat us to it." You might as well have punched me. I sulked, breathless for a few minutes. But I knew. This is how you play the game. So, my eyes stay peeled for the same dark walnut wood finish, turned legs with brass cups at the feet and low arching lip on each drawer that forms each handle. Waiting for lightning to strike again.

Unlike my story, the homes in this issue are examples of what happens when that perfect match is made; when destiny is fulfilled and the right people find the right property and fill it with all the right things. We also talk with a few furniture experts for their insights on how to collect authentic vintage furniture as well as how to design and arrange them in your spaces. And, of course, we spotlight some new finds that might scratch that itch and maybe even become your heirlooms in the future.

Get connected!

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Jackie Torres

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By Ian McMaster

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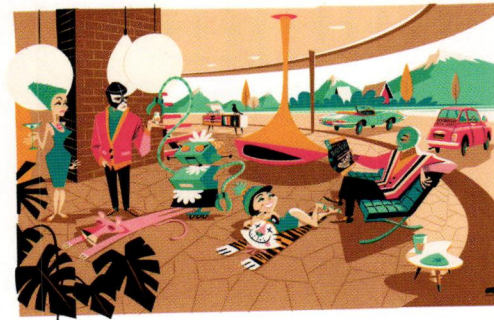
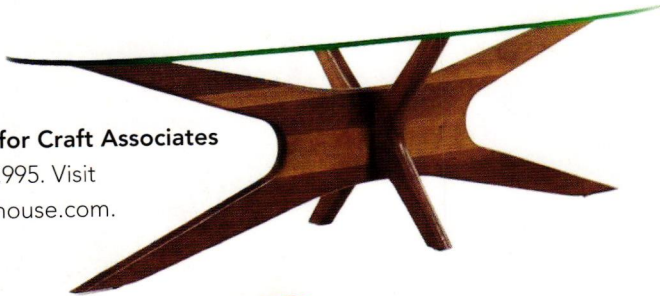


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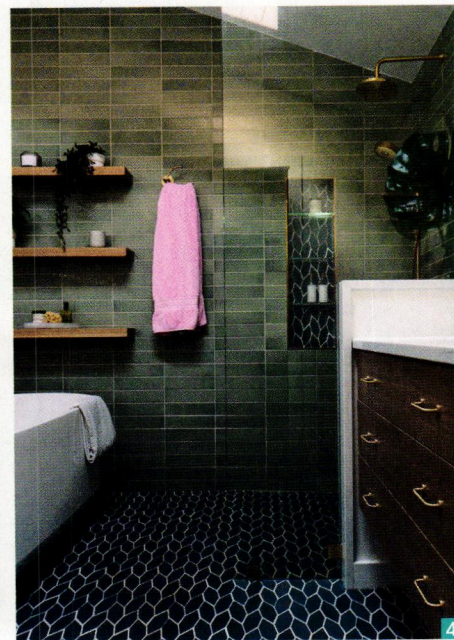
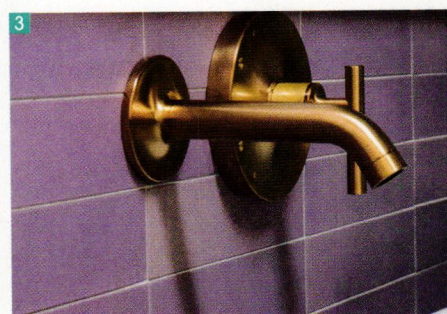
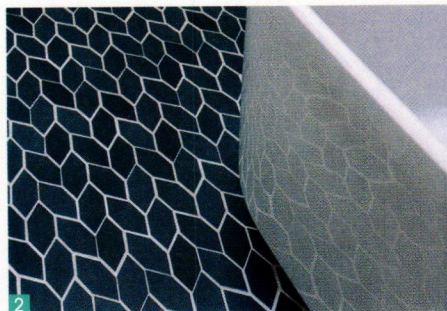


on design

Fun & Functional

How to add personal style to your mod transformation.

By **Laura Shimko** | Photography by **Lisa S. Town** | Design by **Atelier Drome**



1: BOLD AND EARTHY TONES COME TOGETHER TO CREATE A HARMONIOUS SPACE WITH REFERENCES TO MID MOD DESIGN. "A SIMPLE FLOATING CABINET ALLOWS THE TILE TO EXTEND UNDER THE SINK WHILE GIVING A NOD TO MID-CENTURY CABINETRY STYLES," MICHELLE SAYS. **2:** A FREESTANDING TUB WAS ONE OF THE HOMEOWNER'S SPECIFIC REQUESTS. "WE THOUGHT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE TUB HAVE A MORE MINIMALISTIC STYLE IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE TILE WORK TO SHINE," MICHELLE SAYS. **3:** "THE BRASS ACCENTS AND WOOD SOFTEN THE PALETTE, WHILE THE BRIGHT POP OF PINK REINFORCES THE PLAYFUL FEEL OF THE SPACE," MICHELLE SAYS. **4:** THE TEAL FLOOR TILE EXTENDS INTO THE CURBLESS SHOWER, BLURRING THE LINE BETWEEN THE SHOWER AND THE REST OF THE SPACE AND ALLOWING IT TO LOOK AND FEEL BIGGER. A GLASS WALL PROVIDES A SOFT BARRIER WITHOUT CAUSING ANY VISUAL IMPEDIMENTS.

CREATING SPACES that look and feel personalized with a cohesive design is one of the benefits of taking on a major renovation project. For the homeowner of this West Seattle mid-century home, keeping things fun and colorful was a big priority.

"She was purchasing her first home and wanted it to reflect her young, fun character as a gamer," says Michelle Linden, owner and architect at Atelier Drome. "She requested playful

colors and patterns, pink accents and consideration for her cat, Jemima."

Here are some ways to customize your own remodel to suit your style and lifestyle.

REWORK THE SPACE TO FIT YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS

The original layout involved a completely enclosed shower perpendicular to a small vanity. After reorienting the direction of

the shower, Michelle also relocated the vanity to allow for a freestanding tub—one of the homeowner's specific requests. To accommodate storage needs, Michelle incorporated floating shelves and shower niches as well as the new and improved vanity with quartz countertops and spacious drawers.

SET THE MOOD WITH FINISHES

Contrasting tile shapes and a combination of earthy and bright tones



FLOATING SHELVES PROVIDE EXTRA STORAGE AS WELL AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE HOMEOWNER TO DISPLAY PLANTS AND OTHER ACCESSORIES. THE CLEAN LINES AND EARTHY-GREEN TONED TILES ARE A NOD TO MID CENTURY MODERN DESIGN.

alongside warm wood finishes and brass accents create a bold yet relaxing look and feel.

DON'T HOLD BACK ON COLOR

The palette inspiration came from the tiles the homeowner and Michelle selected. "We knew that we wanted a variety of colors and wanted to work with tiles that had variety within them," Michelle explains. "We immediately thought of Heath Ceramics and collaborated with the client to find the exact mix." This resulted in a combination of three colors: pink, teal and earthy green. "It is a modern twist on a mid-century palette," she says. 🌿

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 88

TILE TIPS

Michelle Linden of Atelier Drome provides some helpful insight into the process of selecting the best tile for your bathroom.

CONSIDER SLIP-RESISTANT TILE PATTERNS.

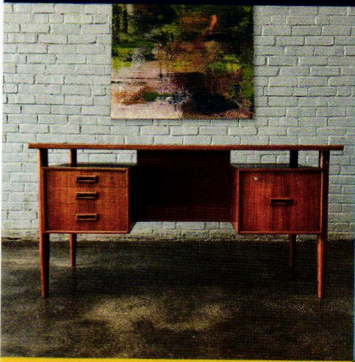
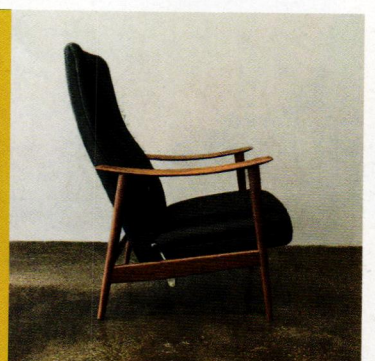
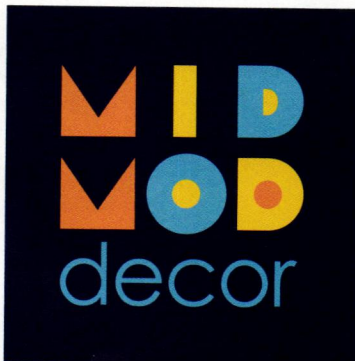
If you're looking for floor tile, especially for showers, consider opting for a smaller tile pattern. "A smaller tile format is going to be better for showers, so consider it especially when doing a curbless shower," Michelle says.

SEE THE FULL PICTURE.

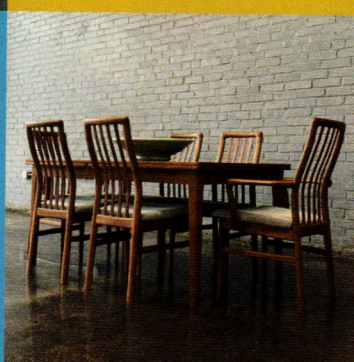
Some tiles come with a variance in pattern or finish, so Michelle suggests getting a better taste of what the final product will look like. "Make sure to get several samples so that there are no surprises," she says.

PICK THE RIGHT RATING.

When sorting through all of your options, make sure you're checking into the usage for each tile as some are not rated for flooring or showers. "Not all tiles are created equal," Michelle says.



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Passion Meets Purpose

Dedication to a craft turns into a thriving business for a talented ceramicist in Colorado. By Ian McMaster | Photography courtesy of Fenway Clayworks



IT'S NO ACCIDENT THAT the most successful small businesses are sprung from the love of a hobby. And in the world of Mid Century Modern-inspired décor, filled with mass-produced knockoffs and soulless replications, it is especially evident when there is passion behind a company's products.

ABOVE, LEFT: "I'M A FIRM BELIEVER THAT WHEN IT COMES TO PHYSICAL PRODUCTS IN PARTICULAR, NOT EVERYTHING DESERVES TO EXIST," FENWAY CLAYWORKS FOUNDER SEAN VANDERLIET SAYS. "THESE THINGS THAT WE MAKE WILL BE AROUND FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS—THERE'S A CERTAIN WEIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH THAT REALIZATION. THE WORLD DOESN'T NEED MORE STUFF JUST TO HAVE MORE STUFF. UNLESS IT SAYS SOMETHING INTERESTING, WHY BOTHER?" ABOVE, RIGHT: "WITH LIGHTING, WE'RE DEFINITELY INFLUENCED BY THE MARTZ AND BITOSSI LAMPS OF THE POST-WAR ERA, BUT OUR GOAL IS TO TAKE THAT INFLUENCE AND MAKE SOMETHING EVEN BETTER: HAND-THROWN INSTEAD OF SLIP CAST, IMPECCABLY TURNED AND FIT WOODEN COMPONENTS AND THE VERY BEST ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS," SEAN SAYS.



ABOVE, RIGHT: "AS THE FOUNDER OF FENWAY CLAYWORKS, SEAN VANDERVLIEET HAS A STRONG COMPASS THAT GUIDES HIS WORK. "IF WE CAN'T COME IN AND MAKE SOMETHING THAT IS BETTER THAN WHAT'S BEING OFFERED OR DISCERNIBLY UNIQUE IN SOME OTHER WAY, I'M NOT INTERESTED," HE SAYS. "MY GOAL WHEN I'M THINKING ABOUT NEW PRODUCTS IS TO ADD SOMETHING NEW TO A CATEGORY, NOT TO SIMPLY JOIN IN, AND FOR WHATEVER IT IS THAT WE'RE MAKING TO BE BEST-IN-CLASS."

With purposeful design and a dedication to craftsmanship, Fenway Clayworks is a team of artisans the MCM community can stand behind.

Fenway Clayworks is the brainchild of Sean VanderVliet. "The truth is that I knew I wanted to do this when I was in high school and since I was 14 I've never stopped throwing pottery," Sean says. After a decade in traditional office jobs, Sean took the leap to make pottery his full-time work in 2017. Since then, Fenway has been churning out everything from their signature ceramic lighting to coffee mugs and has even expanded to masterful wooden furniture.

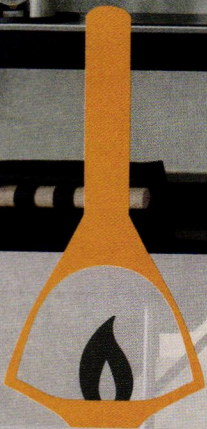
As for Fenway's aesthetic, Sean credits a lifelong love of MCM architecture. "My grandmother lived

in a wonderful MCM home in Massachusetts, which is rare and hard to come by in the state. That's when I first started appreciating the relationship between design simplicity, natural light and modern sensibility," he says. Now, Sean owns his own 1950s home and has recently moved the business to a 1960s workshop in Golden, Colorado.

Fenway's most popular products are their table lamps and sconces. Each piece is hand-thrown and finished with hand-turned solid wood neck and base. Even the linen flax shades of their table lamps are handmade. "My philosophy has always been to make things that I'd want in my own home and to hope enough people out there will agree that they're worthy of a spot in their home," he says. ☼



FINDING THE LOCATION FOR FENWAY CLAYWORKS WAS NO EASY TASK AS SEAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN HIGHLY ATTUNED TO THE SPACES HE FINDS HIMSELF IN. "IT TOOK A LONG TIME TO FIND THE RIGHT BUILDING," HE SAYS. "WE WANTED SOMETHING THAT WOULD COMPLEMENT OUR DESIGNS AND WE FINALLY FOUND AN OLD '60S WORKSHOP THAT DOES JUST THAT."



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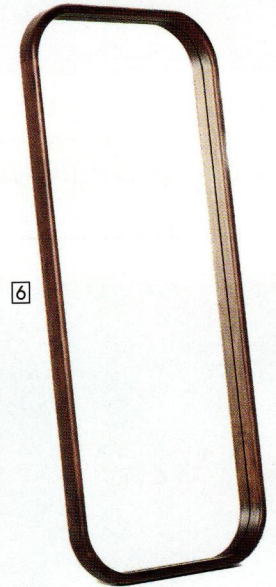
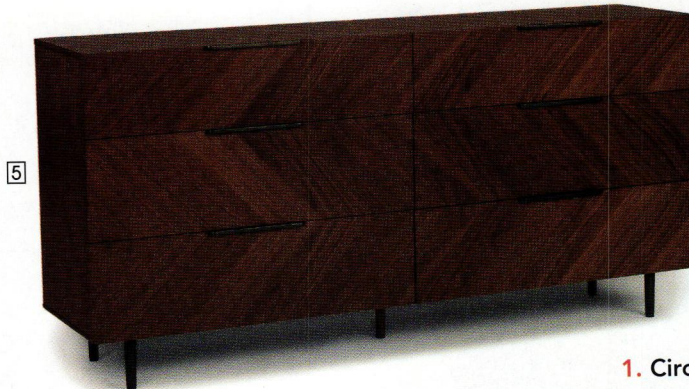
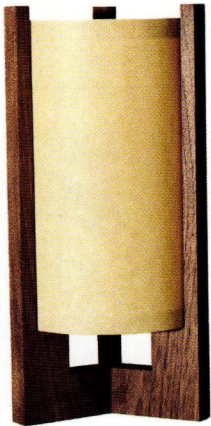
periodpicks



By Ian McMaster

Sweet Dreams

Our picks of fine furniture for a stylish and tranquil bedroom.



1. **Circle Chair** by Hans J. Wegner. For pricing, visit pp.dk.
2. **Mies van der Rohe Knoll Mid Century Barcelona Daybed**, \$9,995. Visit midcenturywarehouse.com.
3. **Mid-Century Carved Pattern Nightstand**, \$399. Visit hernest.com.
4. **Japanese-Inspired Mid-Century Table Lamp**, \$425. Visit jamesmankoffdesign.com.
5. **Nera Walnut 6-Drawer Double Dresser**, \$1,499. Visit article.com.
6. **Saone Acacia Wood Floor Length Mirror**, \$559.20. Visit cb2.com.
7. **Wright Bed**, \$1,199. Visit westelm.com.

