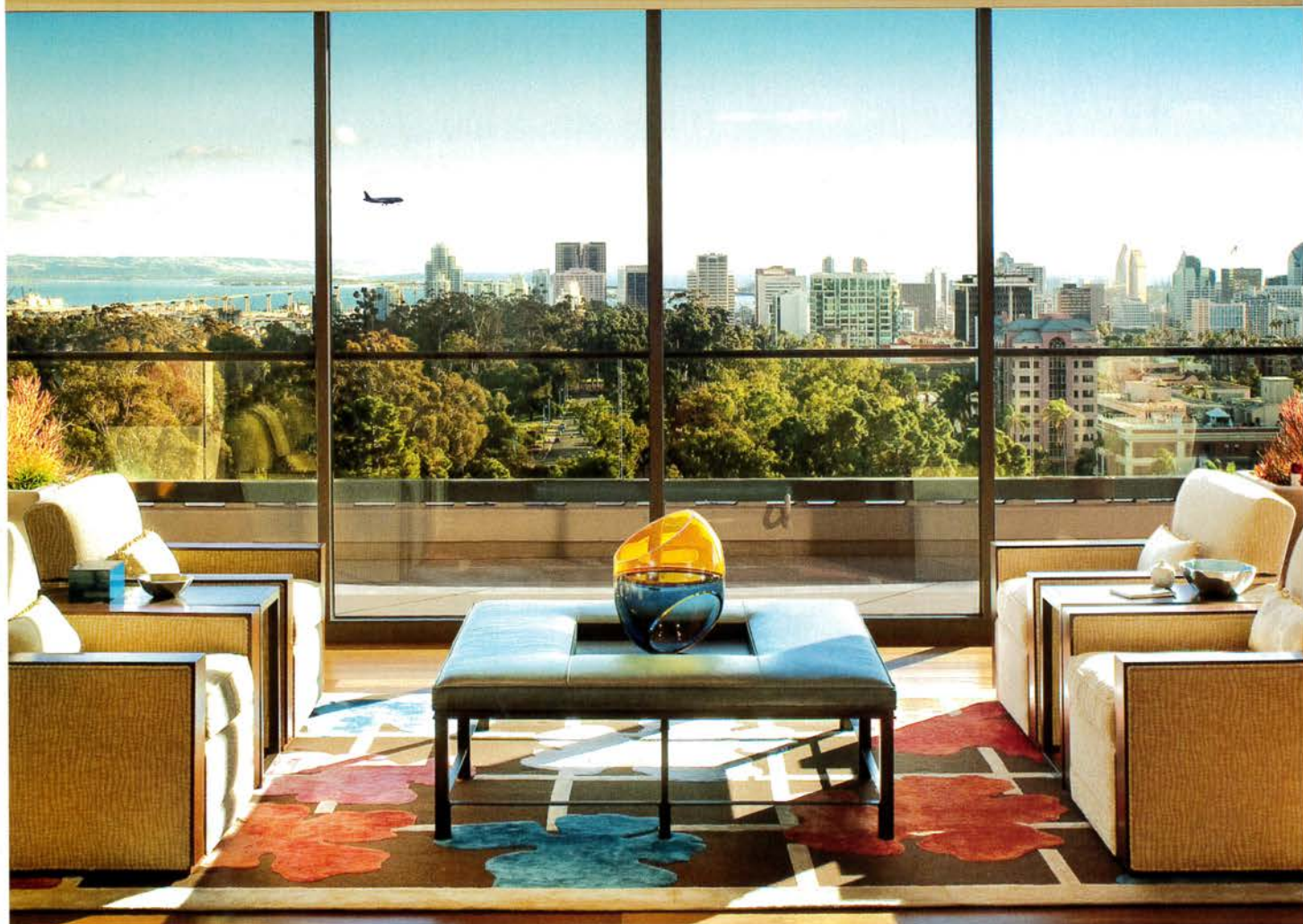


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