

**RIGHT** Interior designer Michael Berman selected an angled sofa and generous armchairs from his Michael Berman Limited Collection for one of several seating arrangements in the living room, as well as commissioning floor-to-ceiling lamps—all to compliment the large scale of the space. Michael Berman Textiles for pillow fabric and Michael Berman Limited accessories all provide dimension and pattern.



# Palm Springs Modernism Week Show House

THE CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY COMPOUND  
SHINES FOR A THIRD YEAR

TEXT BY VANESSA KOGEVINAS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY LAURE JOLIET

**E**VERY FEBRUARY, thousands of architecture, design and art enthusiasts slip away to the sun-drenched, culturally charged city of Palm Springs for Modernism Week. The Christopher Kennedy compound—in its third consecutive year—did not disappoint as one of the week’s ‘must-see’ attractions. Beyond ample design offerings, its mission of raising funds for Palm Springs Modernism and other preservation efforts, this year, rang in to the tune of \$86,000. *California Homes* proudly served as regional media sponsor in conjunction with national media sponsor *Traditional Home* and local media sponsor *Palm Springs Style*.

Kennedy selectively invited fifteen interior designers and secured over fifty sponsors to bring the Indian Canyons-located 4,000 square-foot, three-bedroom, three-bathroom residence to life. He shares that the mission of The Christopher Kennedy Compound is to re-establish Palm Springs as a wellspring for world-class architecture and interior design by renovating a classic property using the best of today’s technology. “The design had to resonate

with Palm Springs,” he says, “but it could not be cliché or expected. The owners, Jerry and Marilyn, are not flashy people. I wanted the home to exude quiet, comfortable modernism and relaxed glamour.”

The living room designed by Michael Berman, adjoining dining alcove by Martyn Lawrence Bullard, and kitchen by the show house’s namesake, Kennedy, formed the heart of the house. In the living room, which gives out onto the pool and golf course beyond, Berman created two seating areas, as well as incorporating an existing sunken bar. “The goal was to keep the feeling of mid-century modernism combined with contemporary and vintage furnishings,” says Berman. “To keep the look fresh and modern, but also give it a feeling of being assembled by clients who really love art, objects and a mix of furnishings.”

Lawrence Bullard’s dining room popped with emerald greens, vivid patterns and mirrored elements, offering a sophisticated richness while drawing in the vivid green of the golf course. “A disco dining room experience,” Lawrence Bullard says, “put together to highlight my Haviland-Limoges dinnerware

For the kitchen, Christopher Kennedy turned to Cosentino for Dekton countertops, Eggersmann USA for cabinetry, Phillip Jeffries for a wallcovering, Ferguson for lighting, Zuo Modern for barstools, and photos.com for artwork.



collection, and reflect the fun side of Palm Springs living and its international appeal.”

The kitchen—anchored by a floating-top island—sparkled in white broken up by walnut-toned lower cabinetry. Floor-to-ceiling glass on one wall gives out onto an exterior dining patio and pool, blurring any indoor/outdoor divide.

Patrick Dragonette’s den was a decidedly neutral, quiet space with subtle punches of color and a handful of unexpected moments. “I wanted to create a calm and peaceful environment for relaxing,” says Dragonette.

The residence’s three bedrooms—master by Julia Buckingham, teen by Carson Kressley and guest by Justin Shaulis—treated visitors to three very distinct styles. Buckingham’s velvety, tie-die,

zebra prints and patterns were in stark contrast to Kressley’s lollipop-hued blocks of color. Shaulis presented a more urban aesthetic, bringing a New York twist to Palm Springs, in a color palette evoking a desert sunset.

Bathrooms abounded. An all-white, texture-infused master bath by Kelli Ellis; a sleek guest bedroom bath by Justin Shaulis; a preppy ensuite teen bedroom bath by Trellis Home; a glamorous den-adjacent bath by Keith Fortner, and a powerfully moody powder room by Michael Boyd.

Kelly Lee’s master suite dressing room transported the visitor into a whimsical leafy oasis paying homage to The Beverly Hills Hotel, while Denise McGaha’s vibrant laundry room off the kitchen boasted lacquer teal cabinetry and over-



**RIGHT** In the dining room designed by Martyn Lawrence Bullard, a vintage Venini glass chandelier is suspended above a table set with Baccarat Vega Pattern glasses and Lawrence Bullard’s Haviland-Limoges Hollywood dinnerware. Custom vintage Paul Evans dining chairs from Moore & Giles.



A William Haines sofa from Dragonette Ltd, stools covered in Claremont Furnishing with matching sofa pillows, and a Gabriella Crespi cocktail table from the designer's collection make up the seating area in designer Patrick Dragonette's den. **LEFT** Keith Fortner for Studio Kennedy selected a Mirabelle sink and Dornbracht fixtures—both through Ferguson—for the den bath. A mirror from Desert View Mirror & Glass echoes the lines of sconces by Corbett Lighting through Ferguson. Wallcovering by Hartmann & Forbes.

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Kelly Lee chose a Justina Blakeney for Hygge & West wallcovering as the backdrop for the master suite dressing room. A Kate Spade New York vanity desk, Jana Bek Design lamps, and a Lamps Plus mirror anchor the space.

A Fromental wallcovering and Fort Street Studio area rug set the tone in the master bedroom designed by Justin Shaulis. Brass accents on the custom bed and side tables by Sublime Living, and a chandelier from Ferguson offer glamour.



**ABOVE** The clean lines of a Bradley Hughes nightstand and bed are in contrast with the more ethereal lines of the Lindsay Cowles wallcovering in the master bedroom designed by Julia Buckingham.



size palm leaf wallpaper.

The entry, by Nova Scotia-based firm 31 Westgate, was a study in varying metal and stone shapes, which was echoed in the irregularly sized slats and artistic assembly of the poolside Kennedy-designed tea house.

Rounding out the show house's plethora of styles, visions and ideas were the outdoor living areas—poolside seating, lounging and outdoor dining—all created by Jamie Durie, who also designed the landscape.

"We are actively exploring locations for The Christopher Kennedy Compound 2017," says Kennedy. "It is beyond my wildest dreams." The epitome of a show house is one that inspires, provides design solutions and excites artistry—while at once contributing to community and causes. This one was nothing short of that. **CH**



Outdoor landscaping and living areas designed by Jamie Durie feature his own Tranterior lounge chairs, planters by Porta Forma and plantings by Monrovia. **OPPOSITE** Porta Forma furniture and a rug by Frontgate dress up a patio. Pillows by Trina Turk.