

# CALIFORNIA HOMES

THE MAGAZINE OF ARCHITECTURE  
THE ARTS & DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

## Designer Kitchens

## Summer On The Coast

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# Contents



## Features

SUMMER 2017

**ABOVE** When a catastrophic fire destroyed a Lafayette family's second-generation home, the owners hired architect Barbara Chambers to rebuild. Peter Dunham's button-tufted chaise in the living room provides a quiet nook for reading. A bridge floor lamp and side table complete the grouping. **See story beginning on page 96. Photograph by Tessa Neustadt.**

**RIGHT** The view from the veranda of this Santa Barbara beach house says it all. **See story beginning on page 102. Photograph by Dominique Vorillon.**

- 82 PENTHOUSE IN THE CLOUDS**  
Designer Chad Eisner Works With Client, Nikita Kahn To Create An Airy And Romantic Home  
**Text by Kavita Daswani**  
**Photography by Lisa Romerein**
  
- 90 CRUISING IN STYLE**  
Thurston/Boyd Interior Design Gave This 55' Yacht A Fresh New Look  
**Text by Kathy Bryant**  
**Photography by Aidin Foster**
  
- 96 RISING FROM THE ASHES**  
Architect Barbara Chambers Rebuilds A Lafayette Home  
**Text by Kendra Boutell**  
**Photography by Tessa Neustadt**
  
- 102 THE ULTIMATE BEACH HOUSE**  
Owner Nina Terzian Collaborates With Architect James Mayo Macari To Create A True Paradise On The Ocean  
**Text by Vanessa Kogevinas**  
**Photography by Dominique Vorillon**
  
- 110 THE GREAT ESCAPE**  
A Vacation Home On One Of The Great Lakes Reboots An L.A. Family To A Slower Pace Good For Communing With Nature And Each Other  
**Text by Candace Ord Manroe**  
**Photography by Erhard Pfeiffer**
  
- 120 ELEGANT RESTRAINT**  
The San Francisco Decorator Showcase Celebrates 40 Years  
**Text by Kendra Boutell**



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# RISING *from the ashes*

ARCHITECT BARBARA CHAMBERS REBUILDS A LAFAYETTE HOME  
TEXT BY KENDRA BOUTELL | PHOTOGRAPHY BY TESSA NEUSTADT



Chambers' installed a Dutch door for the entry adding historic charm to the home while embracing indoor and outdoor living. Opposing oval windows fill the shallow foyer with light. **OPPOSITE** In the family room, an ottoman covered in a Turkish kilim rug serves as a casual coffee table. For lounging Lewis selected a custom sectional upholstered in Belgian linen.



“The clients did not come with a binder full of ideas and preconceived vision of their dream house, they completely trusted me and allowed me to do what I wanted.”

—ARCHITECT BARBARA CHAMBERS



OPPOSITE A vintage inspired sofa companions with a rustic wood coffee table from Juxtaposition Home in the living room. Overhead a hanging fixture with white shade and matching metal, disappears into the ceiling. UPPER LEFT The combination laundry and mud room includes a practical table surface for house work, homework and art projects. UPPER RIGHT Chambers and Lewis joined with Jetton Construction to complete the home in ten months. The designer described it as a dream team with a dream client. BELOW Peter Dunham's button-tufted chaise in a living room provides a quiet nook for reading. A bridge floor lamp and side table completes the grouping.

**W**HEN A CATASTROPHIC FIRE destroyed a Lafayette family's second-generation home, the owners hired architect Barbara Chambers to rebuild. Chambers, the principal of the Mill Valley based boutique architectural firm, Chambers & Chambers, designs exquisite yet livable residences. Her varied background in art, interiors, and architecture, informs each of her projects. From the gray ashes of her clients' house a luminous new home emerged.

Known for classically proportioned spaces, Chambers created a litany of dove white rooms. She collaborated with Los Angeles design firm Amber Interiors to complete the single-story 3,000 square foot house located in Happy Valley. In the great room with soaring vaulted ceilings, designer Amber Lewis honored the pure symmetry of the architecture. She centered a rustic yet refined seating group on the minimalist stone mantel. Chambers integrated the living room with the dining area and kitchen by using harmonious materials throughout.

The quiet, sophisticated master suite includes an en suite bath and walk in closet. Recessing the bed into the wall, the architect added functional side shelves with swing arm lamps. Lewis grounded the room with a vintage Persian village rug and dressed the bed in soft linen and indigo textiles. For the master bath, Chambers installed a custom his and her vanity with a Calacatta marble top and chrome fixtures. The couple's two children each enjoy their own bedrooms with a shared Jack and Jill bath. Chambers also designed an expansive family room and a utilitarian laundry combination mud room.







ABOVE The master bath functions as a serene sanctuary with a free-standing soaking tub and discreet Roman shades. RIGHT Under the slanted ceiling, a day bed dressed in hand woven textiles welcomes guests. BELOW In the master bedroom, Lewis sourced the drapery fabric through Thomas Lavin. For the rest of the room she shopped her own store, Shoppe by Amber Interiors.



LEFT A built in bench and hat rack conveniently positioned in the laundry and mud room allows the family to transition between the outside and inside worlds.

While a tragedy precipitated the project, the process went seamlessly. Chambers recalls, "The clients did not come with a binder full of ideas and preconceived vision of their dream house, they completely trusted me and allowed me to do what I wanted," The happy home owners call often to tell her how much they love their new house. CH