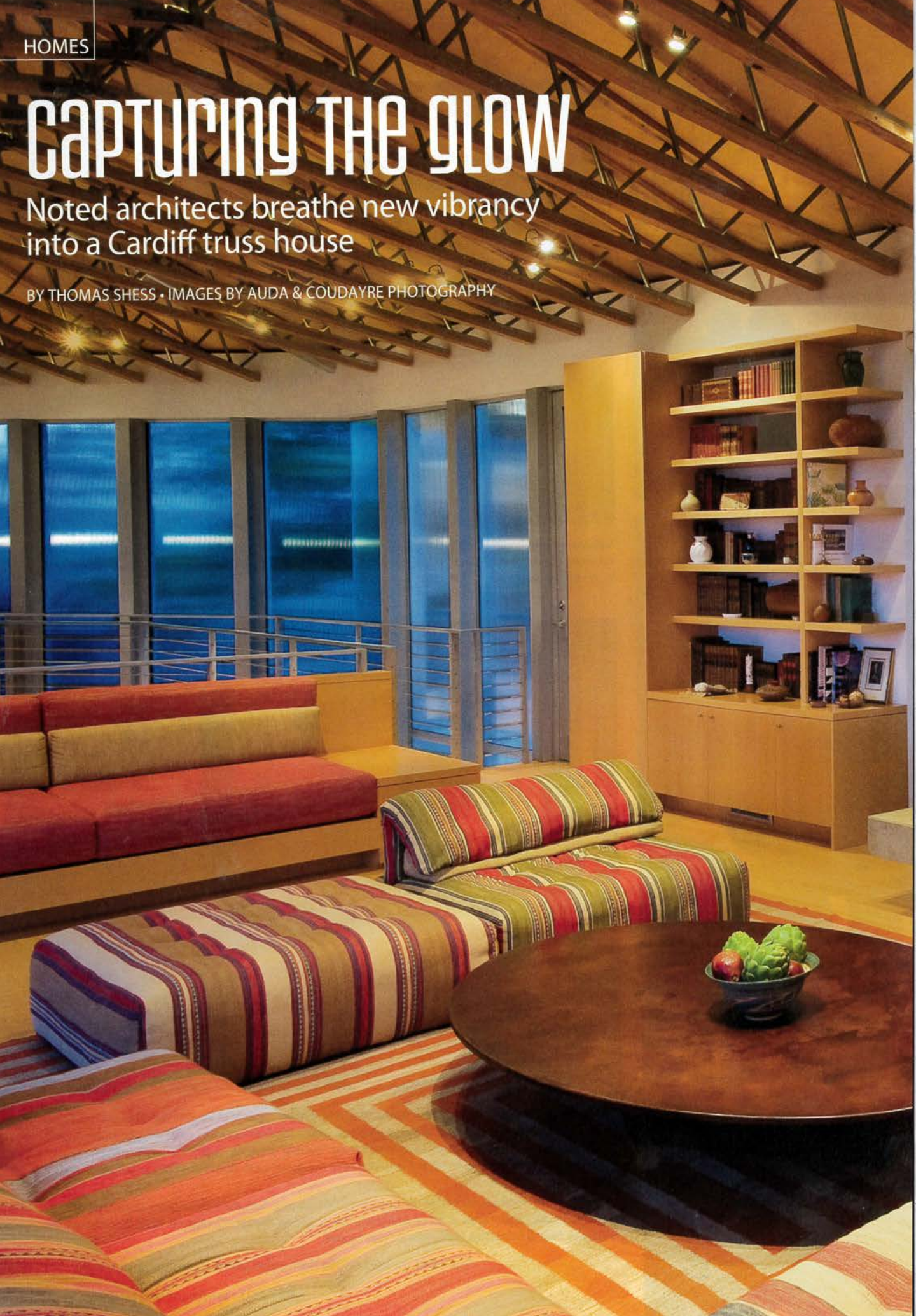
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CAPTURING THE GLOW