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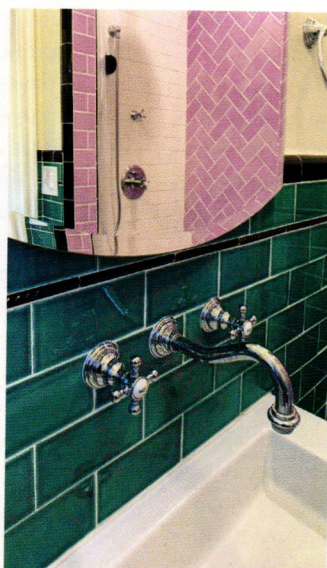
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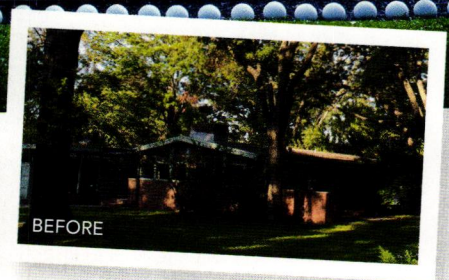
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curb appeal



Great Lines

This hidden gem received a thoughtful transformation, taking it from teardown to terrific.

By **Laura Shimko**
Design by **Roy Ley at Hoke Ley**
Photography by **Nate Sheets**

Architectural Terms to Know

MONDRIAN WALL: Inspired by Dutch painter Piet Mondrian's abstract art, these wall panels, located at the back of the carport in this home, resemble mosaics of squares and rectangles of different sizes and colors.

STANDING SEAM METAL ROOF: A roofing system that hides the metal panel fasteners with raised seams (also known as vertical legs) that rise above broad, flat metal panels. The panels can be attached by clip to the roof deck or straight to the decking material under the raised seam.

It takes a keen eye to see past years of neglect to visualize a home's potential. Luckily, Roy Ley, homeowner and principal at Hoke Ley, was able to look beyond the layers of disrepair of this Lawrence, Kansas, home. The list of problems the 1957 build had was extensive.

"There were several trees too close to the house that were on the verge of falling, vines were completely obscuring the brick fireplace and fin wall, the yard was partially dead and planting beds were overgrown to the extent that you could barely see the house anymore," Roy says. The "anemic" green exterior paint did it no favors and the warped roof fascias and crumbling gutters added to the feeling of dilapidation. "To the untrained eye, the house looked like a teardown," he says. "To my trained eye, there was enough right about it to purchase it sight unseen."

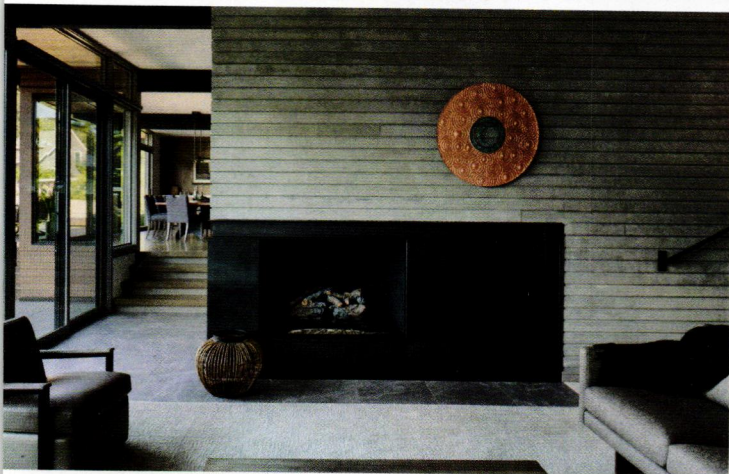
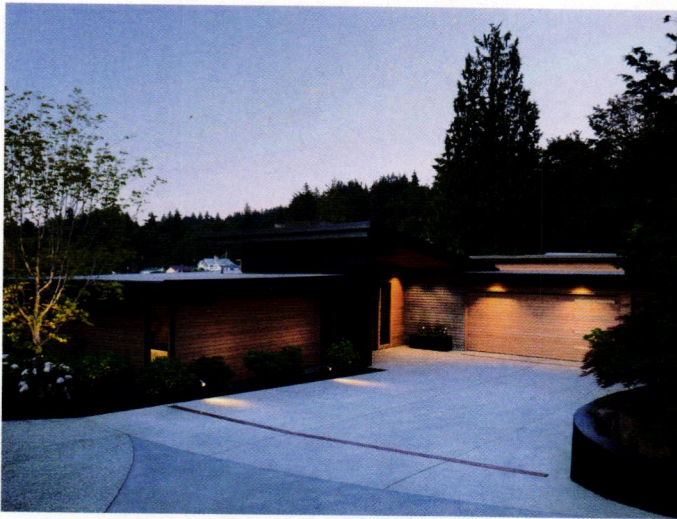
Roy kept the original features that make the house special and updated it while remaining true to the era. He reconstructed several elements that were no longer serviceable, including the lattice, Mondrianesque screen wall behind the carport and roof panels

in the breezeway. Lighting, doors and doorknobs are new but period-appropriate. The brickwork is original while the chimney was rebuilt with salvaged planter brick. Roy replaced the roof with a low-maintenance standing seam metal roof in a dark charcoal. "I wanted all the fascia boards to blend in with the roof to create a cohesive building outline, so I did a color match of the metal roof," he says. "To give some relief to the black, I painted the underside of the eaves a terracotta-red color to match the earthy brick on the front of the house. It is a bit of a surprise as you get closer to the house, as it does not read from the street."

"The main challenge was figuring out what had to be replaced and what I could live with due to budgetary restrictions," he says. Some features remain imperfect: the driveway and planter boxes have cracks, there are crooked columns and a corner of the house is slightly slumped. "I have learned to appreciate the wabi-sabi aesthetic of my old house," Roy says. "It was the quality of the spaces that originally drew me to it and not its perfection." ❁

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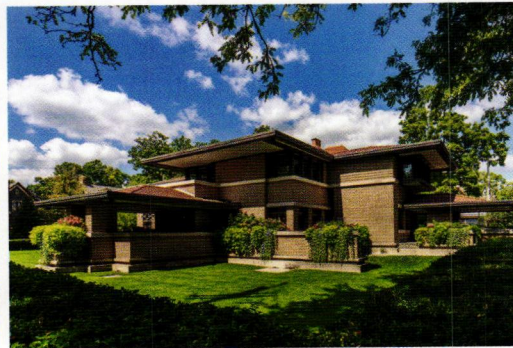


retro roadtrip

A Wright Treasure

Visit this unique Frank Lloyd Wright home in Grand Rapids, Michigan, one of the most completely original, inside and out.

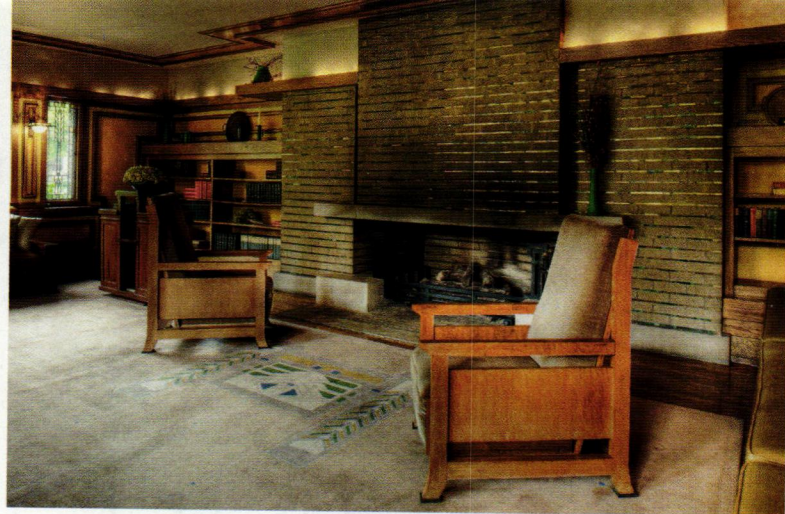
By Michelle Mastro | Photos by Nick Irwin, courtesy of Experience Grand Rapids



FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT DESIGNED iconic buildings across the United States, but possibly his most unique home project is found in an unassuming neighborhood in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The Meyer May House, located in the Heritage Hill historic district of the city, is a historic-home-turned-museum, with guided tours and a visitors' center. In a neighborhood of Victorian-era homes, it stands out from the rest. Yet, it is also an oddity in the great architect's repertoire. It is the best preserved of all his works and was specifically constructed for a man of 5-foot-4 in stature.

"The Meyer May House offers visitors a comprehensive vision of what the home was like 115 years ago and how it was used," says Don Dekker, director of the Meyer May House. "Many of Wright's homes today have furnishings missing or had contemporary renovations done to them. As a result, you can't get the completeness of his design and intent like you can in the Meyer May House." Step inside the home and you will see just how the house looked back when it was built in 1909.

THE HOME EMPHASIZES PRIVACY EVEN IN THE EXTERIOR. "WRIGHT DESIGNED THE HOUSE TO FEEL LIKE A FORTRESS," DEKKER SAYS. "HE POSITIONED THE ENTRY SPACE TO BE AT THE BACK OF THE HOUSE, SO THE FRONT DOOR ISN'T ON THE STREET. INSTEAD, YOU HAVE TO WALK ALL THE WAY AROUND THE BUILDING TO GET TO THE DOOR." BUT ONCE YOU CROSS THE THRESHOLD INTO THE HOUSE, WRIGHT HAS A VERY OPEN-CONCEPT LAYOUT ON THE FIRST FLOOR. "THE HOME'S EXTERIOR AND INTERNAL LAYOUT WERE RADICALLY DIFFERENT THAN ANY OTHER HOME IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AT THE TIME."



ABOVE, LEFT: WRIGHT DESIGNED THE HOME WITH A SENSE OF COMPLETENESS. "THE GEOMETRIC SHAPES IN THE WINDOWS, FOR EXAMPLE, USE COLORS THAT ALSO APPEAR IN THE CARPET AND THE HOLLYHOCK MURAL. THE COLORS ALL SEEM TO OFFER A NICE GLOW AGAINST THE NATURAL LIGHT."

ABOVE, RIGHT: THE FIREPLACE BRICKS ARE TOPPED OFF WITH GLASS PIECES COVERED IN VERY THIN STRIPES OF COPPER GOLD TO GIVE THE FIREPLACE A REFLECTIVE QUALITY. "WRIGHT DIDN'T WANT A LOT OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT IN THE HOUSE,

SMALL WONDER

The Meyer May House was commissioned by wealthy Grand Rapids outfitter Meyer S. May in 1908. The home is characteristic of Wright's Prairie-style houses: it's a two-story home made of pale brick topped off with a large, expansive roof with long eaves. Inside the house, Art Deco-inspired glass windows and skylights flood the room with natural light.

But all these features were positioned at a height to suit a person of smaller stature because May was only 5-foot-4. "Wright built the house around his client perfectly," Dekker says. For example, the colorful geometric shapes of the windows frame the clear glass where May would have stood looking out his windows. Everything from the doorways to the wall paneling was made for a shorter person.

MID MOD MUSE

Purchased by Steelcase Inc. in 1985, the home was carefully repaired through extensive research that included talking to May's descendants, who remembered the home in its glory days. The house was then opened to the public in 1987 as a gift to the global community. Thus, today's MCM-design enthusiasts can see all the original details of Wright's work.

The home's intricate details show how Wright inspired later Mid Century Modern designers and architects. "A lot of Mid Century Modern homes have windows that come together in the corner of a room, called 'picture windows,' and the home has these. You can also clearly see an early version of the open floor plan that Wright made popular." At the same time, clean lines and a restful color palette of mustard yellows welcome visitors. Dark oak wood, indigenous to the area and stained to harmonize with the rest of the spaces' hues, also looks ahead to mid mod fashions.

Tour the Meyer May House in Grand Rapids to learn all this and more. The tours are free, but be sure to book in advance during the busy season from May through mid-October. 📍



THINGS TO DO IN GRAND RAPIDS

Check out these spots around the city, perfect for fans of unique architecture and design.

- 1. FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS & SCULPTURE PARK:** A massive collection of outdoor gardens, the park offers a tram tour of the Sculptures. But be sure to stop at the Japanese Garden and sprawling interactive children's garden. The indoor conservatories are another highlight, featuring an Arid Garden, Tropical Conservatory complete with free-roaming pheasants year-round, a Carnivorous Plant House and Victorian Garden Parlor.
- 2. STOFFER HOME:** Owned and created by Jean Stoffer of Magnolia Network's The Established Home, this store offers traditional pieces mixed with modern styles. Don't forget to visit the mini coffee house called The Bradbury.
- 3. GRAND RAPIDS ART MUSEUM:** The museum covers a range of periods but has plenty of modern artwork like Endangered Species Portfolio by Andy Warhol or Eames chairs on display.

Collecting

Mid Century Modern Furniture

Learn what makes one piece more collectible than another.

By Angelina Kaul | Photography Courtesy of John Moran Auctioneers & Appraisers

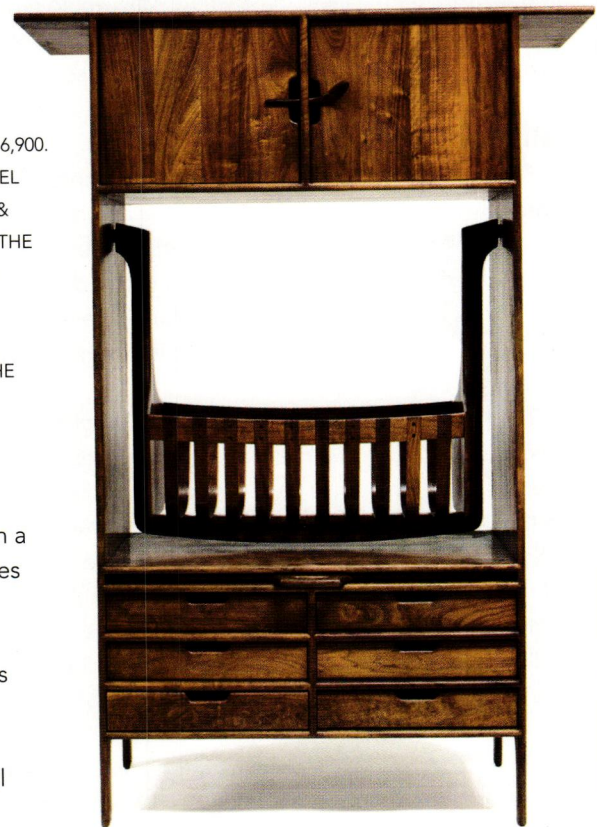


ABOVE, LEFT: PHILIP AND KELVIN LAVERNE: "ETRUSCAN CENTER TABLE" — SOLD: \$16,900. "PHILIP AND KELVIN LAVERNE'S APPROACH TO FURNITURE REACHED ANOTHER LEVEL IN DESIGN, AN ART FORM," MATTHEW GRAYSON OF JOHN MORAN AUCTIONEERS & APPRAISERS EXPLAINS. "WITH THEIR UNIQUE TECHNIQUES AND USE OF MATERIAL, THE PATINATION ON EACH PIECE IS REMARKABLE TO SEE. EACH ONE AGES IN ITS OWN SPECIAL WAY," HE SAYS.

RIGHT: SAM MALOOF: "CRADLE HUTCH," 1971 — SOLD: \$42,000. "SAM MALOOF IS ANOTHER MID-CENTURY MASTER WOODWORKER AND HIS PIECES HAVE STOOD THE TEST OF TIME," MATTHEW SAYS.

JUST ABOUT ANY OBJECT CAN BE considered a collectible, but traditionally two major components define what makes an object a valuable collectible: interest and quantity. If people have an interest in a particular object and it is available in only a limited quantity it becomes a valuable collectible.

Because of its simplicity and functionality, Mid Century Modern furniture remains highly sought after. The names Eames, Bertoia, Mies van der Rohe, Wegner, Breuer, Jacobsen and Evans remain significant for collectors. Works by Breuer, Bertoia and Mies van der Rohe are still available at Knoll International. Other places to search for original pieces include auction houses, online and private sales.





ABOVE, LEFT: CHARLES AND RAY EAMES: MODEL 420 STORAGE UNIT — SOLD: \$26,000. THIS UNIT WAS FOUND IN IMPECCABLE CONDITION. "WHAT WAS SPECIAL ABOUT OUR CABINET IS THAT WE COULD TRACE IT TO ONE OF THE FIRST THAT WAS MANUFACTURED FROM THE EARLY 1950S, WHICH IS WHY THIS PIECE WAS HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER," MATTHEW SAYS.



