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Gray

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DESIGN

Nº 37: DEC.2017 / JAN.2018

The GRAY Awards

DESIGN CHAMPIONS

International design icons honor the most
outstanding designs in the Pacific Northwest

ALL-STAR JUDGING PANEL

★ Deborah Berke ★ Commune ★ James Corner ★
Olivia Kim ★ Ingo Maurer ★ Karim Rashid
★ Philippe Starck ★ Vicente Wolf ★

• RESIDENTIAL •

INTERIOR DESIGN

Cliffwood

FINLEY GRACE DESIGN

Date of completion: January 2017

Location: Los Angeles









How to infuse both contemporary edge and a sense of history into a brand-new build? It's all in the materials, as demonstrated here by Portland-based interior designer Anna Kimmel and project manager Jennifer Yamin. Their clients, a Los Angeles couple building a new home from the ground up in Brentwood, sought "a sophisticated masculine feel that also remained warm and inviting," says Kimmel, founder of Finley Grace Design. "The main challenge was finding the right balance between the clean-lined modern aesthetic that the clients wanted and the Old World materials and scale of the architecture."

To that end, Kimmel enacted a process of reduction, opting to use large wood paneling on walls instead of stone, and strategically whitewashing some of the home's rubble-stone walls to achieve a more uniform look. Then she layered in materials rich in texture and patina, such as aged bronze, highly polished lacquer, mohair, parchment, and long-pile wool rugs. "Function is always an important aspect of our design, but this

was not a home with small children or animals, so we were able to play with surfaces. We lined the powder room walls in leather and the theater walls in raw silk, and we upholstered the custom-designed formal sofa in pure cashmere," notes Kimmel.

Over time, the house took shape around statement pieces of furniture and accessories, many of them custom, such as a pair of Courrèges-inspired lamps in one bedroom. Other furnishings were specifically curated to double as works of art in their own right, such as a limited-edition mirror from Hubert le Gall and a Cosmos cabinet from Patrick Naggar. Standout features include several pieces from Hervé van der Straeten, including the custom Lustre Volubile bronze light fixture that hangs over the dining room table. As Kimmel notes, "It is a piece of art as much as a fixture, presenting a beautiful balance in its contrast of heavy material—solid bronze—with airy, intersecting loops." This fusion of form and function is evident throughout the home and is a key factor in the project's success. ✨

COLLABORATORS

Architect:
Steve Giannetti, Giannetti Home

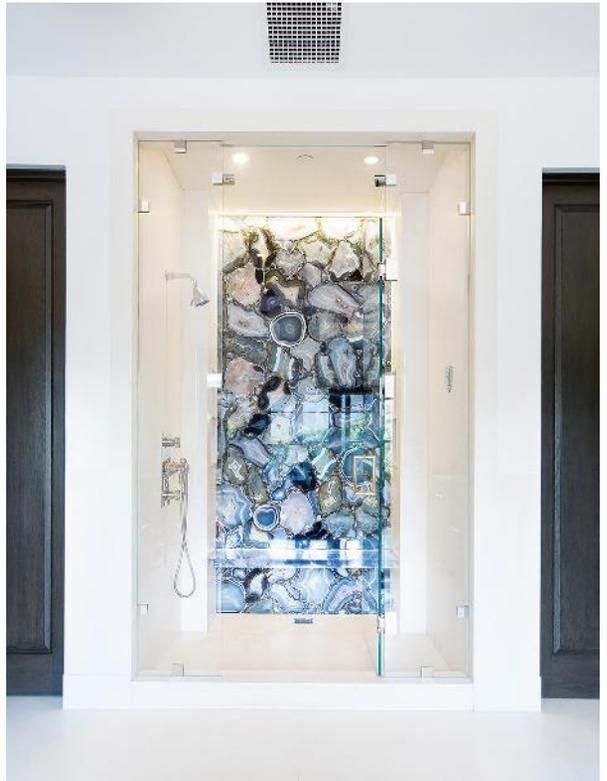
Contractor:
R. T. Abbott Construction

Art consultant:
Lendrum Fine Art









"IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE AN ENVIRONMENT THAT IS CONTEMPORARY BUT STILL CLASSIC. THE ELEMENTS IN THIS HOUSE ARE ALL BALANCED; IT MAKES THE SPACE A REALLY SPECIAL HOME."

—VICENTE WOLF, GRAY AWARDS 2017 JUDGE



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