Noted architects breathe new vibrancy into a Cardiff truss house

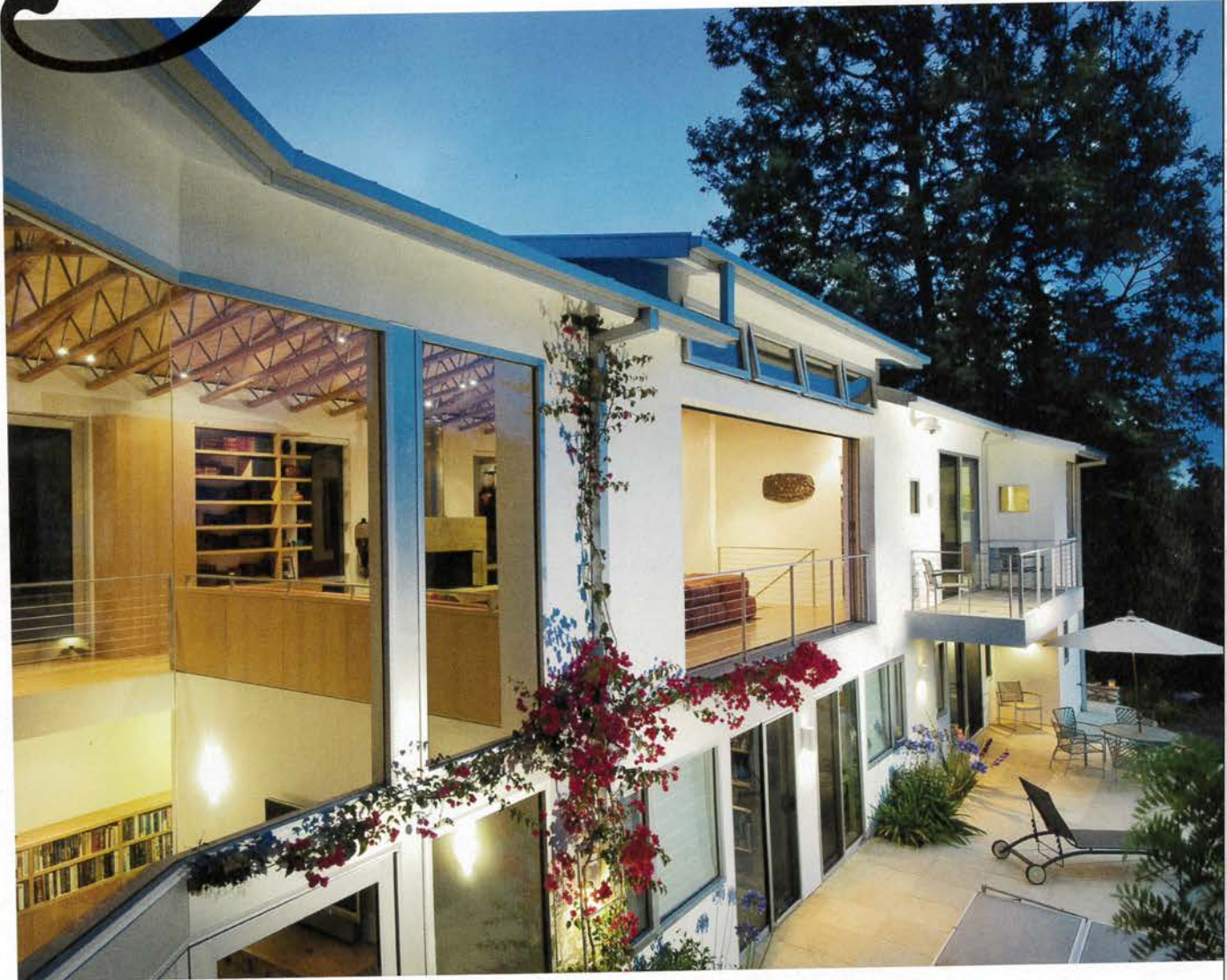
BY THOMAS SHESS • IMAGES BY AUDA & COUDAYRE PHOTOGRAPHY





By adding a new north wing to a woody aerie in Cardiff and joining the remodeled original footprint with a dramatic atrium, an aging residential dowager with a beach view now is a vibrant contemporary neo-chalet.

Idyllic is an old-fashioned word, but it describes the hilly and wooded Cardiff-by-the-Sea neighborhood between the sea and Interstate 5 where a biotech executive and his wife have lived almost 20 years. Built off a winding one-lane road, their recently remodeled home is sited perfectly on a bluff at the head of a deep arroyo. That bucolic location captures a postcard view of the ocean, and capitalizing on it was the goal when the couple hired San Diego architects Taal Safdie and Ricardo Rabines to transform



Architects created wide, west-facing, sliding-door, floor-to-ceiling windows to capture the beauty of sunsets and a wooded draw that meanders to the sea.

