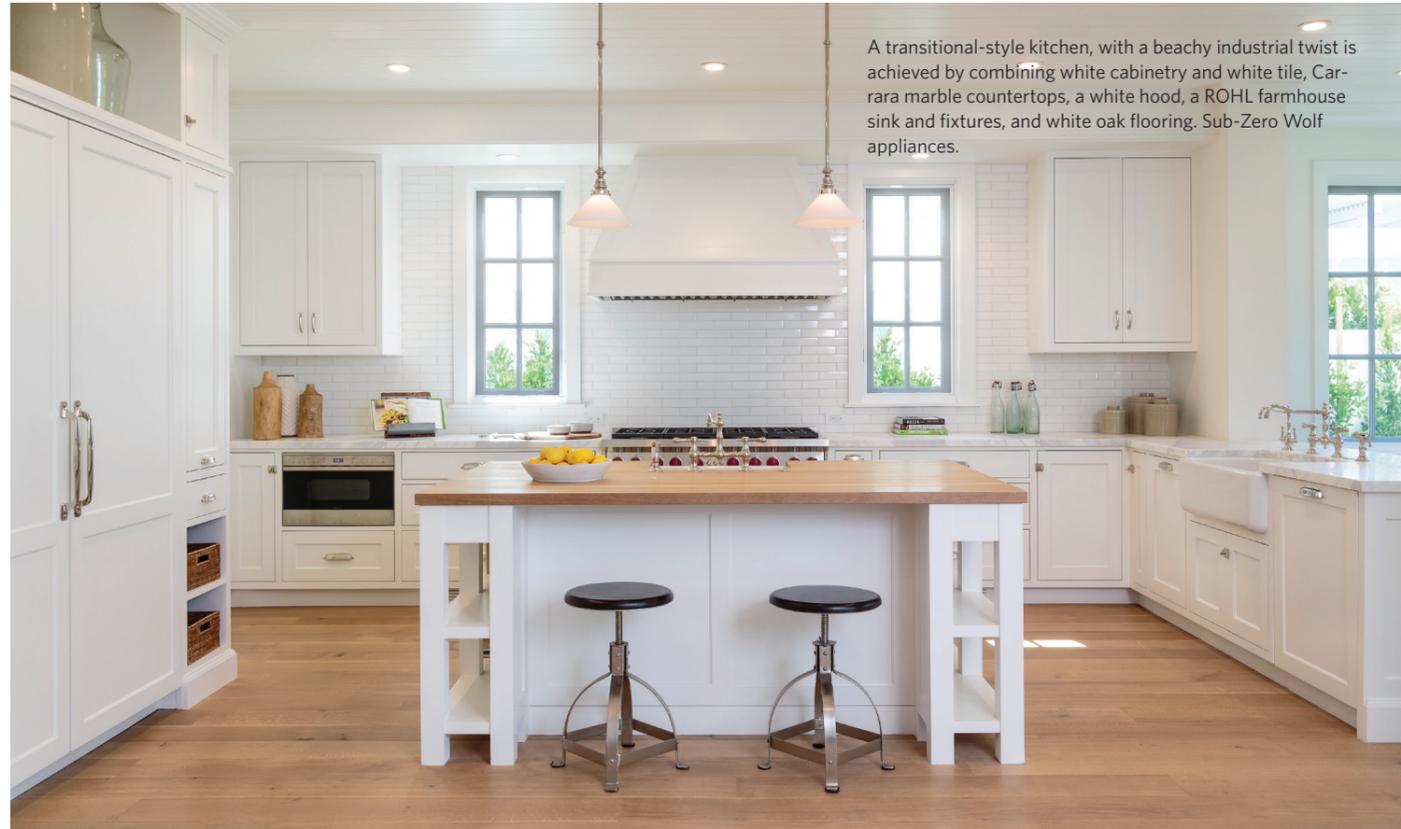


Designer Profile



A transitional-style kitchen, with a beachy industrial twist is achieved by combining white cabinetry and white tile, Carrara marble countertops, a white hood, a ROHL farmhouse sink and fixtures, and white oak flooring. Sub-Zero Wolf appliances.

BELOW A deep soaking tub set on white oak flooring paired with Carrara marble countertops and shower tile creates a sophisticated and inviting master bath. **RIGHT** A honeycomb-patterned Ann Sacks cement tile for flooring provides scale and whimsy for a full spa/gym bath. A custom oak vanity with Carrara marble top and matching mirror complete the space. **BOTTOM MIDDLE** White cabinetry, Carrara marble countertops, white oak flooring, and a complimentary butcher block come together to produce a bright, basement-located, secondary kitchen designed for catering, children's baking, crafts and wrapping. ROHL sink and sink fixtures.



LAURIE HAEFELE

A kitchen and bath designer that is proficient in a myriad of styles

BY VANESSA KOGEVINAS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARK LOHMAN

EVERY TIME I SIT DOWN with a blank piece of paper, pen and scale, I am so thrilled!" says Laurie Haeefe, who was formally trained as an architect, but quickly fell into kitchen design, as well as baths and boutique ward-



robes, by accident. "I consider kitchens mini versions of architecture." Having steadily and healthily grown her Santa Monica-based firm, Haeefe Design, since its inception in 2002, admittedly, she can no longer sit down, sketch and create into the small hours of the night as she once did. Yet now when she does "my designs are more vibrant and exciting because they are held in and it feels almost like they burst on the page," she notes.

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Having steadily and healthily grown her Santa Monica-based firm, Haeefe

A dive into her portfolio, which she has been curating since she first started designing in 1990, proves her proficiency in a myriad of styles from high-tech to old world, however, she notes that she is becoming known for her clean aesthetics. Having graduated from Pratt Institute with a Bachelor's in Architecture, and received a Master's degree in architectural history and theory from UCLA, her designs are strongly influenced by her education, as well as her tenure at famed architectural firm Gwathmey Siegel Kaufman Architects, formerly Gwathmey Siegel Architects.

A valuable lesson that she has learned, "There is not just one way to lay out and design a space," she shares. "For example, often the focal wall is the one with a hood and range, but some spaces have multiple focal walls. Or maybe the view is the feature, so you would install glass windows versus upper cabinets."

Haeefe prides herself on securing mostly repeat and referred clients, and regularly

partners with renowned architects such as James Magni and Richard Landry. "These days, clients are very much looking to have kitchens be communal—where they can be with their friends and family" says Haeefe, "while bathrooms are to be more spa-like and peaceful." In both cases, everything must have a place and a purpose. "Listen to your clients and pay special attention to their needs. It is easy to design a beautiful environment. It is much more difficult to make it functional for that specific family."

For Haeefe personally, she currently considers her dining room more of the hub for her and her five-and-a-half year old adopted son. "He loves to help me cook," she says, "and while I know the value of teaching him cooking skills, his age is such that sitting down to the meal is less stressful for his Mom than cooking it!" **CH**

