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IN THE SPIRIT

A modernist Pacific Palisades home provides ample inspiration for the design team tasked with updating it. *Written by Maile Pingel / Photography by The Ingalls*

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FINE ART

No longer a time capsule, a Palm Desert getaway becomes a stylish, art-filled retreat. *Written by Kelly Phillips Badal / Photography by Lance Gerber*

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SLAM DUNK

After a savvy renovation, a Playa del Rey abode captures the Zen spirit of its NBA-great owner. *Written by Mary Jo Bowling / Photography by Meghan Beierle-O'Brien*

ON THE COVER: Designer Morgan Newfield furnished the outdoor seating area of a Pacific Palisades house with a Gloster sofa and an armchair by Palecek. Architect Scott Prentice undertook the extensive remodel and addition. *Page 120*

SLAM DUNK

TO CAPTURE THE SERENE SPIRIT OF AN NBA GREAT, A DESIGN TEAM CREATES A PEACEFUL PLAYA DEL REY BEACH HOUSE.

WRITTEN BY MARY JO BOWLING / PHOTOGRAPHY BY MEGHAN BEIERLE-O'BRIEN

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE / PATRICK EDIGER,
PATRICK EDIGER INTERIOR DESIGN & DECORATION
INTERIOR DESIGN / CHELSEA SACHS, CHELSEA SACHS DESIGN

Standing on the beach in Playa del Rey surrounded by his five children and 11 grandchildren, Phil Jackson, one of the greatest NBA coaches in history, realized he wasn't ready to sell his house, a dwelling perched right on the shore. When Phil purchased the waterside dwelling some 20 years prior, it was a matter of convenience. He had just been hired to coach the Los Angeles Lakers and, as he says: "For my lifestyle, living close to work and an airport were prerequisites."

This home, then a duplex, fit that bill and more. Over the years, nearly all of Phil's children had lived in the secondary unit at one time or another, making it something of an anchor for the NBA family. As life changed—Phil retired, and his children started their own families—he often contemplated selling. But with his clan surrounding him on the sand that day, he knew he wanted to change his living quarters but not his address. "It was one of those 72-degree spring days, and I realized I didn't want to let it go," he says. "I sat down with Chelsea the next weekend to begin planning."

Chelsea is designer Chelsea Sachs, his second eldest daughter, who was more than happy to help. Conventional wisdom has it that working with family is a bad idea, but for her, it felt familiar. "As a designer, I get to know my clients really well, and sometimes it takes time to develop a deep understanding and trust," she says. "But with my father, that groundwork was already there."

Rounding out the team was designer Patrick Ediger, who conceived the interior layout and provided all of the architectural drawings and elevations for the endeavor and day-to-day project management. Ediger and Sachs

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—CHELSEA SACHS

quickly determined the best way remake the home was to combine the spaces and start nearly from scratch. "The location is unique, but the 1980s architecture was not," says Ediger. "The spaces were dated and chopped up. To make it cohesive and unified, we had to take it down to the studs." The home was then reassembled to create a single dwelling with a family room and bunk room on the lowest floor, the master suite and guest bedrooms on the second level and, on the third story, among other spaces, a living room with incredible views of the ocean and, on clear days, Catalina.

It's that landscape and Phil's life story that drove the home's interiors. In the living room, where oversized roll-away doors frame the waves, the team relocated the fireplace from the north to the south wall in order to optimize the seated view. The pale blues of the ocean and the tawny neutrals and soft buffs of the beach are on full display in a pair of custom sofas dressed in a pale sandy upholstery, a rug with a watery palette of grays and blues and a bespoke coffee table-ottoman topped with buttery caramel leather. "I wanted it to feel as if the interior melded with the exterior," says Sachs.

In the master suite, the bedroom enjoys the same views from a slightly lower perspective. The bathroom is sited just behind it, and the home's original creators maximized the natural light and sight lines in the space by installing an oversized interior window between the two. To kick the glam up a notch, a bronze-toned, one-way mirror replaced the window. From the bathroom, you can still see the waves; but in the bedroom it is opaque and reflects the water, creating something akin to an ever-shifting mural. A patterned rug, the vintage capiz shell light fixture and the coffee table in the nook bring in the colors as well as textures of the beach.

But in this house, soul is just as important as style. "Everything tells a story, every detail brings nuance," notes Ediger. Most of the rooms contain pieces of the Asian antique collection Phil has spent years accumulating. And, despite the fact that nearly all of the furniture and the countertops are specifically sized to his 6-foot-8-inch frame, his minimally adorned meditation room is his favorite space. "My father is a Zen Buddhist, and the home embodies his quiet, calming spirit," says Sachs.

Perhaps that spirit is what keeps pulling the family back to this home. "It's now very open, with spaces the whole family can use, but there are still places for solitude and spots where you can withdraw and watch the kids play in the sand," says Phil. "This house has been a constant in our lives, and when we are all here, it's really special." ■



"The fireplace is made of a beautiful travertine tile reminiscent of the colors of the beach outside," says designer Chelsea Sachs of the stone from Artistic Tile surrounding the living room fireplace in her father Phil Jackson's Playa del Rey home. A Michael Berman Limited lounge chair in Mokum fabric picks up the sandy hues. Sachs teamed with designer Patrick Ediger on the renovation.

Right: A buying trip Sachs took to Marrakesh to source pieces for the house yielded the carpet off the entry. On a table from ABC Carpet & Home is a Victoria Morris lamp from Lawson-Fenning. Behind is a mirror from Sloan Myasato in San Francisco. Throughout the home is hardwood flooring by Carlisle Wide Plank Floors.

Opposite: Axis swivel stools in a Rodolph material gather at the butcher-block extension of the kitchen island, which is topped with Silestone quartz and lit by Oly pendants. The backsplash tile is by Sonoma Tileworks. Made of recycled glass bottles, its look references sea glass and underscores the home's beach locale. Ashley Norton pulls accent the cabinetry.





Left: The home's worldly influences extend to a guest bathroom where an Arteriors mirror brings a Moroccan feel. The backsplash and flooring is by Fireclay Tile and offers a layered vibe. The vanity countertop is by Caesarstone.

Opposite: A custom white-oak bed and nightstand, both by Maria Yee, stand in a guest room that functions as a second master suite. Bedside lighting comes from a lamp by Visual Comfort & Co. The linen duvet and the throw are by Annie Selke. Benjamin Moore's Normandy on the walls fosters a serene spirit.

Right: Calacatta marble from Stone Mart covers the master bathroom's vanity, which is fitted with California Faucets fixtures. Mosaic tiles from Country Floors create a lively pattern on the floor. Hanging on the wall are a pair of Arteriors mirrors.

Opposite: Tucked into a corner of the master bedroom is a cozy seating area decked out with a custom metal coffee table and a sofa dressed in a Mokum fabric. The vintage sconce is from Reform.

