

south bay

DIGS™

FIND YOUR PLACE.

OCTOBER 2, 2020
DIGS.NET

INSIDE
NATURAL
CONNECTION

WEAVING EVERYTHING
TOGETHER

PASADENA
PERFECTION

PRESENTED BY
JENNIFER CARAS
VISTA SOTHEBY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

FEATURE ON PAGE 60

Star on the Hill

Manhattan Beach showcase home by designer Jon Starr



Weaving Everything Together

In the Bay Area, a house where materials create continuity between inside and out, is made of a strong armature that both protects and invites dwellers to discover soft and warm interiors.

WRITTEN BY KARINE MONIÉ



OUTSIDE, THE MIX OF FORMAL AND INFORMAL SPACES INCLUDES WATER FEATURES AND A FREE-STANDING 1,000-SQUARE-FOOT POOL HOUSE. INSIDE, SHADES OF BLUES AND LAVENDER WERE COMBINED WITH TOUCHES OF ORANGE.



“The house is essentially linear and intentionally ‘skinny’ so you get maximum light and garden views from opposite directions.”

-Richard Beard

“The program for the house was quite complicated,” notes Richard Beard, founder of Richard Beard Architects and lead architect for this Bay Area project. “It required clever compositional moves to accommodate everything the clients wanted. While designed for easy and casual living on a day-to-day basis, it had to provide a generous entertaining space, fitness room, two offices and guest quarters—all while maintaining privacy for everyone.” The elegance and functionality of the 12,000-square-foot, six-bedroom home, which is characterized by structures and walls that define exterior courtyards and interior areas, fits the needs of a family.

“The house is essentially linear and intentionally ‘skinny’ so you get maximum light and garden views from opposite directions: the road and entry courtyards, and the rear lawn and garden,” says

Beard. In addition to the partial basement with a den/lounge/TV room, wine cellar and mechanical space, the first floor comprises shared gathering spaces including the living room, dining room and kitchen, all of which open to the exterior. Outside, a mix of formal and informal spaces host water features and a free-standing 1,000-square-foot, cedar-clad pool house that can be used as a guest house. More private, the second floor of the main home has an area exclusively dedicated to kids. The architectural materials—stone for the exterior; steel from Italy for the doors and windows; and limestone with a soft texture for paving—were carefully chosen to create a sense of permanence and texture. The bright, mostly white marble tiles and counters in the baths and kitchen give a clean feeling, while the wide-plank fumed oak flooring brings some warmth throughout.





"I love the entry with the grand, double-story steel windows, sweeping and floating stair[s], and the limestone walls and floors that continue from the exterior to the interior," says interior designer Kelly Hohla, founder of Kelly Hohla Interiors, who has worked with this client three times. "It creates a seamless indoor/outdoor feel, and welcomes you with a view out over the property." A sense of calm and scale pervade the project, where bright neutrals prevail in the open general spaces "to keep things light and open," according to Hohla, "with the color infused more into the fabrics and furnishings." In the living room furnished with a sofa by A. Rudin, chairs by Holly Hunt and Paul Frankl, and a pendant light by Henge from NIDO Living, Hohla designed a pair of custom bronze and marble coffee tables made by Tuell & Reynolds. "There are a lot of antiques in the room and we love the clean contemporary feel that they bring in juxtaposition," the interior designer notes. "For the same reason, we adore the custom gray leather and bronze cabinet in the family room by BDDW. 'His office' has a more contemporary feel overall and the custom leather desk by Christian Liaigre sets the tone."

In the dining room, armchairs by Gregorius Pineo from Kneedler Fauchere—upholstered in a floral Roma material—surround the distressed oak table and sit on an antique rug from Tony Kitz Gallery. In the cozy master bedroom adorned with a bronze pendant light by Hervé Van der Straeten, the lacquer walls were hand-painted by William Racké Studio.

A STEEL AND GLASS ENTRY REVEALS THE INTERIOR OF THE HOME, WHERE A GRAND, CURVING STAIRCASE RISES IN FRONT OF ANOTHER REFLECTING POOL AND THE REAR YARD.

"I love the entry with the grand, double-story steel windows, sweeping and floating stair[s], and the limestone walls and floors that continue from the exterior to the interior."

-Kelly Hohla

"Standout colors are shades of turquoise, lavender and blues, with some bits of orange to set off the cool hues here and there," Hohla adds. "All of the neutrals flow nicely and tie the spaces together." In every corner, comfort and luxury, and old and new, subtly blend. "The homeowners' main concern was always about going too modern and mine was about staying too traditional," Hohla confesses. "I wanted them to have an updated home that feels timeless and that they can grow in—I think we were able to strike the perfect balance."

Thanks to the perfect proportions designed by the architect, "there is always a place for the eye to rest on something lovely and maybe a distant, framed view," he says. "I love the way the house welcomes the light and panorama. It changes frequently, through the day and through the seasons." Conveying permanence and elegance, this restful home reflects the talent of the creative minds who designed it combined with the personality of the family who lives in it. richard-beard.com