ABOVE, RIGHT: HANS WEGNER: PAPA BEAR CHAIR — SOLD: \$20,320. "HANS WEGNER IS ONE OF THE TRUE MASTERS OF CHAIR DESIGN. IT'S SAID HE DESIGNED OVER 500 CHAIRS. THE PAPA BEAR CHAIR, AS IT IS AFFECTIONALLY KNOWN, IS VERY COVETED BY COLLECTORS, ESPECIALLY ONES IN GOOD CONDITION AND ORIGINAL UPHOLSTERY," MATTHEW SAYS.

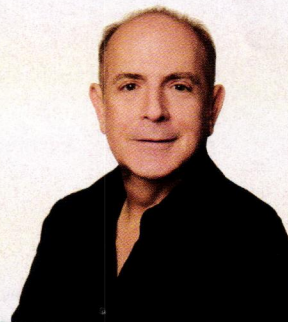
For anyone interested in purchasing or finding out the value of an authentic piece of MCM furniture, there are a few tell-tale signs to look for. "There are varying factors for a piece of furniture to become sought after, but what endures the longest comes down to good design, added with quality material and functionality," says Matthew Grayson, post-war and contemporary design specialist at John Moran Auctioneers & Appraisers.

One of the factors used to authenticate MCM furniture is the designer's signature. "The first step is seeing if there is a manufacturer's name anywhere on the piece. This can usually be found on the back, underneath or inside a drawer," Matthew explains. "If there is a name, the next step is to do some Internet sleuthing and find

comps to see past sold prices." Some designers, such as Paul Evans, either initialed or signed and dated their commissioned pieces. Finally, if you can, find certificates or other legal documentation about the piece and the maker that can indicate whether it is authentic MCM furniture or a reproduction.

To find out the value of a collectible, Matthew says "sold" prices are important to see the current value of a piece (also known as "market value"), but he also warns, "not to be confused with how much similar pieces are selling for at retail. Not all valuable pieces are marked and not all information on a piece can be found on the Internet." Therefore, the best thing would be to get a professional auctioneer or appraiser like Matthew to determine its value. ☺

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON JOHN MORAN AUCTIONEERS & APPRAISERS' AUCTIONS OR SERVICES, GO TO JOHNMORAN.COM OR EMAIL MATTHEW GRAYSON FOR A FREE VALUATION AT MATTHEW@JOHNMORAN.COM.



atomickitchens

THE HANDMADE ZIA TILE BACKSPLASH IN AN EARTHY GREEN IS AN HOMAGE TO A MID CENTURY MODERN PALETTE WITH A CONTEMPORARY TWIST. THE GLAZED BRICK FINISH ADDS TO THE TEXTURE OF THE SPACE—A FEATURE THAT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO THE HOMEOWNERS. THE INSPIRATION FOR THE PALETTE CAME FROM WINTER SUNSET IN MINNESOTA. "IT IS AN ALMOST BURNT PEACH WITH HINTS OF PLUM," HOMEOWNER CHAD SAYS. "WE CRAVED THE NORTHERN MIDWEST SKY WHEN WE WERE LIVING OUT EAST FOR A TIME AND THIS CAME THROUGH IN OUR COLOR CHOICES."



THE TERRAZZO FLOORS, A CLASSIC MCM LOOK, PROVED TO BE A CHALLENGING ASPECT OF THE RENOVATION AS WELL AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME CREATIVITY. "WE RECEIVED TWO SHIPMENTS CRACKED, SO WE CUT THEM INTO SMALLER PIECES TO MAKE IT WORK AND NOT DELAY THE TIMELINE," EXPLAINS INTERIOR DESIGNER LIDIA VALDIVIA.



From Palm Trees to Maples

This kitchen renovation takes its cues from mid mod design with an infusion of nature-inspired colors and textures.

CAPTURING THE ESSENCE OF Mid Century Modern design while crafting something new takes creativity and a bit of gumption. When homeowners Courtney Gerber and Chad Freeburg decided to renovate their home in Minneapolis, Minnesota, they had a vision of creating a kitchen that blended classic mid mod elements with an artistic twist.



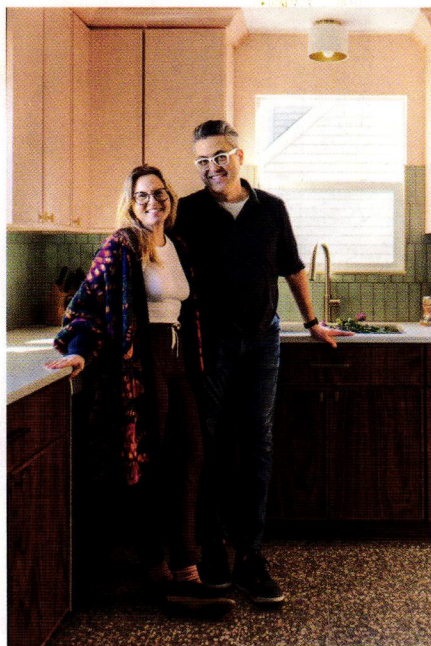
"The house was built in 1949, so Mid Century Modern was an influence, but we weren't interested in a strict interpretation of the style," Chad says. To celebrate a decade in their beloved home, they brought on Lidia Valdivia, founder and designer at Moonstone Design and Build, to help them craft a space that fulfilled their functional and aesthetic needs and wants.

GUIDING GOALS

Getting started meant determining what changes needed to be made, both to the practical and style aspects of the kitchen. Due to the age of the home and contemporary expectations there were several important functional needs. "Their kitchen was not functional," Lidia says. "They didn't have enough storage or counterspace and the kitchen had a lot of unutilized space." They also wanted to open up the kitchen and create a pantry. This necessitated removing the wall between the dining room and kitchen as well as expanding the kitchen into the dining room space to accommodate the new layout.

ARTISTIC TOUCHES

Aesthetically speaking, the homeowners wanted to keep the heart of mid mod design while allowing for a fresh interpretation with a vivid palette and tactile textures. "They wanted a cheery and warm space with colors that popped and a mixture of textures and materials," Lidia explains.



WITH THE RENOVATION CAME A COMPLETE REIMAGINING OF THE SPACE TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEEDS OF THE HOMEOWNERS AND TO MAXIMIZE THE FOOTPRINT. THE ORIGINAL KITCHEN DID NOT HAVE A HOOD OR VENTILATION SYSTEM FOR THE RANGE, SO LIDIA'S TEAM ADDED ONE IN, COVERED IN THE ZIA TILE AS A CONTINUATION OF THE BACKSPLASH. OPEN SHELVING PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE HOMEOWNERS TO STYLE THEIR FAVORITE VINTAGE PIECES AS WELL AS A CONTINUATION OF THE ZIA HANDMADE TILE BACKSPLASH.



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MULTIPLE FINISHES COME TOGETHER IN PERFECT HARMONY TO CREATE A RICH PRESENTATION. “WE CREATED A TACTILE EXPERIENCE BY UTILIZING TEXTURE-RICH MATERIALS AND A MIX OF METALS,” LIDIA SAYS. “WE ALSO DECORATED THE KITCHEN TO HAVE NATURAL DÉCOR, LIKE HANDMADE POTTERY, WOOD UTENSILS AND PLANTS.”



The homeowners drew inspiration from nature, citing winter sunsets in Minnesota as the muse for the colors. “We had both the West Coast and Midwest in mind when we imagined the space,” Chad says. “We had both palm trees and Norwegian maples on our minds.”

The redesigned kitchen is a visual feast of warm wood tones, a variety of finishes that create dynamic dimension and texture, and a harmonious blend of symmetry and modern lines. 🌿

SEE RESOURCES, PAGE 88

/ TANTALIZING TEXTURE /

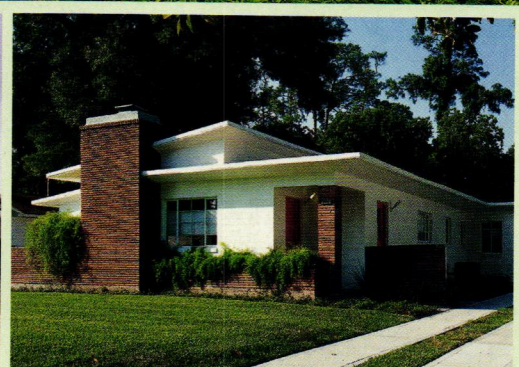
When it comes to creating visual interest, texture is an essential element in home design. Not only does it prevent a space from feeling flat, but it is an opportunity to showcase your style in very tactile ways. Lidia Valdivia, designer and founder of Moonstone Design and Build, shares the following tips to elevate your design.

- **CHANGE IT UP.** “Use a variety of finishes within the same color palette to introduce texture without overwhelming the design,” Lidia advises. This can look like a glossy backsplash to complement a matte cabinet face of the same color.
- **ADD LOTS OF LAYERS.** Take a look at accessories you can sprinkle throughout the space that add texture. “I always like to add antiques when styling places because nothing gives more character than an old patina,” Lidia says.
- **MIX MATERIALS.** “Blending natural and artificial materials in kitchen design can create a visually appealing and balanced look,” Lidia says. For example, opting for handmade elements, like terrazzo flooring alongside steel appliances.

TEXTURE, BOTH NATURAL AND MANUFACTURED, ENHANCES THE OVERALL LOOK AND FEEL OF THE SPACE. “KNEADING, MASHING, TASTING, SMELLING—KITCHEN ACTIVITIES—ARE SENSORY MAGIC,” LIDIA SAYS. “THE CLIENTS WANTED TO INVITE A TACTILE EXPERIENCE THROUGH OUR CHOICE OF SURFACES. WE WANTED TO BLEND THE ENGINEERED WITH THE HANDMADE.”

Mid Century Modern House *Hunting* ?

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the best MCM houses on the market from across the country!



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Design On Point

This unique home, built by a firm most known for its bowling alleys, has some striking original features.

By Rabekah Henderson | Photography by Bret Gum | Styled by MJ Cripe



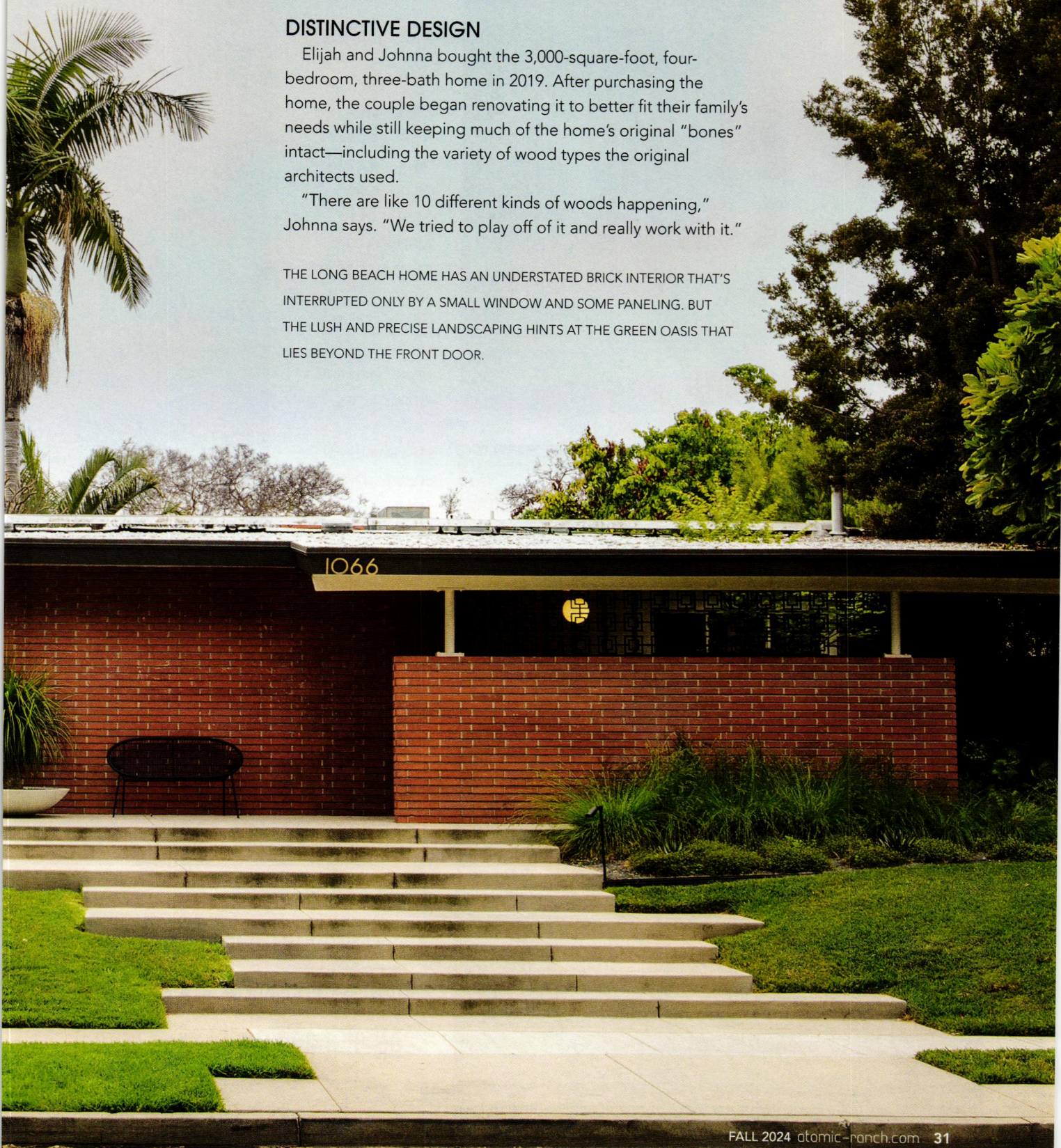
Hidden within the Bixby Knolls neighborhood of Long Beach, California, sits a 1954 mid-century ranch with a mostly brick exterior, separated only by some paneling and a small window. However, the impeccable landscaping in front of the home offers a telling clue to the lush greenery and playful style that lies beyond the home's understated exterior.

DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

Elijah and Johnna bought the 3,000-square-foot, four-bedroom, three-bath home in 2019. After purchasing the home, the couple began renovating it to better fit their family's needs while still keeping much of the home's original "bones" intact—including the variety of wood types the original architects used.

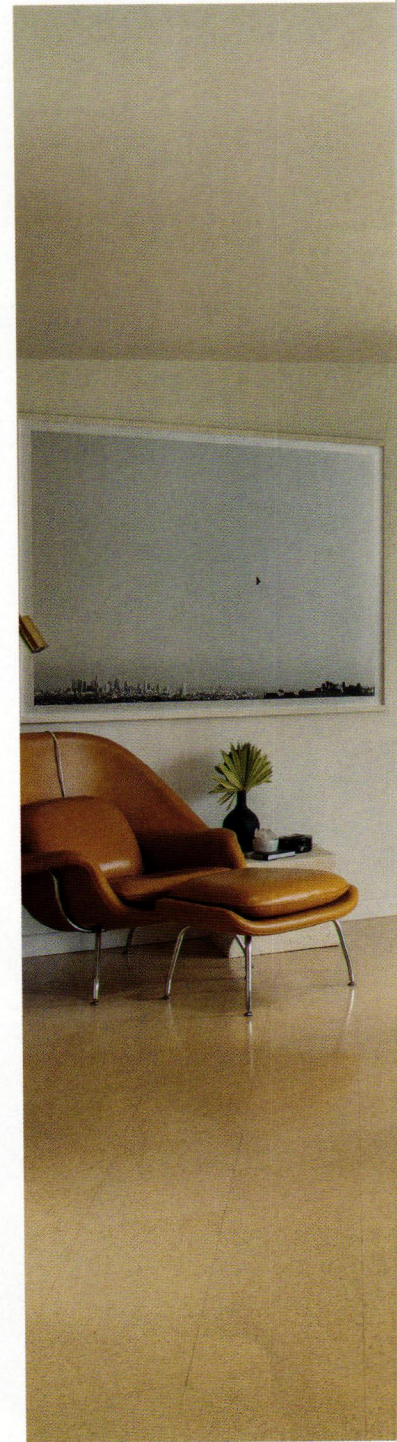
"There are like 10 different kinds of woods happening," Johnna says. "We tried to play off of it and really work with it."

THE LONG BEACH HOME HAS AN UNDERSTATED BRICK INTERIOR THAT'S INTERRUPTED ONLY BY A SMALL WINDOW AND SOME PANELING. BUT THE LUSH AND PRECISE LANDSCAPING HINTS AT THE GREEN OASIS THAT LIES BEYOND THE FRONT DOOR.





RIGHT: A SOFA POSITIONED IN FRONT OF A FEW OF THE HOME'S GORGEOUS WINDOWS IS A GREAT SPOT TO SIT AND ADMIRE THE VIEW. JUST OUTSIDE LIES AN OUTDOOR DINING AREA AND A PLUMERIA TREE.



