



Stephen L. Stein

ORANGE COUNTY PHILHARMONIC

HOUSE of DESIGN

This **House of Design** is set in the **Pastoral, Equestrian Community of Coto de Caza**

TEXT BY VANESSA KOGEVINAS
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK LOHMAN



Set amid 5,000 acres of pastoral California landscape in the private equestrian community of Coto de Caza in South Orange County this year's 21st Philharmonic House of Design swept visitors into the faraway and calming world of authentic Italian villa estates complete with sweeping lawns and Mediterranean gardens.

The villa's two acres are at the heart of the community's sprawling natural scenery tucked near the Saddleback Mountains with parks in which to unwind and winding trails that take you to the reaches of the Cleveland National Forest. Activities abound—sports fields and courts, clubhouses, golf, swimming, tennis—and the totality of it all makes Coto de Caza one of the most sought after places to live.

OPPOSITE | Lounge & Bar

A leather chair with wooden arm detail from Baker, Knapp & Tubbs is paired with an upholstered chair from Rose Tarlow Melrose House in front of a bench that can double as a coffee table in addition to the pair of cloverleaf tables from the Jacques Garcia Collection at Baker, Knapp & Tubbs. A Drinks Server Tray Table from The Barbara Barry Collection and custom mirrors designed by Stein offer a sophisticated bar corner. A herringbone woven sisal from Patterson, Flynn & Martin for F. Schumacher & Co. adds warmth to the space.





Ana Maria Martinez-Stumpo

ABOVE | Loggia

A pair of custom Ipe and outdoor leather armchairs by PH Design flank the fireplace and are set by a wrought iron coffee table from Mexico while matching throw pillows using Opuzen Design fabric add comfort. Wrought iron is used to create custom pieces for a live herb wall as well as detailing for a television surround and a Classic Home rug ties the outdoor space together.

RIGHT | The Loggia Vignette

A PH Design custom sofa with a hand applied wood texture on a wrought iron frame and Outdura brand upholstery offers a cozy spot to linger.



The interiors of the four bedroom, six bath, 7,000 square foot villa came alive at the hands of fourteen talented Orange County and Los Angeles designers—John Wallace Benecke, the late Stephen L. Stein, Hal Swanson and Dan Ollis, Susan Wesley, Gary Finley, Frank Pitman, Stephanie Avila and Ashley Pereida, Leanne Michael, Megan Crane, Jennifer Nicole Anderson, Jeanine Veldhuis and Ana Maria Martinez-Stumpo—who worked closely with over twenty sponsors including Hermès, Frette and Baccarat—all to benefit the Philharmonic Society Youth Music Education Programs.

Designer John Wallace Benecke set the scene in the entry. “I wanted to show that a large entry hall not only sets the tone for the rest of the house, but it can be comfortable and intimate.” He also tackled the powder room where he presented an old world background with modern accents.

In the lounge, Stephen L. Stein chose eclectic, comfortable furnishings with clean lines creating an inviting and engaging space to gather.

The dining room and adjacent butler’s pantry by Hal Swanson and Dan Ollis “had to inspire visitors to briefly dream of what might transpire at a sumptuous dinner party,” note the designers. “We envisioned a room that beckoned people to stay late into the evening.”



Megan Crane

ABOVE | Grand Parlor

An eclectic mix sets the tone in the grand parlor where Crane paired a Witford sofa with a pair of armchairs chosen for their curvilinear shape to add interest—one with a crushed bamboo overlay finish and the other a heavy natural fiber weave. A grey oak console with black vellum doors from Witford and a pressed bronze hand forged rain drum help to ground the otherwise light-toned space. The walls are covered in Thibaut grass cloth and the ceiling is a custom design made of hand-cut rotated individual grass cloth shapes that pick up light and create a three dimensional feel.

RIGHT | Grand Parlor Table Vignette

An Acacia wood based table surrounded by Lee Industries chairs covered in Zoffany green tweed matched with Zoffany silk drapery, a custom art piece by Maria Deganis and a custom lantern sconce provide a corner to sip a cocktail, eat a light meal or play games.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN KING



Susan Wesley

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN KING

TOP LEFT | Family Room

A console originally from the Doheny Estate, now part of Wesley's personal collection, abuts a sofa from Lee Industries covered in Kravet fabric. Bright orange ceramic lamps and a Stark Carpet add color and pattern.