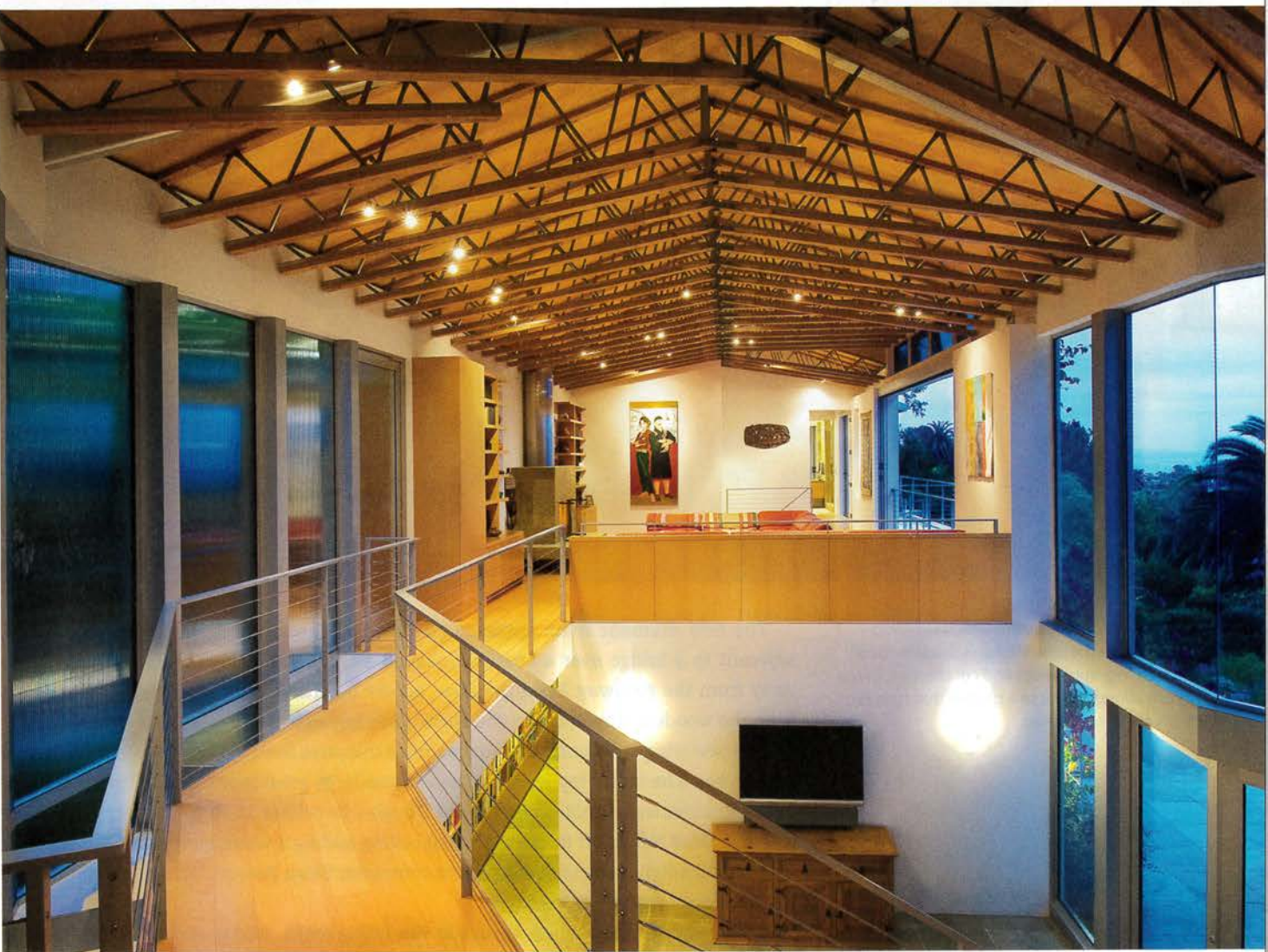
weathered 1960s non-descript structure into a contemporary jewel.

“Our clients weren’t about to move because they loved being in a rural setting and still close to their urban careers. Moreover they wanted the new design to draw on how sunlight created so many interesting shade patterns on the house through the day,” says Rabines.