LEFT: ELIJAH AND JOHNNA LOVE THE HOME'S INDOOR-OUTDOOR POND. IT'S ONE OF THE THINGS THAT CONVINCED THEM TO BUY THE 1954 RANCH. HOWEVER, JOHNNA ADMITS IT WAS HARD TO KEEP FISH IN IT FOR VERY LONG, AS "THE BIRDS KEPT TRYING TO EAT THEM."



"There are 10 different kinds of woods happening. We tried to play off of it and really work with it."



They eventually repainted much of the home and converted the garage into three different rooms: a laundry room, a home gym and then what Johnna dubs a “hangout room,” which also holds a Murphy bed to convert it into an extra bedroom. The three new spaces give the home a few more amenities and a little more living space.

NEW ANGLES

Elijah and Johnna also needed to renovate their bathroom, which required an update as nothing in the

bathroom was straight. Johnna credits these (intentional) curves to the home’s architects, Powers, Daly, and DeRosa, who are best known for their modernist bowling alleys—in fact, this was the only residential project they did.

“The bowling alleys they did were very old-school, atomic style,” Johnna says. “They were very tilted.” So, when Powers, Daly, and DeRosa built the house, the bathrooms were also very tilted—so much so that Elijah and Johnna had to build a faux wall in order to have a level surface to put the toilet on.

RIGHT: THE KITCHEN USES MODERN APPLIANCES ALONGSIDE RETRO CABINETRY, FOLLOWING THE DESIGN TREND THAT ELIJAH AND JOHNNA USE IN THE REST OF THEIR HOME TOO—SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW.

BELOW: A SUNKEN LIVING ROOM BOOSTS THE HOME'S '70S FEELING AND THE COLOR PALETTE OF THE SPACE TAKES A HINT FROM '70S STYLE AS WELL.





"There are no straight lines in the house—everything is at an angle," Johnna says.

You can see the home's bowling alley influence in the variety of woods (such as plywood, birch and maple) that were used—even multiple woods within the same room. "We tried to embrace it," Johnna says. "It made [the home] feel more eclectic, rather than feeling so new."

BUILDING AN OASIS

Their other priority was address the landscaping. "There was literally not one piece of greenery in the whole backyard," Johnna says. Aside from a few palm trees, the outdoor space was dilapidated and neglected—something that just wouldn't do in the indoor-outdoor-living mecca of Long Beach. So, they hired landscape designer

Dustin Gimbel to transform the space. Both Johnna and Elijah worked alongside Dustin to shape what the backyard would become, adding in all types of greenery. "We wanted it to be tropical; I'm not really into flowers. We just wanted to be super, super green," Johnna says.

They planted a few trees too, which act as centerpieces for the home's various outdoor spaces. A plumeria tree sits next to the outdoor dining area by the living room, providing views from both inside and out as it bursts into beautiful blooms each year.

In the front entryway, a small maple tree is planted in the private atrium, creating a little contrast to the home's many tropical flora. It can even be peeked at through the mid-century metal screen that sits above a partial-height brick wall. "I'm very proud of that tree," Johnna says.

“There are no straight lines in the house—everything is at an angle.”





But the outdoor space needed to be more than just an ode to picture-perfect plant life—it had to be a fully livable space too. So they added in a built-in fireplace, modeling it off of a picture they found of an older one in the house in the '70s. The raised fireplace is covered in natural stone and surrounded by a few chairs and a palm tree, creating an easy spot to relax by the fire with friends.

The family also added a jacuzzi—the perfect complement to the nearby solar-powered pool—and multiple outdoor dining and lounging spaces. Johnna adds that the whole landscaping project was finished just in time, right before the pandemic: “We got really lucky. [Being outside] was all we did.”





JOHNNA AND ELIJAH TURNED THEIR GARAGE INTO THREE SEPARATE SPACES: A HOME GYM, A LAUNDRY ROOM AND, AS JOHNNA CALLS IT, THE "HANGOUT ROOM." THE HANGOUT ROOM ALSO BOASTS A MURPHY BED FOR SOME EXTRA SLEEPING SPACE.

RARE REALTY

The art of buying and selling a one-of-a-kind home.

By Jackie Torres

Unique homes are hard to come by and buying and selling one can be a unique experience. Keven Stirdivant, founder and CEO of Kase Real Estate met Eli and Johnna after driving down the street admiring the mid mod homes in the area. "I drove past it and I had to turn around and I just went and knocked on the door," Keven says. "It's very rare that someone invites you in after the first 60 seconds of meeting you, but I think when they see the passion and the genuine interest [for the architecture] that's when it's easy to recognize and you let them in."

Keven confirmed his hunch as soon as he saw inside. "You immediately sense that this is 1 of 1. This was not something that was produced in mass quantities," he says. "It was like an art piece that the architect did, you can see that when you walk through. You can tell it was a true creative outlet for the architect."

Keven also says that preparing to sell a house like this is a whole different experience. "When you are selling a home with this rare and unique history, you don't use comps in the neighborhood. We do a wider look at the area and in multiple cities," he says. "We knew we could sell this for much more than what the usual suggestion would be. We have a large range of properties from San Diego to the Pacific Palisades, we had a different view of how buyers would appreciate this property." That passionate confidence led to the team selling the house for more than even they projected, setting a record for the area.

What's his advice for anyone looking to find a one-of-a-kind type of home like this? "It really requires scouring the neighborhoods and either writing letters and leaving notes yourself or ideally you have an agent that really understands what you are looking for and it's literally like finding a diamond in the rough," Keven says. "It takes a lot of attention to detail and intention to communicate with the homeowners because you have to be able to point out unique and special qualities of their home so that they know you aren't just sending out random letters to everyone. We're talking about special homes so you have to make the homeowners feel special and know that what they have is special."





THE PRIMARY BEDROOM BOASTS MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF WOOD. IT'S SOMETHING THE COUPLE HAD TO GET USED TO, BUT OVER TIME THEY'VE LEARNED TO EMBRACE IT. "WE TRIED TO PLAY OFF OF IT AND REALLY WORK WITH IT," JOHNNNA SAYS..



Their backyard became a lifeline of sorts in the isolated months of the pandemic. But even before this usage (and their prior renovation), the outdoor space's features, like its pond and pool, stood out to Elijah and Johnna—so much so that they inspired them to buy the home. "[The pond] was why we moved in—that and the diving board!" Johnna says.

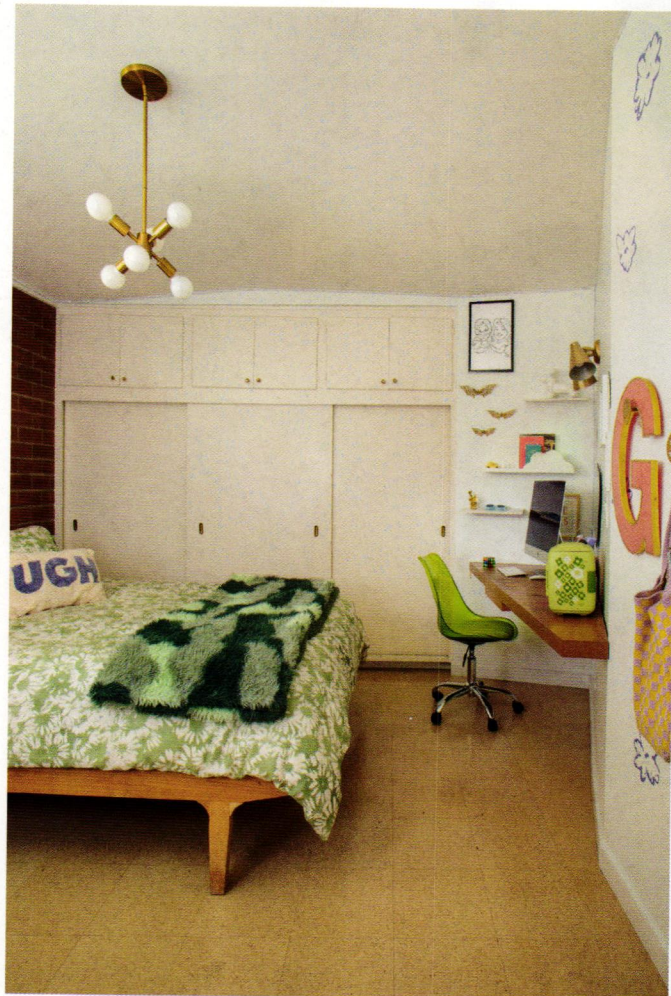
The very '70s style of the indoor-outdoor pond also heavily influenced the style and design of their backyard and this eclectic retro look makes its way into the interiors too, where houseplants abound. They've collected them over the years, and the frequent pops of green only add to the deep sense of indoor-outdoor living.

Earthy color palettes of green and brown dominate the interior, where Johnna and Elijah, who also own home staging company Frame Staging House, combined modern-day furniture alongside vintage pieces, creating a style that Johnna says is both "sophisticated and playful—I think I always go back to wanting to have a little bit of a '70s vibe."

Though they sold the home earlier this year, Johnna says that now that they've moved she can see just how "magical" the backyard was—and is. ☁



ABOVE, LEFT: WHEN ELIJAH AND JOHNNA REMODELED THE PRIMARY BATHROOM, THEY HAD TO ADD A FAUX WALL AS THE OLD ONE WASN'T STRAIGHT: "THERE ARE NO STRAIGHT LINES IN THE HOUSE—EVERYTHING IS AT AN ANGLE," JOHNNA SAYS.



ABOVE, RIGHT: THE HOME'S BEDROOMS HAVE KEPT MANY OF THEIR ORIGINAL ELEMENTS, LIKE THEIR WOOD CEILINGS, BUILT-IN CLOSETS AND BRICK WALLS.





ALL ABOUT THE ARCHITECTS

Though architects Powers, Daly, and DeRosa built this Long Beach home, they're best known for their modernist bowling alleys, which they built throughout California and other parts of the country. Their bowling alleys were heavily influenced by Googie Style, a fun-loving, bright and curvaceous style that takes inspiration from mid-century car culture and the Space Race.

Powers, Daly, and DeRosa designed over 50 bowling alleys between 1955 and 1962. One of their most famous projects is Covina Bowl, an A-framed bowling alley in Covina, California. *Bowlers Journal* said in 1962 that it "ultimately became the vanguard for the grandiose class of bowling center architecture." You can still visit it today, where it's now part of a large mixed-use redevelopment.

TOP: ANOTHER OUTDOOR DINING SPOT ENSURES THAT THEIR BACKYARD IS THE PERFECT PLACE FOR GATHERINGS, BOTH LARGE AND SMALL. RIGHT: A STATUESQUE PLUMERIA TREE SITS NEXT TO ONE OF THE HOME'S OUTDOOR DINING AREAS, WHERE IT ACTS AS A CENTERPIECE FOR THE SPACE.

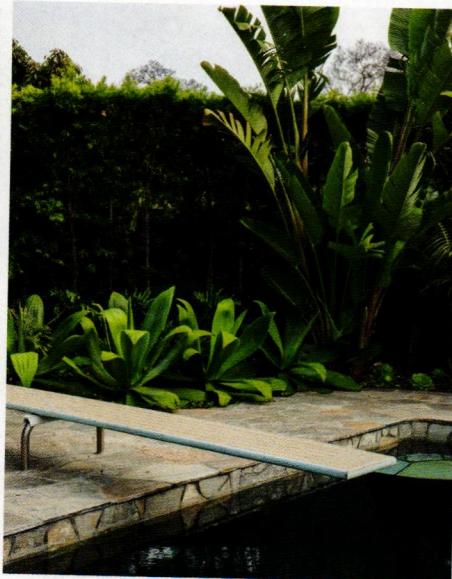


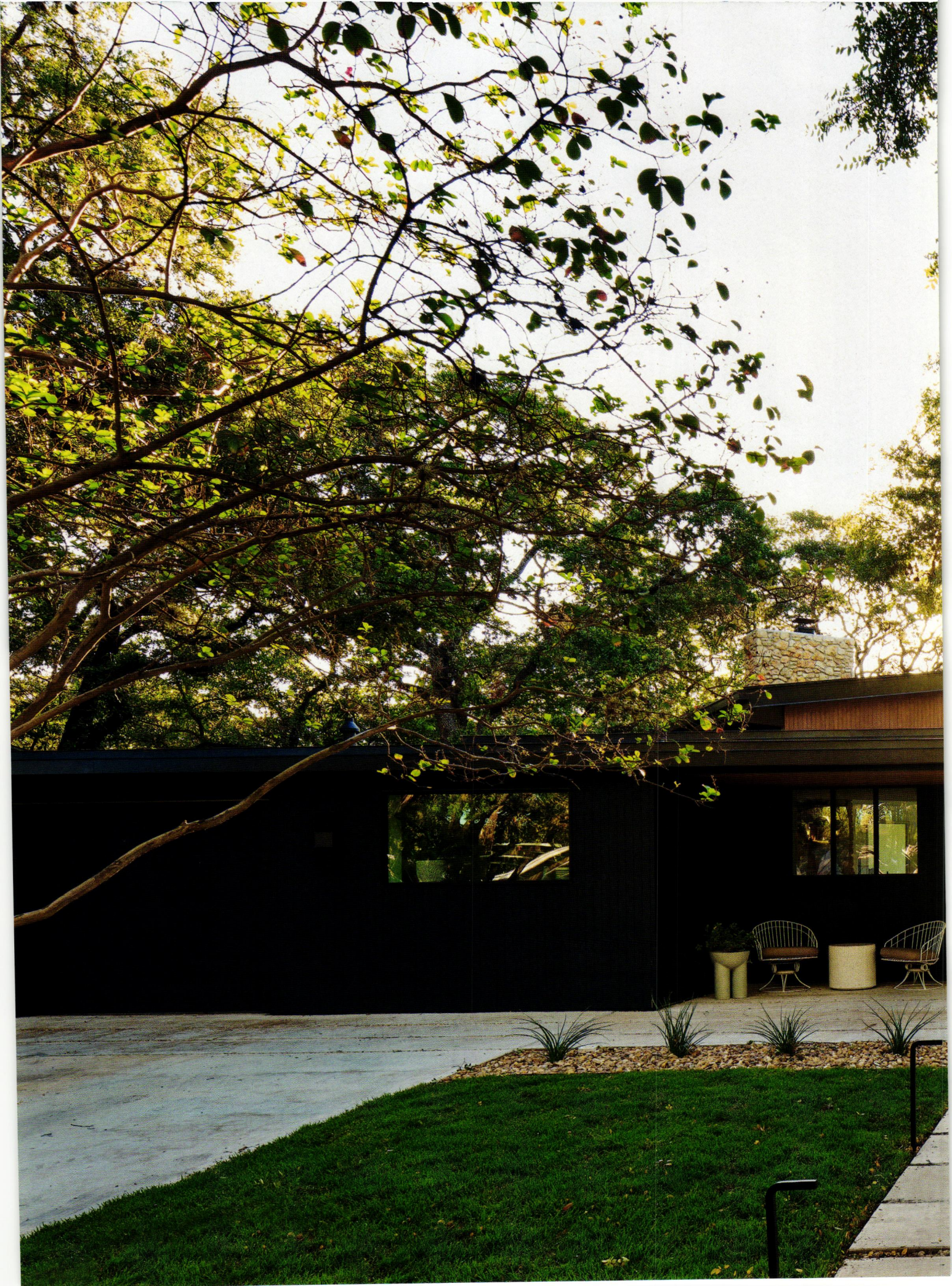


ABOVE: THE OTHER FEATURE THAT CONVINCED JOHNNA AND ELIJAH TO GO FOR THIS HOME WAS ITS DIVING BOARD. THOUGH THE INVITING POOL COULDN'T HAVE HURT TOO MUCH EITHER.

BELOW, LEFT: THE COUPLE ADDED A JACUZZI TO COMPLEMENT THE SOLAR-HEATED POOL, CREATING YET ANOTHER SPOT FOR OUTDOOR REST AND RELAXATION.

BELOW, RIGHT: ELIJAH AND JOHNNA MODELED THIS FIREPIT AFTER A PICTURE OF ONE THEY FOUND IN THEIR HOME FROM THE '70S. THE NATURAL STONE SURROUND IS THE SAME TYPE OF STONE USED ELSEWHERE IN THE BACKYARD.



