

MODERN LUXURY

ASPEN

MAGAZINE

HOLIDAY 2016/WINTER 2017

FEATURING
ASPEN
WEDDINGS

CAMELOT
SKI SCHOOL
SEARCHES FOR THE
HOLY GRAIL

PLUS
KARMA RESTORED
& A NEW CHAPTER
BEGINS FOR HUNTER S.
THOMPSON'S OWL FARM

*STEPPING
OUT IN
STYLE*

THE HOLIDAY
SCINTILLATES
WITH GIFTS,
GEAR & JEWELS



ECLECTIC BLEND
In the living room, designer Robyn Scott mixed rustic and industrial with modern-chic. Transitional Edward Ferrell sofas topped with red pillows for a color jolt are right at home with the coffee table's contemporary lines. The adjacent dining area features a custom table with a walnut top over industrial steel legs, and the ceramic vessels on the wall above are by artist Barbara Sorensen.

NEW WEST

A mountain home takes a fresh approach to design.

By Mindy Pantiel
Photography By Alex Irvin

In the media room of Ryan and Jessica Steelberg's home, there is a side table composed of a thick slice of timber teetering on Lucite legs. And while the oxymoronic Mimi London creation doesn't take up much floor space, it speaks volumes about the evolving lexicon of mountain home design and the desire of the current breed of newcomers to replace the antlers and taxidermy of yesteryear with a more relevant Old West-meets-clean chic statement. "People are tired of that heavy, dark lodge look," says designer Robyn Scott, who selected furnishings, lighting and artwork for the Steelberg's "farmhouse with a twist." "The current Aspen clientele is looking for something lighter, softer and more relaxed."

But before there could be furniture, there needed to be a structure. For that, the Southern Californian couple turned to CCY Architects, undisputed masters of the mountain-modern style, to craft their vacation residence situated on 80 pristine acres in Old Snowmass. "For the building itself, we wanted authentic rustic elements like a copper rusted roof and barn wood siding," explains Ryan, who fell in love with the property

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HILL CLIMB A dramatic switchback staircase is backed by rustic barn wood and grounded with a European white oak floor. The Edelman area rug is custom made by the designer; both guest suites include a cozy sitting area and Western accents like the hair-on-hide cubes and wagon wheel-style light fixture.



...CONTINUED for its proximity to the river, and the combination of mature trees and pastures. After answering the request for the exterior elements, the architects continued the concept inside by repeating the wood siding on the walls of the living-dining room, kitchen and master bedroom. Next came contemporary counterpoints like a sculptural switchback staircase and expanses of metal-framed windows.

In response, Scott introduced an eclectic blend of items that both honored the past and made sense for current lifestyles. In the living room, for example, the traditional armchairs are all about comfort; the wood coffee table with a metal belt is a clean-lined interjection; and Navajo-patterned sofa pillows reflect the Western vernacular. In the dining room, a custom table pairing a walnut top with blackened steel legs adds an industrial reference to the mix. "The table base is reminiscent of the old Colorado railroads," says Scott, who introduced hair-on-hide rugs and accent cubes in two of the

bedrooms for additional Western emphasis.

And while the hides and metals pay homage to the state's history, it's the artwork that gives the home an overwhelming sense of place, starting with a commissioned abstract interpretation of aspen trees by Michael Kessler, which sets an organic modern tone in the entry. In the family room, a series of horse photos by Summers Moore wraps the room; images of the Maroon Bells by photographer Alex Irvin grace the hallway; a stainless steel flag by multimedia artist Mark Cesark provides an Americana accent; and in the great room, three large ceramic pieces by Barbara Sorensen are meant to evoke archaeological artifacts. With the exception of Kessler, who hails from Santa Fe, all the artists reside in the valley.

"Living with work by area artists makes people feel a little more like permanent residents," says Scott about her decision to raid the local talent pool. "The art helps make the home feel like a blend of inside and out. Every piece reflects Colorado in some way." ■



OUTDOOR CONNECTION
Commodious seating and a fire pit make the outdoor living space the place to be on a summer night.

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—ROBIN SCOTT, DESIGNER »