The house had good bones, but like so many 50-year-old-plus wood-clad homes near the ocean, the residence had suffered from salt-air weathering over the years and was falling apart. It didn’t help that the house seemed to be added on to like a carpenter articulated tape measure: one angled addition after another. With all these po

executed add-ons, it was difficult to tell what architectural style the boxy two-level structure happened to be.

“We saved what we could,” says Safdie, who teams with her husband to run an internationally regarded architectural firm in Mission Hills. “But we basically redid everything, including a modern wing and a two-level entry foyer that united the refurbished older wing with the new elbow-shaped kitchen addition.”



Even with such an accomplished design and construction team, unforeseen trouble paid a visit.

As the paperwork began to flow with the permitting agencies, a surveying mistake was discovered. The existing home was built on the right of way of the nearby lane. Because the home was there before the road, the city accepted responsibility and a variance was declared in favor of the homeowners.

As a result, the front garden was saved and the remodeling expansion was cleared to progress. “Obviously, that’s why you need to have your property properly surveyed,” Ricardo says.

The excellent fusion of metal with white beech flooring and paneling throughout adds dimension to a narrow footprint. Opaque windows, left, offer privacy from the road. View is from main entrance south to the living room, furnished with vintage Roche Bobois pieces.



The lightness of the custom beech paneling dovetails with the new kitchen's modern metal door framing, appliances and countertop. Large window allows a view to a garden that runs the length of the rustic road.

The new dramatic main entrance opens on to the top or main level of the home, adjacent to a bridge over a keystone-shaped atrium. The design redirected the home away from the roadway. From the door, guests have an unimpeded view that extends from the wooded canyon to the glimmering sea beyond.

The new wing was configured to maximize this vista from the upper-level kitchen and dining area. The entire top level basically is one large great room, unified by a signature Safdie/Rabines multi-trussed metal and Douglas-fir ceiling. Light from fixtures atop the row of trusses reflect off the new pitched ceiling adding a warm glow throughout.

The homeowners considered project contractor Brian Beeson, "the glue in pulling all the wonderful new ideas together."

Across the wedge-shaped atrium is the living room, where sliding floor-to-ceiling doors open to magnificent sunsets and a spacious upper terrace. The lower level is reserved for guest and family use, including a large computer area for the couple's teens.

Now completed, the home has more visual pizzazz and design clarity. All views from the upper great room area and the bedrooms were maximized. Floor plans and flow patterns were simplified — plus the project added more living space as the square footage was upped from 2,800 to 4,200.

Safdie and Rabines worked their magic to turn a drab residential building into a classic contemporary home with definition and excitement worthy of its coastal location. ♦

WHERE TO FIND IT, PAGE 123

For more images of this home visit sandiegohomegarden.com

WHERE TO FIND IT

PEOPLE, PRODUCTS & SERVICES

PENTHOUSE PANORAMA

PAGE 28

Design/build: Tom Mortensen,
Project Manager, Nautilus General
Contractors, 619-564-5500

Interior designer: Anita Dawson,
Dawson Design Group, Inc., 619-933-1250

Landscape architecture: Architectural
Landscapes, 858-484-1098

Appliances, faucets, sinks: Ferguson, 858-974-
5100, 760-643-4240, ferguson.com
Bosch dishwasher/washer/dryer, Dacor oven,
KitchenAid refrigerator, Thermador induction
cooktop, U-Line refrigerator; Dornbracht
powder-room faucet; Grohe master bath,
guest bath faucets; Kohler kitchen faucet;
Kohler kitchen, guest- and master-bath sinks;
Vitraform powder-room sink

Cabinetry and custom furniture:
CTT Furniture, 858-587-9311

Commissioned glass works: Thomas Lavin,
310-278-2456

Countertops: San Diego Granite, 858-486-2040

Flooring and custom rugs: M. Austin Designer
Floors, 858-483-3200

Furnishings:

Baker, Knapp & Tubbs, 949-643-2073
Blake House, 949-831-8292
DNA European Design Studio, 619-235-6882
Mixture, 619-239-4788
Urban Lighting, 619-232-6064