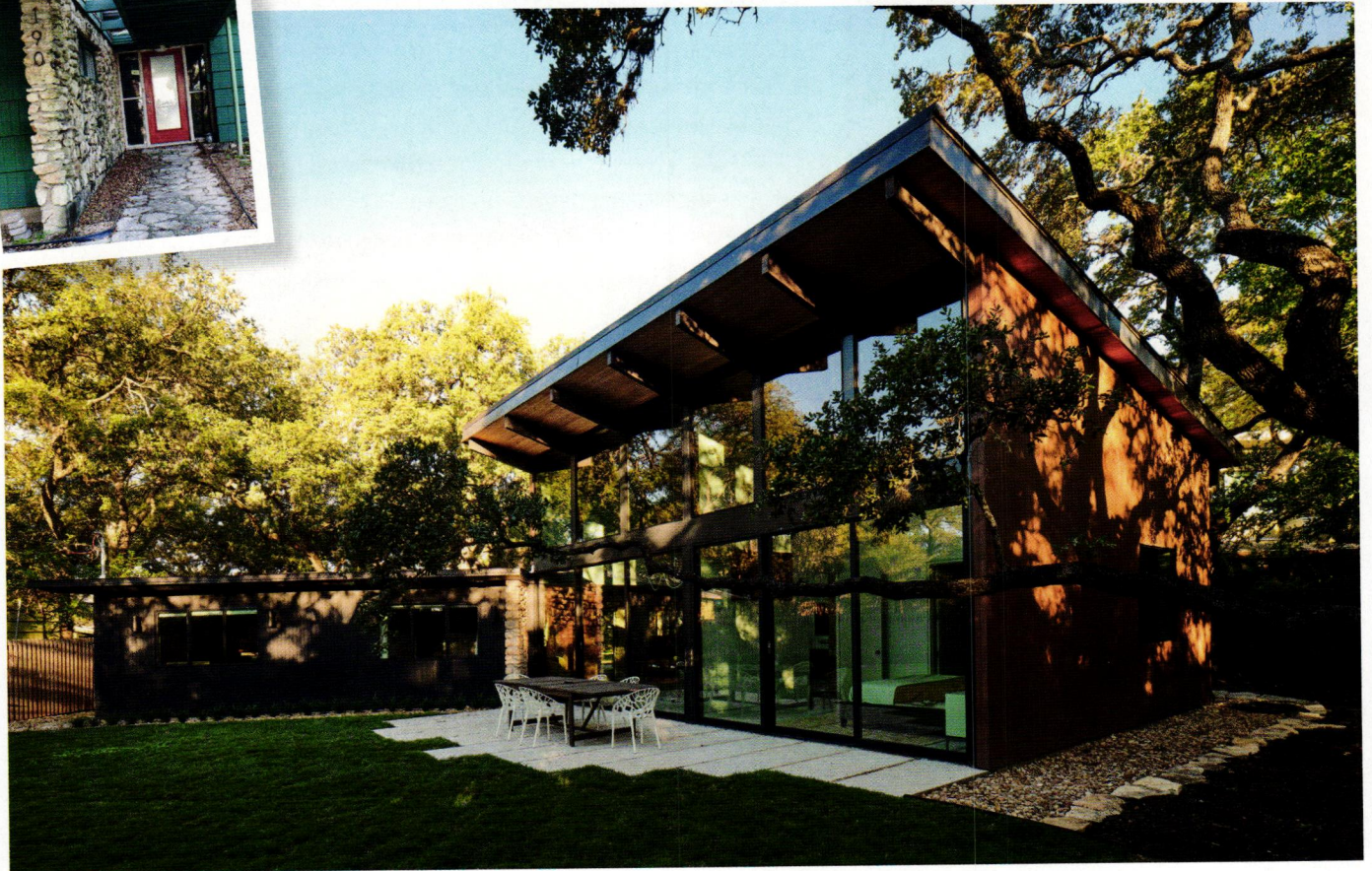




All the **Right** Angles

A dilapidated 1951 A.D. Stenger home gets a respectful renovation for a new generation.

GETTING THE EXTERIOR RIGHT WAS NOT ONLY ESSENTIAL TO FITTING WITH THE A.D. STENGER AESTHETIC BUT THE REST OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD AS WELL. INTERIOR DESIGNER CANDACE WONG MADE SURE NOT TO CHANGE TOO MUCH STRUCTURALLY ABOUT THE CURB APPEAL, KEEPING THE STREET-SIDE ELEVATION THE SAME AS WELL AS MAINTAINING MUCH OF THE ORIGINAL DETAILS. THE PREVIOUSLY CONVERTED CARPORT RETURNED IN A SMALLER CAPACITY AND BETTER MATCHED THE INTENDED AESTHETIC OF THE HOME.



TOP, LEFT: WHILE SOME MODERNIST HOMES IN PLACES LIKE PALM SPRINGS GO VIBRANT WITH THEIR DOORS, THE HOMEOWNERS WANTED SOMETHING MORE NATURAL. BUT NATURAL DOESN'T MEAN BORING, AS EXHIBITED BY THE STUNNING WALNUT-INLAY DOOR BY WATERLOO WOODWORKS. THE ORIGINAL STEELWORK FRAMING FOR THE DOOR WAS DONE IMPROPERLY, LEADING HOLLY AND TREY TO SHELL OUT A BIT MORE TO GET IT DONE RIGHT. "BUT THEY STAYED THE COURSE," CANDACE SAYS. "THANK GOD, BECAUSE IT'S JUST SUCH A BEAUTIFUL MOMENT."

TOP, RIGHT: WHILE THE ORIGINAL COLOR OF THE HOME WAS A DARK GREEN, CANDACE AND THE HOMEOWNERS OPTED FOR SOMETHING A BIT MORE NEUTRAL IN ORDER TO LET THE ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS AND POPS OF COLOR INSIDE THE HOUSE TAKE THE SPOTLIGHT. WHEN CANDACE SUGGESTED BLACK, TREY WAS IMMEDIATELY INTRIGUED, EVENTUALLY LEADING TO THE TONGUE-AND-GROOVE CEDAR SIDING STAINED WITH SHERWIN-WILLIAMS "TRICORN BLACK" THAT CLADS THE HOUSE TODAY.



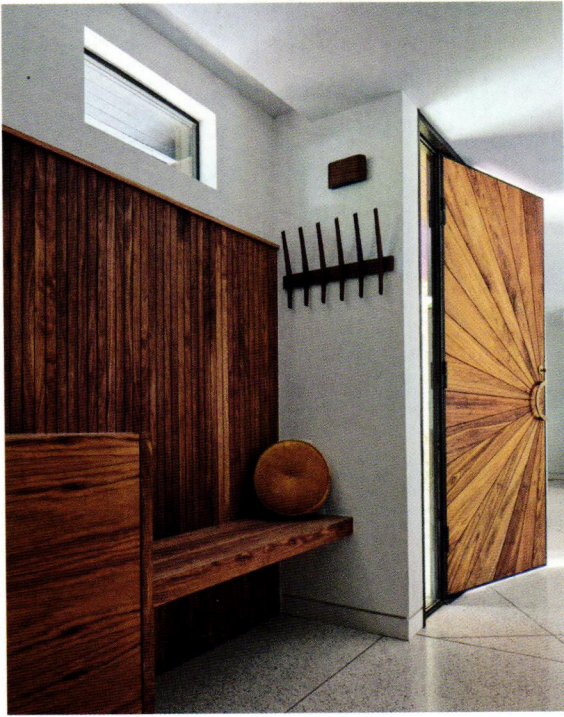
THE SEAMLESS TRANSITION OF INDOOR TO OUTDOOR WAS A CONSTANT CONSIDERATION THROUGHOUT THE PROJECT, AS WAS BEING ABLE TO CONTROL THE MOOD OF EVERY SPACE. "WE SPENT A LITTLE BIT EXTRA ON FIXTURES THAT WOULD DO A WARM DIM," CANDACE SAYS. "I ASSUME THAT ALL LIGHTS SHOULD BE DIMMABLE BECAUSE YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT LEVEL OF LIGHT EVERYBODY WANTS."

Preservation versus renovation. In the Mid Century Modern community, these two concepts combine as well as oil and water. But perhaps they're not as contentious as that. What if, in fact, renovation was actually a form of preservation? There is no proof of concept better than this home designed by architect A.D. Stenger in Austin, Texas. Built in 1951, the home was dilapidated by the time it was discovered by owners Holly and Trey in 2018. It was with deep consideration of the original architect's vision and the neighborhood's desire to see these homes live on that the home truly embodies the "modern" in Mid Century Modern. That's where interior designer Candace Wong, principal of cwA+D (Candace Wong Architecture + Design) comes in.

RESCUING A LEGEND

"I think Trey actually said, 'Oh, hell no,' or maybe even something more expletive when they first visited, because it was actively leaking—it dripped on his head when they first saw it," Candace, the project architect, says describing the sorry state of the home in 2018.

The house was in disrepair due in no small part to previous renovation attempts. The structure's original carport had been converted into an enclosed garage, which was then converted into an accessory dwelling. An air-conditioning unit had been installed with a drop ceiling that covered up clerestory windows. However, despite the numerous design changes and structural fixes needed, Holly could see the property had good bones. And Candace, the project's lead architect, made it her goal to restore the home's history and create a modern, livable space for her clients.



TOP: SOME OF THE STRONGEST MID CENTURY MODERN DETAILS WERE NOT ORIGINAL TO THE HOUSE, LIKE THIS CUSTOM WALNUT ENTRYWAY BY WATERLOO WOODWORKS, WHICH WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STRIKING FRONT DOOR. THE ADDITION OF QUALITY MILLWORK BLENDS IN WITH THE NATURAL ELEMENTS THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE.

ABOVE: WHILE CANDACE FOCUSED ON EMBODYING THE SPIRIT OF A.D. STENGER AND HER CLIENTS, HER PERSONAL ARCHITECTURAL STYLE WAS EVIDENT IN SOME OF THE FINER DETAILS. THESE FLUSH BASEBOARDS AND FRAMING ELEMENTS ARE NEW TOUCHES FROM HER TIME IN LOS ANGELES AND CAN BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE HOUSE.

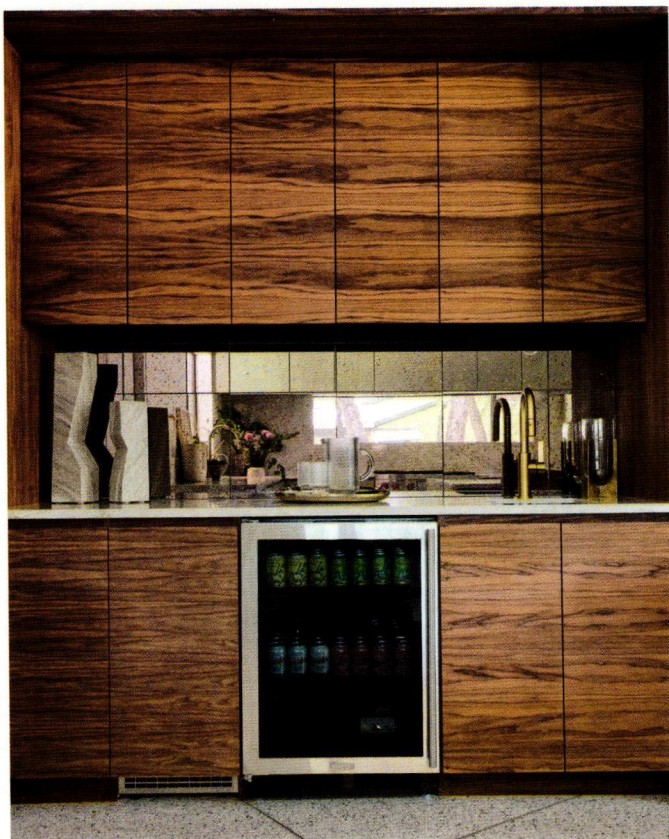
THE SPECTACULAR CENTERPIECE TO THE MAIN LIVING AREA IS THE LOW-SLUNG, NATURAL STONE FIREPLACE, WHICH IS ALMOST ENTIRELY ORIGINAL. A.D. STENGER SOURCED THE STONES FROM THE VERY LAND THE HOME SITS ON AND WHEN IT CAME TIME TO RAISE THE CEILING, THE PROJECT'S BUILDERS WERE ABLE TO QUARRY MORE OF THE SAME STONES FROM THE PROPERTY TO EXTEND THE FIREPLACE SEAMLESSLY.





TOP, LEFT: PRIOR TO RENOVATION, THE KITCHEN WAS A TRUE 1950S KITCHEN IN EVERY WAY, FROM SIZE TO ORGANIZATION. THE ADDITION OF A QUARTZITE ISLAND IS CERTAINLY A MORE MODERN TOUCH, BUT IT ADDS NOT JUST FORM BUT FUNCTION TO A BUSY SPACE. "THE KITCHEN IS DOING A LOT MORE THAN IT USED TO DO BACK IN THE DAY," CANDACE EXPLAINS. "IT'S A PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO COME AND HANG OUT. IT'S THE PLACE FOR [DAUGHTER] SLOANE TO DO HOMEWORK. IT'S EXTRA COUNTERTOP SPACE IN CASE YOU HAVE TO TAKE A ZOOM. BEING ABLE TO GET THEM A LARGER WORKSPACE IN THE KITCHEN WAS PART OF THE THE DESIGN GOAL."

BELOW, LEFT: WHILE THERE WASN'T ENOUGH SPACE TO MAKE A BAR IN THE LIVING AREA, CANDACE MANAGED TO GIVE THE COUPLE A BAR AREA IN THE KITCHEN. MORE WALNUT MILLWORK MAKES THIS NOOK STAND OUT WHILE AN ANN SACKS MIRRORED-TILE BACKSPLASH WITH A SLIGHT PURPLE TINT GIVESTHE AREA THE "PSYCHEDELIC CHIC" TREY AND HOLLY LOVE.





CANDACE LOVES PRECISION. EVERY GROUT LINE, WINDOWSILL AND PIECE OF HARDWARE IS ALIGNED AND CENTERED EXACTLY, DOWN TO 1/16TH OF AN INCH. HOLLY HAD SOURCED ENOUGH MATERIALS TO ALLOW CANDACE SOME FREEDOM, RESULTING IN THE QUARTZITE COUNTERTOP EXTENDING TO THE BACKSPLASH BEHIND THE STOVE AND EVEN FORMING A SEAMLESS WINDOWSILL BEHIND THE SINK. "IT'S THOSE REALLY NERDY DETAILS THAT MAKE MY HEART HAPPY," SHE SAYS.



Candace considered the neighborhood and the architect, which in this case were one and the same. "It's called the A.D. Stenger Addition neighborhood and it's got 25 other Stenger homes there," she explains. "You turn down the street and you immediately know that it's a special neighborhood because you see all the Stengers there. And it feels like you've kind of time-warped into back to the '50s. I just love that it was this whole neighborhood, it had this story. It had the history of Austin behind it."

Known as the "Texas Eichler," Arthur Dallas Stenger first came to the area while attending the University of Texas at Austin, where he would eventually build more than 100 homes. The Stenger legacy is strong in town, with several of his neighborhoods lovingly preserved to this day, including the final home he built and lived in that is still occupied by his daughter, Marlene Ciccarelli. "She invited me over to her

house to show me photo albums and to give me the A.D. Stenger spiel," says Candace, who met with Marlene while in the planning stages of the renovation. "She's a huge fan of what her father had done because he established so many wonderful neighborhoods and homes that will continue to be the fabric of Austin."

A BOLD FIRST IMPRESSION

Knowing that any changes to the exterior would affect not just the home but the neighborhood, Candace and her clients considered every angle—literally. They wanted to raise the ceiling height by 5 feet. "We were able to keep the front building all at the same height because that was very important to the neighbors," Candace says. The result is a very clean and simple update to the front elevation of the home, a low-slung roof with a nice surprise angle in the back. The next question was color.



WHEN HOLLY AND TREY FIRST ARRIVED ON SITE IN 2018, THE YARD WAS OVERGROWN WITH WEEDS AND BAMBOO THAT HAD GOTTEN OUT OF CONTROL. ONCE IT WAS CLEARED, HOWEVER, THE YARD PROVED TO BE QUITE SPACIOUS. "IT WAS A REALLY GREAT SURPRISE," CANDACE SAYS. "YOU DON'T ALWAYS GET THOSE IN REMODELS AND ADDITIONS, BUT IT'S A REALLY GREAT SURPRISE TO SEE HOW BIG OF A YARD THEY HAD, SO ESTABLISHING A BETTER AND MORE OBVIOUS CONNECTION FROM THE INTERIOR TO THE EXTERIOR, A VERY QUINTESSENTIAL MID-CENTURY MOVE, WAS ALSO IMPORTANT."