ABOVE | Breakfast Room

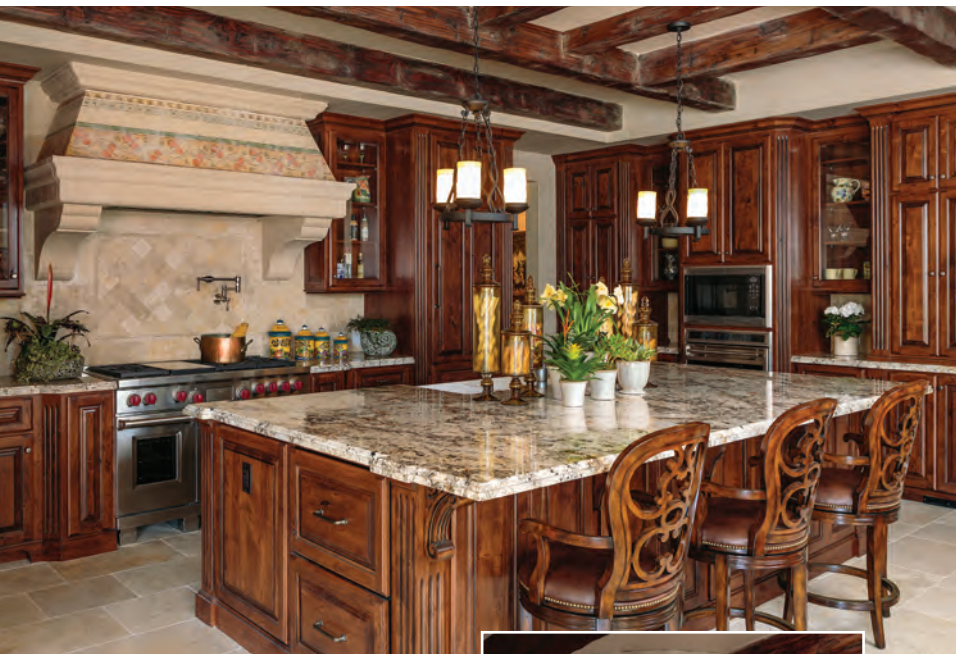
Vintage A. Rudin chairs covered in Lee Jofa fabric with orange leather seats beg a pause around a Swain table. A custom piece of art by Sandra Jones Campbell was commissioned for the space and cleverly picks up the tones in the ceiling detail by artist Enzo Selvaggi.

LEFT | Kitchen

Alder wood cabinetry, granite countertops and limestone flooring set the tone in the kitchen where Wesley selected imported barstools for the island and designed custom rod iron with blown glass light fixtures.

BELOW | Fireplace In Family Room

The fireplace in the family room was enhanced with intricate detailing by artist Enzo Selvaggi.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN KING



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John Wallace Benecke

ABOVE | Entry Hallway

A Biomorphic Console—originally designed by Tony Duquette and now available through Baker, Knapp & Tubbs—anchors the entry and is paired with two photographs by Laguna Beach based photographer Tom Lamb.



Hal Swanson & Dan Ollis

ABOVE | Dining Room

A Brandt Hall gold leaf lantern is suspended above a Sutcliffe dining table by Dessin Fournir, which is matched with two types of chairs—the Barstow side chair by Dessin Fournir and a pair of Louis XVI occasional armchairs with an antique paint finish. A 17-century French artifact on the fireplace mantel sets an impressive classic tone in the space.

RIGHT | Table Setting Vignette

Hermés porcelain china, Puiforcat flatware and Saint-Louis crystal stemware are combined to set a stunning table.





Leanne Michael

ABOVE | Garden & Laundry Room

The walls of the garden and laundry room were finished to bring an 1800s Italian farmhouse vision to fruition—a space to creatively showcase garden accessories, as well as create florals for the home within an often dull utilitarian laundry space. Custom forged iron chandelier, Turkish Kilim rug and Samsung appliances.

RIGHT | Wine Room

Wood chairs with embossed leather seats from Ecuador and a custom forged iron table produced in Mexico set in front of a salvaged antique fireplace mantel offer a place to taste one of the wine room's 1650 bottles of wine.