**Lighting, audio/visuals and shading
solutions:** Lightworks Architectural Lighting,
858-457-9100

Photographic prints: Capture, 619-857-3535

Tile:

Ann Sacks, 949-831-3333
Spec Ceramics, 619-518-5700
Unique Stone Imports, 619-275-8300

Tile installation: Fitzgerald Tile, 619-447-7563

Upholstery: Stan's Custom Upholstery,
619-972-8152

Venetian plaster: Sasha Seyb, 619-992-8238

Images: Brady Architectural Photography,
619-296-5304, bradyarchitecturalimages.com

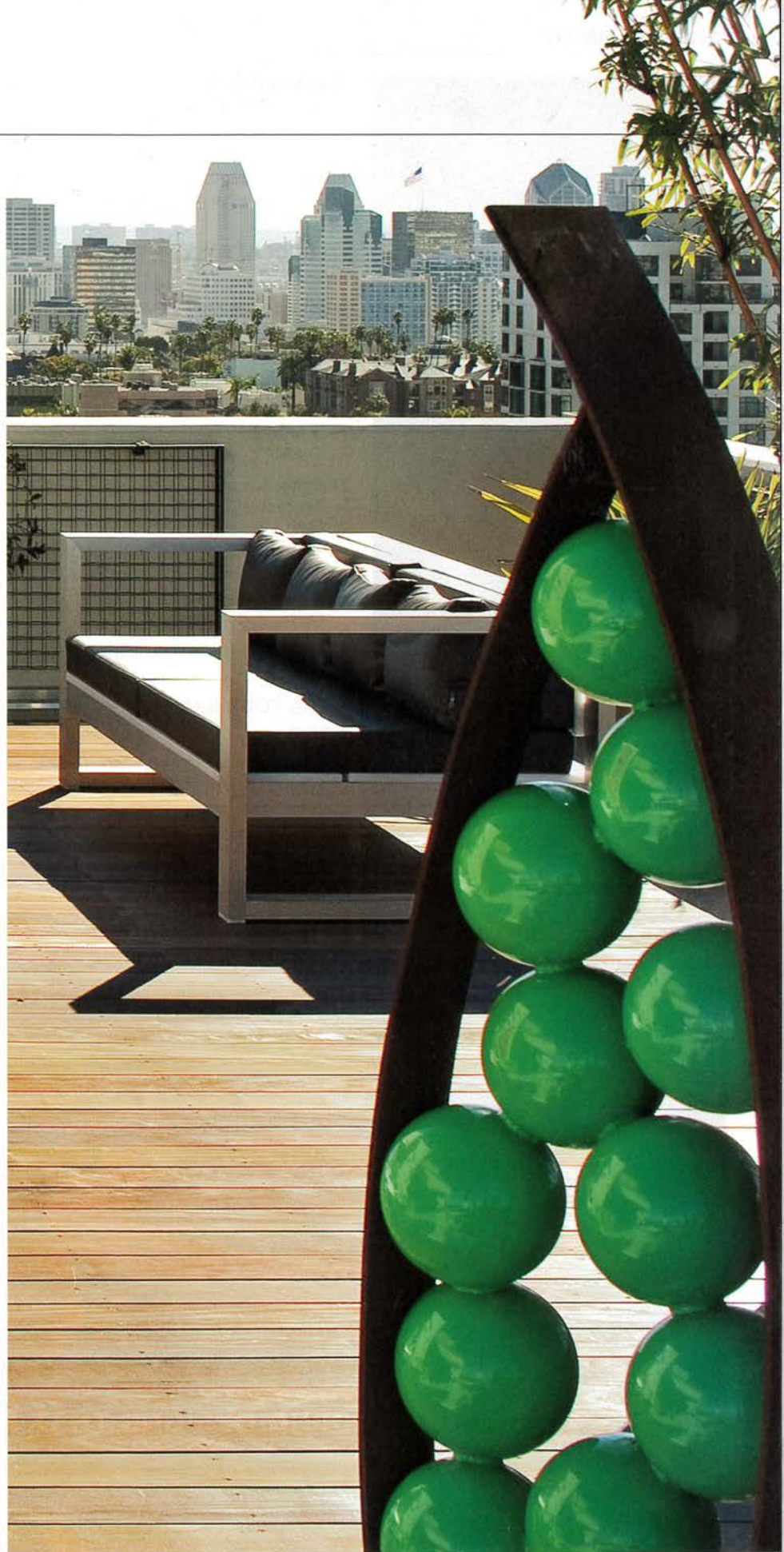
CAPTURING THE GLOW

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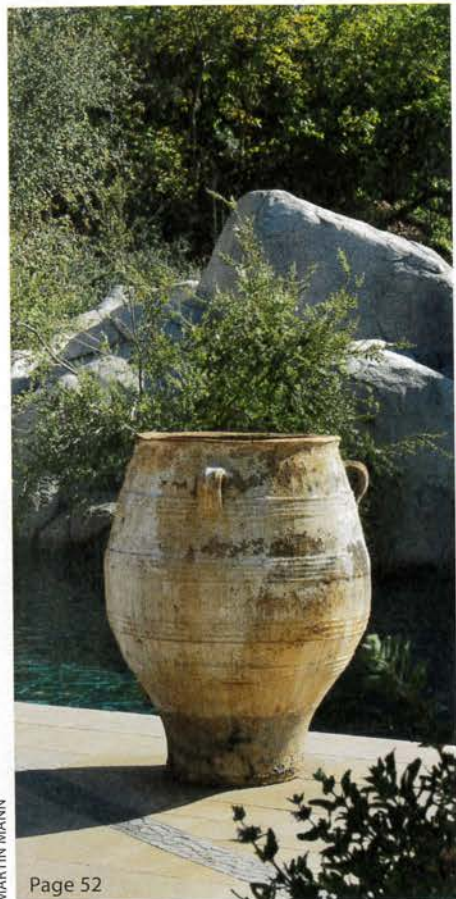
Architect: Safdie Rabines Architects,
Taal Safdie & Ricardo Rabines,
619-297-6153; safdierabines.com

General contractor: Beeson Construction,
Brian Beeson, 619-548-7949

BRADY ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY



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Appliances: Bosch, bosch-home.com/us (dishwasher); Dacor, dacor.com (single-wall oven, cooktop and exhaust system); KitchenAid, kitchenaid.com (refrigerator)

Images: Auda & Coudayre Photography, 619-255-5744, a-cphotography.com

CHOCOLATE FIX

PAGE 44

Interior designer: Tiffany White, Allied Member ASID, LEED AP, White Design, 916-804-8334

Chair-rail tile: Prosource Floorcoverings, 858-566-8100 (supplier); Eurostyle Enterprises, Inc., 858-518-9652 (installer)