OPPOSITE: THE LIVING ROOM IS A SHOW-STOPPING SPACE THAT COMBINES THE MANY ELEMENTS OF CANDACE AND HOLLY'S DESIGN ETHOS. THE FORMER CACTUS GARDEN IS NOW A "JAM WALL" THAT STILL CONNECTS INDOORS TO OUT. A SURREY SUSPENSION LED CHANDELIER BY LUKE LAMP CO. IS A BOLD, ROUNDED CONTRAST TO THE ROOM'S RIGHT ANGLES AND ABUNDANCE OF NATURAL ELEMENTS.




MEET **A.D. STENGER**

If you're not from Austin, you might not be familiar with the name of the "Texas Eichler." With more than 100 homes built in the Austin area, Stenger became the most prolific residential modernist designer in the city. His style is unique while also exhibiting some of desert modernists' favorite details: open living areas, large windows and low-pitched roofs. Stenger's homes often featured coveted stone details such as rock fireplaces and walls using stones he had quarried from the site.

Like many modernist architects and designers, Stenger was prone to experimentation, playing with new ideas and materials with every new project. The home across from Holly and Trey's, the first build in the neighborhood, was Stenger's personal residence. In it, he built a massive skylight and a folding glass door—designs that are contemporary architectural mainstays.

Stenger was also a strong believer in sweat equity. If you couldn't afford a down payment for one of his homes, you could work it off. He would work with each client, building each home one by one, allowing home buyers to have a direct hand in their home. This, combined with his penchant for experimenting, meant that every home was different from the last, all while having that distinct Stenger style.



Candace and Holly's goal for the home's curb appeal was to let the lines and environment do the talking, so the original green exterior had to go. "I jokingly said, 'Well, we could murder this out,'" says Candace, referring to painting the house all black. "I think Trey was really intrigued by that—like, oh, that sounds really cool."

The result is a striking exterior punctuated with natural wood and stone accents. The long entryway pulls you in to a truly spectacular detail: a sculpted wood door by Waterloo Woodworks floating in its glass-and-steel frame. "Letting the design and the texture of the door do the work rather than a color also helped the idea of keeping everything very neutral," Candace says. "There's still little fun pops here and there, but really, once you open up that door, that's when you get to kind of discover some of the more fun moves and pops of color inside."

ALTHOUGH THE HOME'S ORIGINAL TONGUE-AND-GROOVE CEILING HAD TO GO, THE SPECTACULAR WESTERN RED CEDAR BY DELTA MILLWORKS IS A FINE REPLACEMENT. THE LOW-PROFILE BED AND REJUVENATION SCONCES FURTHER EMPHASIZE THE DRAMATIC ROOFLINE.



ABOVE, LEFT: "THE FLOATING MIRROR IN FRONT OF THE LARGE WINDOW IS ONE OF THE THINGS I THINK WERE REALLY FUN IDEAS THAT I THOUGHT I HAD THE ROOM TO EXPLORE," CANDACE SAYS, EXPLAINING HOW MODERN MANUFACTURING ALLOWS FOR ARCHITECTURAL CONCEPTS THEY COULDN'T ACCOMPLISH IN THE '50S. "IT GIVES YOU A LOT MORE CAPABILITIES, LIKE STREAMLINING SOME OF THE MILLWORK AND THE CABINETS AND THE VANITIES, BEING ABLE TO DO HIGH-END LOOK TO ALL OF THESE THINGS. I THINK I BROUGHT A LOT OF THE LOS ANGELES AESTHETIC TO THE PROJECT IN SOME OF THESE INTERIOR SPACES WHERE I THOUGHT I WASN'T STEPPING ON ANY OF STENGER'S TOES."

RIGHT: WHILE HOLLY AND CANDACE WORKED HAND IN HAND ON EVERY DETAIL, THERE WERE ONLY ONE OR TWO ASKS FROM TREY. A STEAM SHOWER WAS ONE OF THEM, BUT SINCE THE CURRENT GLASS SHOWER WITH OPEN, VAULTED CEILING WAS ALREADY IN THE PLANS, CANDACE HAD TO GET CREATIVE. SHE ENCLOSED THE SHOWER WITH MORE GLASS, MAKING A TRANSPARENT, STEAM-FILLED CUBE IN THE PRIMARY BATH. "IT'S A FUN GLASS CEILING THAT TWO WOMEN DESIGNED FOR THEMSELVES IN 2020, LIKE MID-ELECTION," CANDACE JOKES. "WE HAD AN IRONIC LAUGH AT THAT."

ABOVE, RIGHT: THE PRIMARY BEDROOM BENEFITS FROM THE SAME RAISED ROOF AS THE MAIN LIVING AREA, CREATING A LOFTY, BREATHABLE SPACE. SOMETHING THAT MAKES AUSTIN A UNIQUE PLACE FOR LARGE, MID-CENTURY WINDOWS ARE THE BEAUTIFUL OAK AND PECAN TREES THAT CAN BE SEEN FROM PRETTY MUCH EVERY ROOM IN THE HOUSE. "BEING ABLE TO LOOK UP, GET SOME REALLY NICE LIGHT BUT ALSO SEE THE CONNECTION TO THE CANOPY OF THE TREES AND THE SWAYING OF THE LEAVES—IT'S A REALLY CALMING THING THAT YOU DON'T KNOW THAT YOU'RE MISSING UNTIL YOU'RE NOT IN AUSTIN," CANDACE SAYS.





ABOVE: THE STONE-CLAD "JAM WALL" IN THE LIVING AREA BOASTS THAT SITE-QUARRIED STONE ON BOTH SIDES. "THAT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL TEXTURE AND BACKGROUND. IT'S DEFINITELY THE BETTER OF THE TWO BEDROOMS IN THAT WING, SO SLOANE GOT TO HAVE IT," CANDACE SAYS.

BELOW: ALTHOUGH THE FAMILY HAD TO SAY GOODBYE TO THE HOME'S ORIGINAL CACTUS GARDEN, THEY TURNED THE REMAINING STONE-CLAD SPACE INTO A "JAM WALL," WHERE TREY (RIGHT) AND SLOANE CAN HAVE THEIR MUSIC JAM SESSIONS.



PAINTING THE CANVAS

If the exterior of the house is about understated drama, the interior is a true show-stopping moment. The living room's heightened ceiling opens up the house, simultaneously expanding the rear wall of windows as well as returning those lost clerestories to their rightful place. The stone-clad fireplace is all original, constructed with stones quarried from the site, which came in handy when extending the fireplace. "The construction team was actually able to quarry the stone just like Stenger did," Candace says.

Of course, not everything can be original. The poured concrete floor got an era-appropriate update with large-format epoxy terrazzo tiles. The only true loss was the removal of a charming stone-framed cactus garden at the entryway, which then-pregnant Holly opted to remove. "A garden inside is probably not the best thing to have with a new baby," Candace says, emphasizing the garden's role in connecting interior and exterior. "What's fun is that it was this quirky cactus garden before and now its new life is the jam corner, where they keep all the guitars."



ABOVE, LEFT: THE SECONDARY BATHROOM IS A COMMON BATHROOM BUT ALSO SERVES AS THE PRIMARY BEDROOM FOR SLOANE. THE ANN SACKS TILE TRANSITIONS SEAMLESSLY FROM FULL CIRCLES TO HALF-MOONS AT THE VANITY WITH A PERFECTLY CENTERED FAUCET, MORE INTRICATE DETAILING FROM CANDACE. WHILE THE GREEN TILES ADD A BIT OF MODERNIST, KID-FRIENDLY FUN, THE ACQUA VENATO QUARTZITE VANITY ADDS A CONTEMPORARY SOPHISTICATION FOR GUESTS. **ABOVE, MIDDLE:** AS ONE OF THE FEW POPS OF GREEN IN THE HOME, THESE RIBBED MOON TILES FROM ANN SACKS, ANOTHER HOLLY FIND, MAKE A HUGE IMPACT THAT CAN BE SEEN ALL THE WAY FROM THE ENTRANCE. CANDACE WENT THE EXTRA MILE FOR THE TUB, OPTING FOR AN UNDERMOUNT TUB SEAMLESSLY CLAD IN THE SAME TERRAZZO TILES THAT MAKE UP THE HOME'S FLOORING. **ABOVE, RIGHT:** A LONG HALLWAY SHOWS OFF MORE CUSTOM WALNUT MILLWORK WHILE GIVING ANYONE WHO WALKS IN A TANTALIZING PEEK AT THE CIRCULAR GREEN TILES OF THE SECONDARY BATH.

White walls, black framing details, sumptuous millwork, natural stone—these features are what make up the canvas upon which Holly and Trey sketch out their home's personality. There's the chartreuse kitchen cabinetry, the green-glazed tile in the secondary bathroom that seamlessly transitions from circles to half-moons. Even the purple-tinted mirrored tiles of the bar area exude a sort of "psychedelic chic" unique to the home's current occupants. But it's the architectural not-so-blank slate that allows those interior design choices to live and breathe with the house.

"You know it will change up every time there's a new homeowner," Candace says. "Ideally, the architecture will stand the test of time and be a really beautiful backdrop for whatever, and whoever, comes in its future." 🌀

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FROM THE BACKYARD, THE EXTREME CONTRAST OF THE HOME'S FRONT AND REAR ELEVATIONS IS PARTICULARLY DRAMATIC.





Revived in LAS VEGAS

A 1962 ranch home designed by Palmer and Krisel gets a complete mid-century renovation seven years in the making.

By Victoria Van Vlear | Photography by April Mench

"We put it back to the original mid-century feel,"
homeowner Kyle Wright says. *"Now the home not only*
matches the neighborhood but stands as a testament to
the original vision, suited for 21st-century living."

ONE OF THE MAJOR CHANGES HOMEOWNERS KYLE AND HOLLY MADE WAS TO TAKE OUT A KITCHEN WALL AND OPEN UP THE KITCHEN AND LIVING ROOM AREAS. THE BAR STOOLS ARE VINTAGE PIECES THAT CAME FROM KYLE'S FIRST MCM HOME. "THEY'VE BEEN IN LAS VEGAS SINCE THE 1960s," KYLE SAYS. "WE HAD TO CUT THEM DOWN TO COUNTER HEIGHT FROM BAR HEIGHT TO FIT THE ISLAND." THE SOFA IN THE LIVING ROOM AREA IS A KNOCKOFF THE COUPLE ORDERED ONLINE. "NO ONE BELIEVES ME WHEN I TELL THEM," HOLLY SAYS.

In 1961, architects Dan Palmer and William Krisel were finishing up a housing development in Palm Springs, California. At the same time, in Las Vegas, developer Irwin Molasky was starting construction on the first master-planned neighborhood in the city, called Paradise Palms. The development was originally supposed to contain 300 homes situated alongside the Las Vegas National Golf Course. Molasky was inspired by Palmer and Krisel's work in Palm Springs and wanted to hire them to design his new development, so he waited until they finished up their project, even though he'd already broken ground. And when he finally approached Palmer and Krisel, they were eager to design homes in a different desert.

By the time Paradise Palms was completed in the late 1970s, it had over 1,000 homes instead of the original 300 as well as the first enclosed mall in southern Nevada. Today, it's a designated historical neighborhood and still a desirable place to live. The houses have classic MCM features such as asymmetrical rooflines, bright colors, sunken living rooms and floor-to-ceiling windows.

HISTORY OF THE HOME

This is the neighborhood landscape into which Kyle Wright and Holly Erker came to view the 1962 ranch house on Seneca Drive. "We both fell in love with the back windows," Holly says. "It's 100 feet of floor-to-ceiling original commercial-grade windows." There had only been two previous sets of homeowners: Joseph and Dorothy Terefenko bought the house for \$35,550 in 1962 and sold it to Don and Sandie Hamilton in 1977. When Don and Sandie passed away, their son sold the house to Kyle and Holly in 2017. "The second owners had purchased the house in 1977 and that's when they did their renovations," Holly says.



"We put it back to the original mid-century feel rather than the '80s Tuscan feel."

—Kyle Wright





ABOVE: THE CURB APPEAL IMPROVED AS KYLE AND HOLLY ADDED DESERT LANDSCAPING, RE-STUCCOED THE HOUSE AND REDID THE FRONT COURTYARD. "YOU WALKED INTO THE COURTYARD AND THERE WERE THREE DOORS," HOLLY SAYS. "WE TOOK THAT DOWN TO ONE FRONT DOOR." THE COUPLE ALSO TOOK OUT A LATTICE COVERING OVER THE COURTYARD, ADDED A SHADOW-BLOCK WALL AND UNCOVERED THE BUTTERFLY ROOFLINE. "THE SECOND HOMEOWNERS ADDED A 100-FOOT-LONG PERGOLA DECK THAT WAS ATTACHED TO THE ROOF OF THE HOUSE SO YOU COULD GO SIT ON THE ROOF. THEY LIKED TO WATCH THE GOLF TOURNAMENTS," HOLLY SAYS. "BUT IT WAS RICKETY AND DANGEROUS UP THERE. TAKING IT OUT ALLOWED US TO SEE BUTTERFLY ROOF IN BACK."

OPPOSITE: THE 100-FOOT WALL OF GLASS IN THE BACK OF THE HOUSE IS WHAT SOLD KYLE AND HOLLY. "THERE ARE THREE LARGE SLIDERS THAT OPEN TO THE BACKYARD TO LET THE OUTSIDE IN AND THE INSIDE OUT," KYLE SAYS. "WE DO HAVE GOOD INDOOR/OUTDOOR LIVING AREAS. WE HOST SOME HUGE OUTSIDE PARTIES WITH 150 PEOPLE. IT DOESN'T FEEL PRESSURED IN THE HOUSE WITH THOSE HUGE SLIDERS." KYLE AND HOLLY REFINISHED THE POOL, WHICH IS ORIGINAL TO THE HOUSE. THEY TOOK OUT THE ADJOINING HOT TUB AND REPLACED IT WITH A WET DECK.

"Nothing had been done since." The previous homeowners added onto the home's footprint, bringing it from 1,720 square feet to 2,892 square feet. But the updates hid original mid-century features, like the butterfly roofline, and replaced most of the original finishings inside. Kyle and Holly wanted to change that.

"It took some time to figure out what we wanted," Kyle says. "We lived in the house throughout the renovations and a lot of the changes came from actually living in it." It's always a good idea to live in a house before deciding what changes to make. "I think that was such a huge value, being able to live in it and not jump into renovations right away," Holly says. "We lived here three years before we really started anything inside." Instead, the couple started outside, partly by necessity.

"There was a broken irrigation line, and when we got the first water bill, that was the indication of where to start first," Holly says. They replaced the lawns with desert landscaping, resurfaced the pool and decking, replaced the back fence with a breeze-block wall and re-stuccoed the house.

RESTORATION SEQUENCE

The couple decided to hire a local mid-century specialist, designer Mark Adams. "He's done a lot of residential projects in Las Vegas," Holly says. "We gave him carte blanche to do whatever he wanted. We couldn't have done this without him." They renovated the house in three phases: First came the exteriors, then 2,000 square feet of the main living spaces and primary suite.



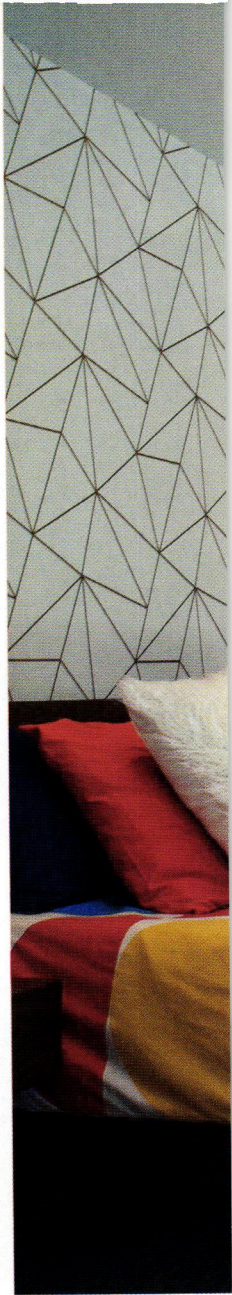
ABOVE: KYLE AND HOLLY CHOSE TO ADD THEIR COOKTOP TO THE KITCHEN ISLAND. "WE HAD SOMEWHAT LIMITED COUNTERSPACE ON THE SIDES," KYLE EXPLAINS. "THE ISLAND IS A LARGE PART OF THE STORAGE AS WELL AS THE COOKTOP." THE KITCHEN IS KYLE'S FAVORITE ROOM IN THE HOUSE. "I DO QUITE A BIT OF THE COOKING AND OUR COOKTOP IS ON THE ISLAND FACING THE BACKYARD," HE SAYS. "IT'S GREAT TO BE ABLE TO COOK AND LOOK OUTSIDE AT THE GOLF COURSE AT THE SAME TIME."