Susan Wesley bravely threw herself into working on multiple areas—the family room, kitchen and dining nook. “I wanted the spaces to be comfortable, warm, inviting and livable,” she says. “What I call California casual elegance.”

The grand parlor by Megan Crane was put together with entertaining in mind. “I wanted a space that had timeless appeal for a modern day family,” says the designer. “Whether it be watch a movie, read a book or enjoy a cocktail.”

Off the family room and grand parlor Ana Maria Martinez-Stumpo of PH Design Interiors put her touch on the loggia. “I aimed for the space to feel like a retreat,” she notes, “and I brought the indoors outdoors.”

Rounding off that side of the ground floor are the wine room and laundry and flower room by Leanne Michael who “created updated, inspirational, beautiful, useful and livable spaces that spoke to the true Italian farmhouse style,” she notes.

On the other side of the ground floor the master bedroom and bath by Jeanine Veldhuis “bring a mixture of furniture and objects that offer an interesting combination of sensual pleasure with geometric rigor,” says the designer. “I like mixing elements from many different sources and periods from all over the world.



Jeanine Veldhuis

ABOVE | Master Suite

Two different side tables and a series of artworks flank the four poster bed, which has a pair of stools at its base—all from Formations—giving the space a symmetrical yet fresh feel. Bed linens, a fur throw and pillows from Veldhuis Interior Design, and a rug from Southerland add intrigue.



LEFT & BELOW | Sitting Area

Deer hide covered Rose Tarlow Melrose House, armchairs are paired with Formations, floorlamps on either side of a selenite coffee table from Blake House. An iron mirror from Formations and custom firescreen provide artful touches.





Gary Finley

ABOVE | The Biblioteca

A pair of armchairs covered in Harlequin fabric and a sofa—all from Gina B & Company—and a unique coffee table from Witford offer a cozy spot for reading or conversation. An artwork by Luc Leestemaker through Madison Gallery brings nature's colors into the mix. Masland Carpets & Rugs.



**Stephanie Avila
& Ashley Pereida**

ABOVE | Nursery

Cribs, an armchair and a small table with matching chairs from AFK furniture make this room a one-of-a-kind. Drapery and crib canopies by Judy's Custom Workroom only enhance the uniqueness, while a rug from Kravet brings it all together. A Lightopia chandelier puts the final sparkle on the space.



Jennifer Nicole Anderson

ABOVE | Girls' Bedroom

For the girls' room Anderson teamed up with Pottery Barn Kids where she found the headboard and canopy, side table and chest of drawers, small table and matching chairs, drapery, rug, and wicker chest at the end of the bed.



Frank Pitman

ABOVE & BELOW | Getaway Suite

Custom upholstered panels designed by Pitman serve as a headboard that features nickel spires and when paired with bedding in light tones from Between the Sheets create an ethereal moment. Adding to the feel, a lacquered linen side table with nailhead trim by Century Furniture, a chandelier by Lighting Innovation and hand painted drapery by Sarah Strader Design.

In one corner of the suite an oil painting suspended above a mahogany and cream lacquer desk by Century Furniture conceals a television. A cream velvet covered chair and a blue silk chair—both from Century Furniture—provide seating.



Just off the master suite the girl's bedroom by Jennifer Nicole Anderson was fashioned to be a "dream room for a little girl," says Anderson, "with the dream budget for the parents—affordable!"

Upstairs Frank Pitman's getaway suite was put together with a young bride-to-be in mind. "As there was no 'bed wall' the main goal was to create architecture from the angled corner, which allows you to see the view from both directions," says Pitman.

The upstairs hallway and biblioteca were entrusted to Gary Finley. "I wanted to present a fresh twist on the Tuscan style of the structure," he notes, "and did so by combining Spanish antiques with contemporary fabrics and a backdrop of fine art."

The final sweet touch of the upstairs—the nursery—designed by Stephanie Avila and Ashley Pereida of Rockabye Mommy. "We wanted a room that felt like you were entering an enchanted space and evoked a fanciful feeling."

In the end the sum total of all the spaces brought a healthy diversity and provided inspiration that was at once traditional and modern, local and international, neutral and colorful, historical and contemporary. Exactly what a showhouse should be—an abundance of beauty and ideas all under one roof. ☐