Faux finisher: European Paint and Textures, 619-944-7523

Lighting: Europhase Lighting, eurofase.com (Lenka six-light crystal ceiling fixture); Crate and Barrel, 619-295-6600 or 858-558-4545 (glass candleholder and tea lights); Bolt Electric, 858-272-2240 (installation)

Stretched-canvas artwork: Cost Plus World Market, 619-236-1737

Photography: Previewfirst, previewfirst.com

NKBA TOUR SAMPLE

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Designer: Sherrie Pantalon, Kitchen & Bath Experts, 858-874-5800

Appliances & Plumbing: Bosch (oven, dishwasher, induction cooktop), Sharp (microwave), KitchenAid (refrigerator, trash compactor)

Backsplash Tile: Stainless Steel Mosaics, The Five Elements, 858-695-2092

Cabinetry: Columbia Cabinets, 604-850-3538

Chairs: Room & Board, 800-301-9720 (Eames Chair for Herman Miller)

Countertop: Marmol Export, 858-530-3250 (granite, *Brown Pearl*)

Dining Table: Lawrance, 760-942-9905 ("Airport One" by Calligaris)

Flooring: Eternity Flooring, 213-748-3526 (bamboo)

Hardware: Atlas Homewares, 800-240-6755; Hafele, 800-423-3531

Plumbing Fixtures: Grohe & Blanco Pacific Sales, 760-827-2200

Stainless Steel Shelves: Crown Steel Mfg., 760-471-1188

NEW FLAME

PAGE 49

Designer: Lindsay Hester, ASID, Hester Interiors, 619-793-7415, hesterinteriors.com (also fan, light, paint, table)

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