RIGHT: THE PRIMARY BEDROOM HAS A WALL OF WINDOWS AND IS A MIX OF NEW AND AUTHENTIC VINTAGE. THE BEDDING IS NEW, THE EGG CHAIR IS A REPRODUCTION AND THE ARTWORK IS VINTAGE. "THAT WAS A GIFT FROM A NEIGHBOR," HOLLY SAYS. "WHEN NEIGHBORS LEAVE, THEY GIVE OTHER NEIGHBORS FIRST DIBS TO BUY THINGS. A LOT OF ARTWORK ROTATES HOUSE TO HOUSE."

BELOW: IN THE KITCHEN, THE ISLAND HAS A BUILT-IN DROP-DOWN TABLE. "IT'S ATTACHED," KYLE SAYS. "EVERYTHING IS THAT QUARTZ COUNTERTOP, SO THE FOUR-PERSON TABLE IS BUILT IN." IT'S A PERFECT PLACE TO EAT CASUAL MEALS WHILE LOOKING OUT AT THE GOLF COURSE.



FOR MORE ON LAS VEGAS MODERNISM, CHECK OUT ATOMIC-RANCH.COM.



Phase 3 was the last 1,000 square feet, which included two bedrooms and bathrooms. While they were finishing Phase 3 in late 2023, Mark passed away, leaving the house on Seneca Drive as the last legacy of his restorative mid-century work.

DESIGN BASICS

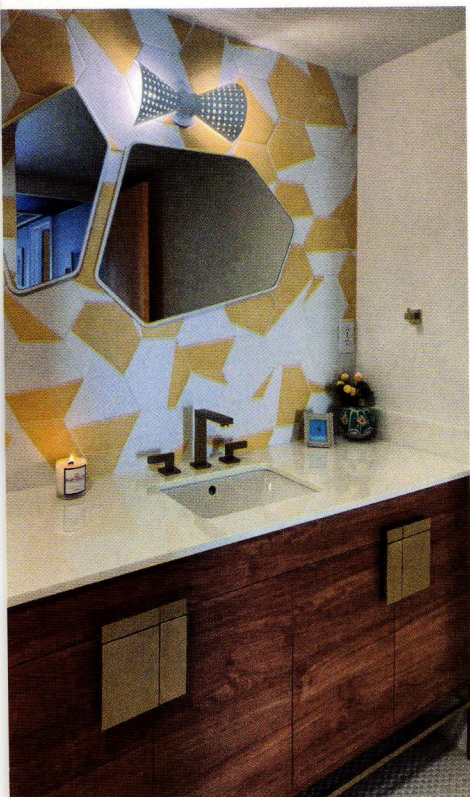
Central to the design was the color palette. Mark picked aqua, gold and white, which had an unexpectedly emotional connection for Holly. "Mark was inspired by the Howard Johnson hotels of the 1960s," Holly says. "Around the same time, I was on a drill team in Seattle and those were the team colors. I still volunteer with that team, so it was very emotional, what the colors represent to me. It felt like it was meant to be."

Some of the interior changes included opening up the kitchen to the rest of the living areas and converting a large

closet into a new primary bathroom. "There was a weird bedroom/bathroom built into the side of the garage," Holly says. "We took that out too." The flooring was previously a Tuscan-inspired tile, so they replaced it with stained concrete and terrazzo. "We tried to be as period-specific as possible," Holly explains, adding, "We love the look of walnut, so there's walnut in every room."

While there were very few original features left when Kyle and Holly moved in, they did the work of revitalizing the home's original Palm Springs-inspired style. "We put it back to the original mid-century feel rather than the '80s Tuscan feel," Kyle says. Now the home not only matches the neighborhood but stands as a testament to the original vision, suited for 21st-century living. ☼

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TOP: THE GUEST BEDROOM IS ON THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE, FACING THE STREET. "THE HUGE COMMERCIAL-GRADE ALUMINUM FRAME WINDOWS AREN'T ORIGINAL, BUT THEY ARE FROM THE FIRST HOMEOWNERS," HOLLY SAYS. THE WALLPAPER IS A FEATURE WALL THAT ADDS COLOR AND GEOMETRY. "THAT WAS A HARD CHOICE," HOLLY SAYS. "WE ORIGINALLY WANTED WOOD PANELING IN THERE, BUT WE ALSO WANTED TO KEEP THAT SPECIFIC FOR THE LIVING ROOM."

ABOVE, RIGHT: KYLE AND HOLLY CONVERTED ONE OF THE BEDROOMS INTO AN OFFICE FOR HOLLY. IT HAS BECOME HER FAVORITE ROOM IN THE HOUSE. "THE COLORS [OF THE WALLPAPER] ARE VERY SENTIMENTAL TO ME," SHE SAYS. THE DESK IS A VINTAGE PIECE THAT CAME FROM A NEIGHBOR'S HOUSE. "IT HAS ROTATED AROUND TO SEVERAL HOUSES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD," HOLLY SAYS. ON THE WALL IS A SHAG COMMEMORATIVE ART PIECE FROM THE 2019 PALM SPRINGS MODERNISM WEEK, WHICH KYLE AND HOLLY ATTENDED.



ABOVE: DAISY THE DOG ENJOYS THE BACKYARD. KYLE AND HOLLY REPLACED THE LAWN WITH ARTIFICIAL GRASS TO SAVE ON WATER BILLS AND REPLACED THE BACK FENCE WITH A BREEZE-BLOCK WALL SO THEY COULD STILL ENJOY A VIEW OF THE NEARBY GOLF COURSE.



NEVADA PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

This home was part of 2024 Home + History Las Vegas tour.

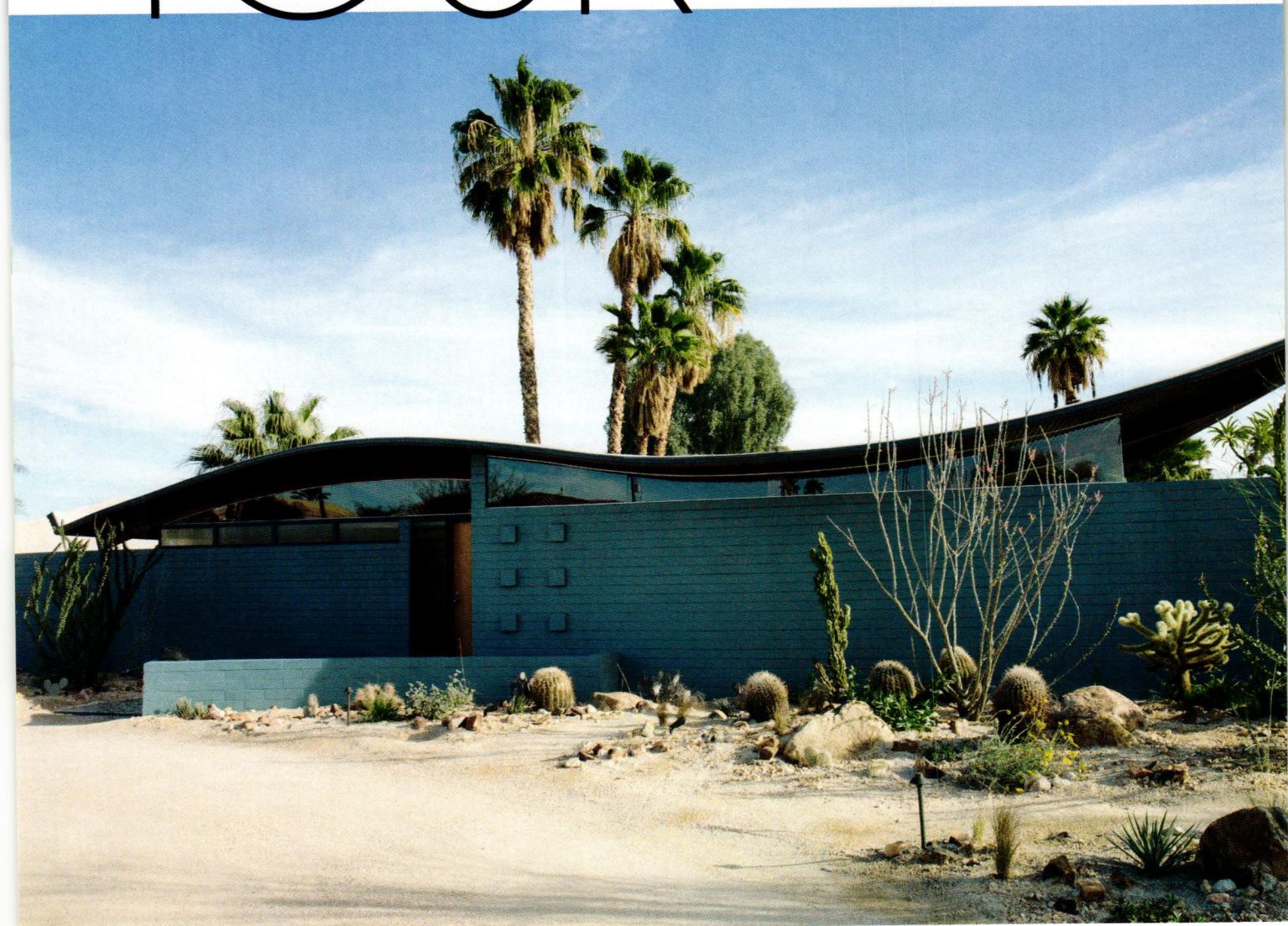
For an area like Las Vegas with a lot of mid-century architecture, promoting preservation is key. That's what the Nevada Preservation Foundation has been doing for the last 10 years. "NPF has worked on projects throughout the state of Nevada from a variety of eras," says Amy Raymer, board vice president and programming chair. The NPF has helped to preserve Nevada historical sites from the 1910s, 1930s and on. "We are housed in Las Vegas, which saw its first population boom around WWII," Amy says. "Many of our residential and commercial structures were constructed around the needs of the growing post-WWII community." Nevada has several pockets of MCM structures, not only in Las Vegas and the surrounding Clark County but also in Reno, which includes a Richard Neutra-designed Church Fine Arts Building.

Home + History is NPF's signature heritage tourism event and their largest fundraiser. Kyle Wright and Holly Erker are members and their home was part of the tour in 2024, which took place in Las Vegas on May 1-4. "We have a growing membership base as well as highly-engaged volunteers," Amy says. If you're in Nevada and would like to get involved, head to their website at nevadapreservation.org.

TAKE A MOD WORLD TOUR

A new book chronicles some of the world's most significant Mid Century Modern homes and gives you a peek inside their history and their doors.

By Jackie Torres



The Wave House, Walter White

PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA

Our view of notable Mid Century Modern buildings in the world is often a mistakenly U.S.-centric one. The Farnsworth house, the Eames house, The Kaufmann and Glass houses and The Gropius house come to mind. A new book from gestalten, *Modernist Icons: Midcentury Houses and Interiors*, aims to broaden the average architecture fan's worldview by cataloguing more than 40 houses—most of them international—that have come to embody and represent the modernist movement as a whole. Yes, you'll find all the musts, but you may learn and rediscover a refreshingly diverse group of architects and treasures that redefine the breadth of the movement for you. Here are just a few:

Look no further than the roots of Walter S. White's early life—his father was in the construction business and Walter spent the early part of his career working in an airplane factory during World War II—and it's easy to understand his intrinsically mechanical nature drove the core of his work as an architect. His Wave house, built in 1955 has a roofline meant to mimic the San Jacinto mountains behind it. Made of precast concrete, steel columns, teak and Douglas fir wood along with locally sourced stone. "It's significant to Modernism because it exemplifies the key principles of the movement, including simplicity of form, a focus on function and efficiency and a belief that architecture should respond to the needs of the individual and the environment.

THE HOME'S BIOCONCAVE ROOF WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT USING A CONSTRUCTION METHOD DEVELOPED BY WHITE. THE HOME'S DESIGN WAS MADE TO CAPTURE THE ERA'S PENCHANT FOR SURFING CULTURE WITH A SEMI-OPEN FLOOR PLAN BENEATH THE WAVE-LIKE ROOF.



PHOTO CREDIT:(THE WAVE HOUSE, WALTER S. WHITE), PHOTO: NATASHA LEE, MODERNIST ICONS, GESTALTEN 2023

PHOTOS: NELSON KON, MODERNIST ICONS, GESTALTEN 2023



Das Canoas House, Oscar Niemeyer

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

Known as the “sculptor of monuments” both for his penchant for working with reinforced concrete to create undulating and organic shapes as well as his prolific body of work in the area of civic buildings, Oscar Niemeyer’s own home, dubbed Das Canoas, was his tribute to the Edith Farnsworth house through the lens of tropical Modernism. Here, he achieved many goals: the harmonious interaction of home and landscape, the fusion of organic and minimal approaches and strategic space planning—the living room spaces are purposefully set in the shade so that window coverings would not be required.

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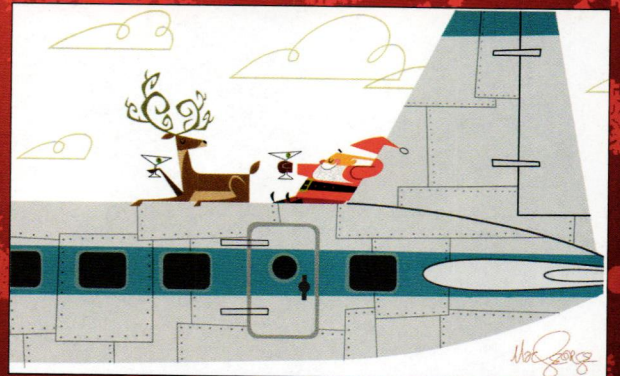
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McLucas House, Alexander Girard

**GROSSE POINTE FARMS,
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Due to his fame as an artist and textile director for Herman Miller, Alexander Girard's beginnings as an architect can go underappreciated. Yet, looking at his use of mixed materials, bold colors and eclectic features, his distinctive style is evident. The McLucas House, like his art, is an unapologetically atypical post-and-beam home amid a neighborhood of Tudor Revivals. No one could combine elements such as a yellow brick wall, Japanese-style doors and shoji-style doors with such artful ease.

GIRARD'S HOMES WERE ICONIC, FEATURING WOOD AND GLASS STRUCTURES, OPEN FLOOR PLANS, MULTI-LEVEL SPACES, CUSTOM-DESIGNED FURNITURE AND BOLD COLOR ACCENTS.



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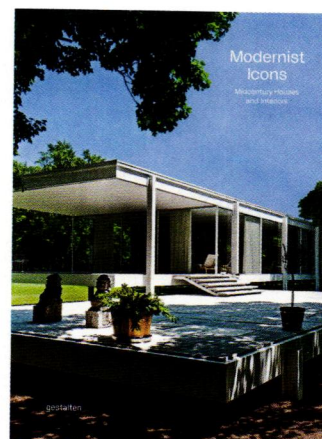




Villa Seynave by Jean Prouvé

SAINT-TROPEZ, FRANCE

Perhaps it was his ability and practice of both designing and manufacturing his products that made Jean Prouvé the everyman of French modernist design. In fact, he regarded himself an engineer and had clients the likes of Le Corbusier. As a self-taught architect, he managed to retain the signature style that made his products and furniture so unique and translate that to buildings. This holiday home he designed for The Saynave family in Saint Tropez combines industrial elements with simplicity and streamlined style.



MODERNIST ICONS: MIDCENTURY
HOUSES AND INTERIORS, PUBLISHED BY
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Make a STATEMENT

How to design a room with show-stopping MCM furniture.

By Ian McMaster

The beautiful thing about Mid Century Modern furniture is it comes in all shapes, sizes, colors and materials. Iconic chairs, sofas and tables were brought to life by some of the world's greatest designers and deserve to be showcased as works of art. The challenge lies in incorporating these eye-catching pieces into a functional and cohesive unit. Each one of your pieces is not only a conversation starter but a story within itself, so let your home be an anthology. Here are a few tips:

DICHOTOMY IS YOUR FRIEND

Every shape, angle, color and material are at play in MCM interior design. Be bold in combining them. It's no accident that a sleek swag leg desk is the perfect partner for an organic-shaped Eames molded plastic armchair. And the best living rooms are a canvas of bright colors.

EXPRESS YOURSELF

Don't be bogged down by protocols or get caught up in continuity. Swedish, Italian, German, Scandinavian and American designers are all welcome in our homes and work together as one. Pop art, impressionism, sculpture and abstract art should be hung with pride wherever you see fit.



PHOTO BY BRET GUM

Mix & Match Your MCM

A combination of vibrant colors and rich wood tones liven up this conversation room. Among the eye-catching items are a five-piece Brasilia room divider that dominates one wall, an Adrian Pearsall walnut Jacks coffee table with a kidney-shaped glass top, a sofa and a turquoise Plycraft lounge and ottoman. A contemporary Sputnik chandelier illuminates the already bright space, which looks out onto the shimmering swimming pool and old-growth trees, creating a smooth transition to the natural surroundings.



Pops of Personality

A perfectly curated arrangement of collectibles and books adds personality to the original Cado wall unit in this artist-built 1959 home. However, it is the Knoll Womb Chair in Cato Orange fabric that steals the show and adds texture.



PHOTO BY BRET GUM

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Keeping it Simple

Homeowners in Raleigh, North Carolina, went for simple sophistication in the bedroom of this 1959-built home. Mixing a contemporary quilt from Louise Gray and a vintage Arne Jacobsen lamp reinforces the sleek mid-century lines of a modern platform bed and matching side table.

PHOTO BY KEITH ISAACS



A Little Italy in Palm Springs

The location of your home shouldn't dictate its interior design. In this 1969 home designed by Charles Du Bois, rare pieces have found their way to Palm Springs. Most of the furniture you see in the living room is Italian, including the circa 1960s sofa with chartreuse mohair and wool boucle chairs. The rocking chair, designed by Charles Hollis Jones as part of his O series, is a beautiful contrast to the two plush armchairs. Behind the rocker, a 1950s Renzo Rutili cabinet plays nicely with a self-portrait of Frank Sinatra depicting himself as a clown.

PHOTO BY DAN CHAVKIN

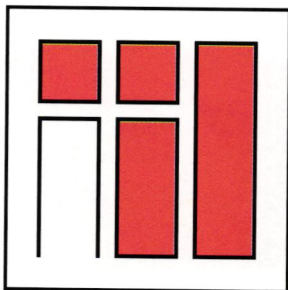




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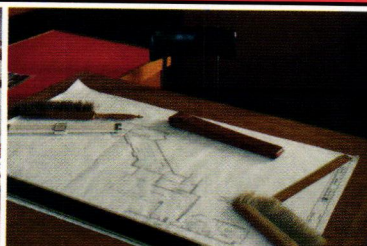
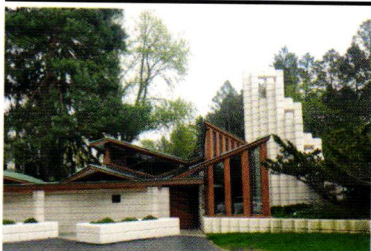
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The Best of Mid-Twentieth Century Modern Architecture

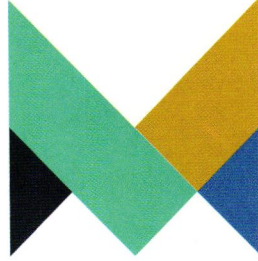
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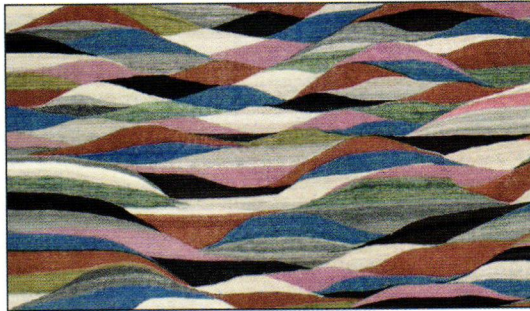
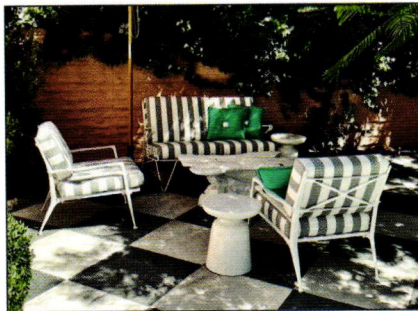
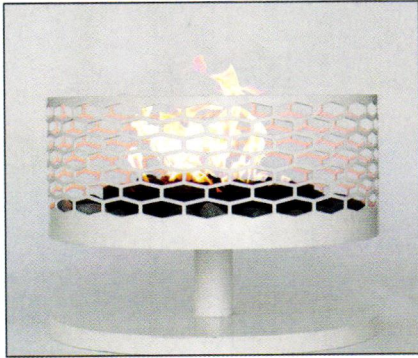


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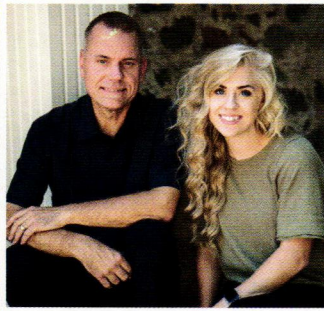
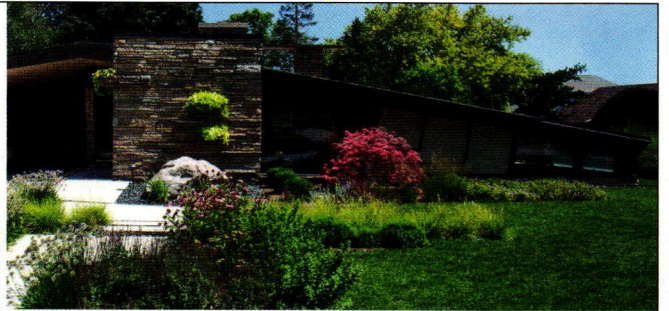
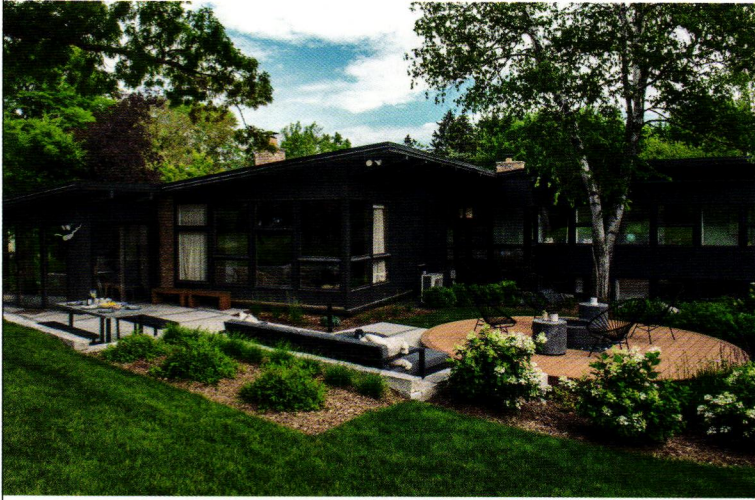
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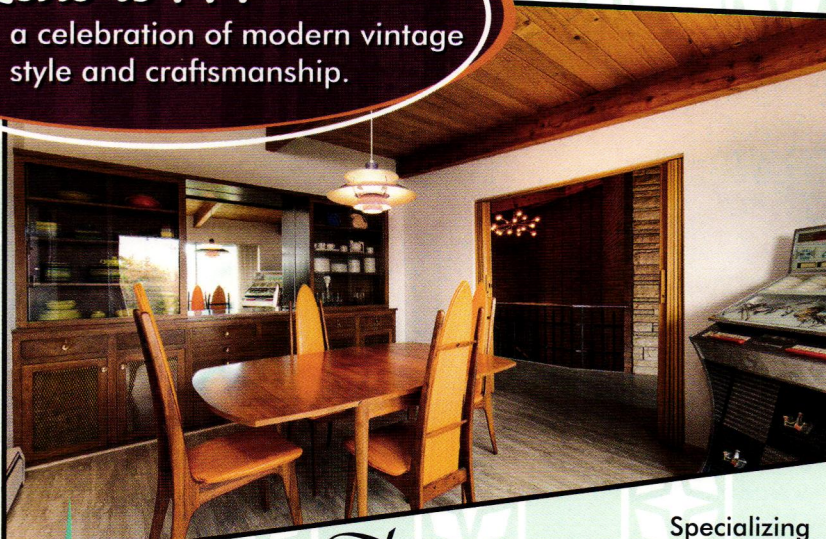
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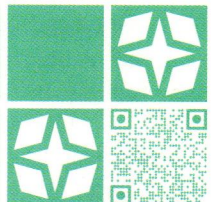
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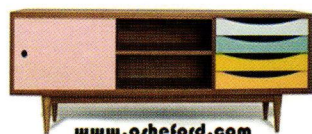
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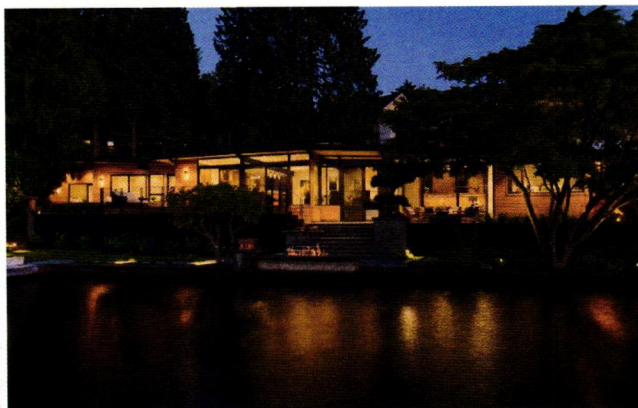
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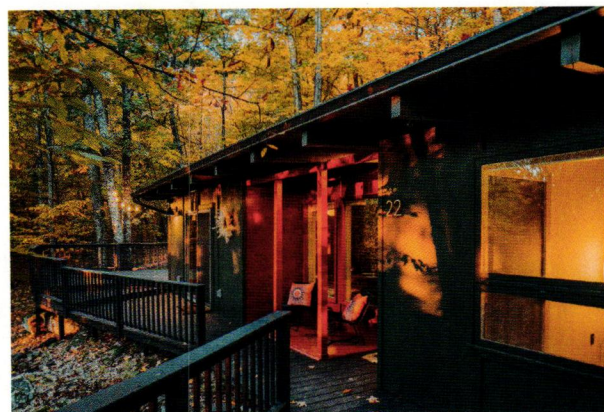
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Modernist Index: George Bell's Eastside Legacy

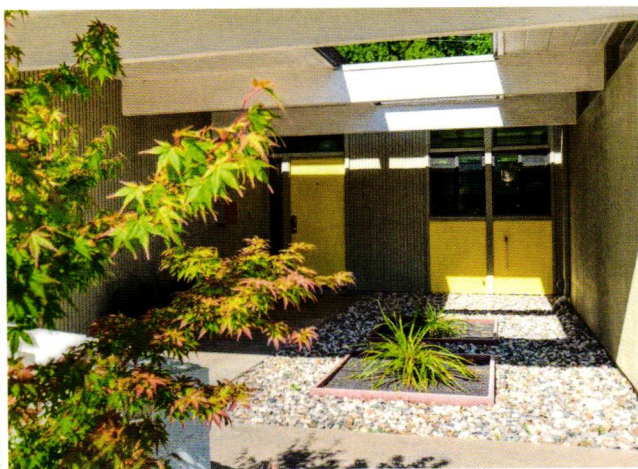
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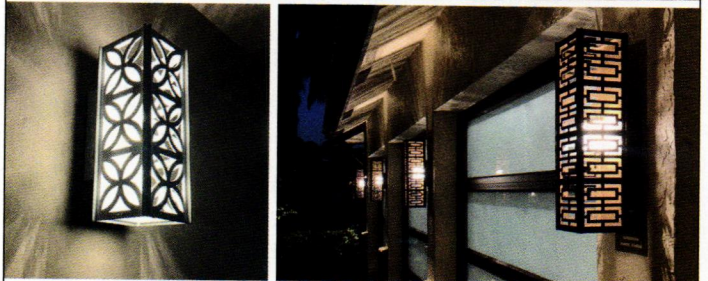
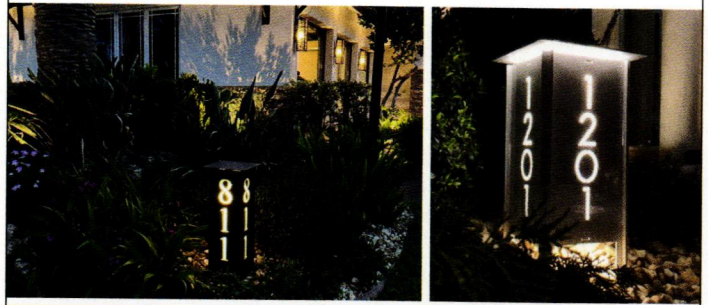
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Tile: Heath Ceramics, heathceramics.com.

From Palm Trees to Maples

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Terrazzo floors: Dolce Rina Gray, Tilebar, tilebar.com.

Backsplash: Greenwich Green, Zia Tile, ziatile.com.

Sink lighting: Bell White Flush Mount Light, CB2, cb2.com.

Sconces: Loa Sconce with Brass Shades, Sazerac Stitches, sazeracstitches.com.

Cabinet hardware: West Elm, westelm.com.

Wall paint: Spun Sugar, Sherwin-Williams, sherwin-williams.com.

Cabinet paint: Warming Peach, Sherwin-Williams, sherwin-williams.com.

All the Right Angles

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Front door: Waterloo Woodworks, waterloowoodworksne.com.

Flooring: Epoxy terrazzo tile.

Kitchen countertops/island: Quartzite.

Kitchen cabinetry paint: Lichen by Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

Secondary bathroom tile: Ribbed Moon in "New Reflection," (800) 278-8453 or annsacks.com.

Secondary bathroom vanity: Acqua Venato quartzite, stonecontact.com.

Dining room lighting: Surrey Suspension, lukelampco.com.

Exterior siding: Tricorn Black by Sherwin-Williams, sherwin-williams.com.

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Bedroom lighting, bedding: Amazon. Visit amazon.com.

Bathroom tile: TileBar. Visit tilebar.com.

Bathroom vanity: Home Depot. Visit homedepot.com.

Bedroom lighting: Wayfair. Visit wayfair.com.

Front door paint: Cheese Puff by Behr. Visit behr.com.

Guest bedroom wallpaper: Walls Republic. Visit wallsrepublic.com.

Living room rug, primary bedroom bedding: Society6. Visit society6.com.

Living room sofa, kitchen lighting: Alibaba. Visit Alibaba.com.

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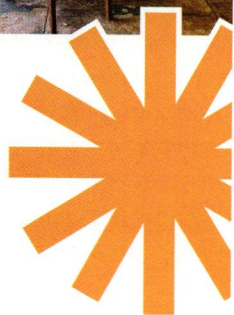
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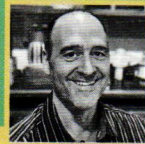
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The **Master** of Chairs

————— Hans J. Wegner created a legacy of timeless style. —————

By **Ian McMaster** | Photo courtesy of **PP Møbler**

HANS J. WEGNER, the maestro of Danish Mid-Century Modern furniture design, turned chairs into stars.

His most famous creation, the Wishbone Chair, features a distinctive Y-shaped back and elegant curves, making it a beloved classic since 1950. The Round Chair, famously dubbed "The Chair," is the pinnacle of comfort and style, even gracing the historic 1960 U.S. presidential debate between Kennedy and Nixon.

The Shell Chair, known for its distinctive three-legged design, showcases Wegner's innovative approach to form and structure, offering a perfect blend of modern aesthetics and ergonomic comfort.

A trained cabinetmaker, Wegner had an unwavering commitment to quality and materials. His designs prominently feature wood, which he believed exuded warmth and natural beauty. Collaborating with esteemed Danish manufacturers like Carl Hansen & Søn, Fritz Hansen and PP Møbler, Wegner ensured that his vision was meticulously realized, leading to the creation of over 500 chair designs that continue to be celebrated.

Wegner's philosophy centered on the notion that simplicity and elegance are not mutually exclusive. His work remains a testament to this belief, with each piece embodying both practicality and aesthetic appeal. In his hands, a chair becomes a piece of art.

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