

Great Ideas from Our San Francisco Showhouse

Metropolitan Home

29 Top
Designers
Tell All

Decorating Now

Q+A: Sarah Jessica Parker
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Trend: Wood Gets Real



*Sophisticated
wit in a colorful
new house in the
Hamptons, p.84.*

Our Hearth in San Francisco

Alongside custom furnishings and museum-quality wares at *Met Home's* Designer Showhouse were affordable ideas aplenty, yours for the taking.

With no real-life clients to please, a designer showhouse is an exercise in pure creativity. At *Metropolitan Home's* 2009 "Modern by Design" project in upscale Pacific Heights, a distinguished 1904 townhouse was retrofitted for the 21st century by developer Regina Callan of RBR Development and architect Mark English, using the latest in green technologies and building materials. Then, 15 of the Bay Area's most sought-after designers let their imaginations soar, with inspiring results, including Gary Hutton's serenely neutral master bedroom/study, shown here.

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA NESTOR AND JODY T. KENNEDY. PHOTOGRAPHS BY MATTHEW MILLMAN. WRITTEN BY CARA GREENBERG.



Master Suite

1. Gary Hutton began with pieces of his own design: a zebra wood desk and an upholstered steel Sturgis chair. He added ultramodern lighting, including a drum ceiling fixture from Artemide that cycles through color changes for a major wow effect.

2. Hutton followed up with simple strokes of cost-cutting genius, like inexpensive felt curtains made from recycled soda bottles. They require no hemming and grommet holes mean they can hang from wooden Shaker-style pegs. Minotti Held chairs anchor the room's center. After discovering that a second set of Frank Gehry cardboard bedside nesting tables for Vitra was unavailable, Hutton balanced the Gehry tables he already had with a stack of folded, bound corrugated cartons topped with a piece of glass.



Living Room

1. David T. Oldroyd and Greg Stewart of Orlando Diaz-Azcuy experimented with prosaic materials and a poetic idea: to interpret the topography of the California coast in affordable repurposed plywood and Lenseal (vinyl made from recycled content). The playful outcome was an undulating sofa, chairs

and coffee table that rise up out of the floor in one unified piece, as the hills emerge from the bay. Walls plastered with lime-and-marble aggregate and painted with natural pigments—no VOCs or polymer glues in sight—are as green as those in ancient Greece and Rome.

Dining Room

2. In place of the expected central chandelier, a quartet of spherical ceiling fixtures (a modern take on classic Chinese lanterns) frames the table and flatters the diners in Jun Ho's exotic dining room. The dining chairs and table are Ho's own design. Sandblasted wood wall paneling and layered recycled hides



on the floor add texture, drama and a touch of intriguing irregularity to an essentially symmetrical scheme.

Library

3. The groovy James Bond vibe of Nicole Hollis's gentleman's library comes from all-white contemporary pieces, including beanbag chairs from

Zanotta (the original maker) and Christophe Pillet's Nouvelle Vogue chair for Porro, set against dark floors.

A vintage 1960s bar cart and Jason Miller's Modo chandelier of smoked-glass globes on aluminum spokes add excitement. The steel fireplace surround extends the length of the room to form a sculpture

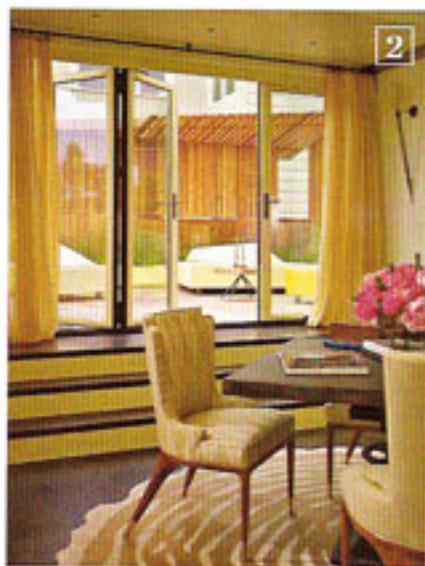
ledge, while white shutters make alcoves out of awkward areas. Books and vintage *Playboy* magazines stacked horizontally look arty and modern.



The Great Room

1. Jay Jeffers's dramatic two-story great room at the top of the house draws on wide-ranging sources of inspiration. It's a sophisticated mix of reclaimed industrial objects (the sconces in the loft are made from old spyglasses by Circa Lighting) and sprightly contemporary pieces like a streamlined chaise from Lee Industries (the staircase to the loft, which doubles as a bookcase, is not shown; see MetHome.com).

2. In the dining area, custom chairs of Jeffers's design surround his Age of Industry table—an early-20th-century dark, rusted-steel top resting on a hand-cranked iron buffing machine. The stairs lead to the roof deck, which is entered through NanaWall folding doors.



3. The angled sofa with a crenellated back is from the designer's own line, as is the powerfully graphic rug. Chic vintage pieces like Venini lamps, high-backed Italian club chairs and a classic Paul Evans coffee table play against an antique industrial scale used as a side table. Like a giant teardrop, the over-size chandelier by the McEwen Lighting Studio echoes the room's peaked ceiling.



Boerner's custom lounge chair, elevated by leather fabric with a metallic finish, swivels for gazing either at the TV or out to the patio.

Media Room

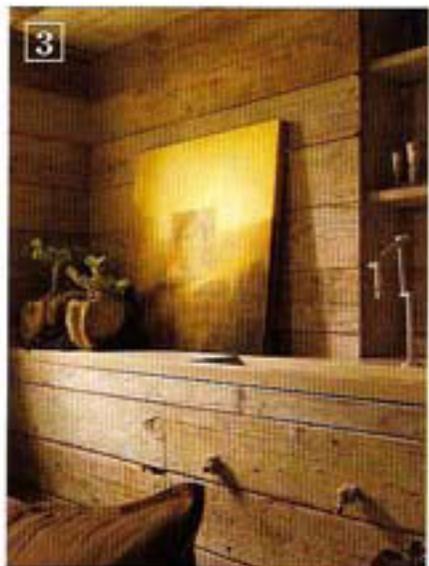
3. Napa-based designer Erin Martin created a snug, non-becky gathering place to enjoy music and media on the house's lower level by paneling the walls with salvaged boards once used for scaffolding, hung horizontally for an intimate feel. Rough textures, including linen upholstery on a daybed built for lounging, embody a "California organic" look.

Boy's Room

1. Use What You Have is the ultimate in recycling. What designers Martha Angus and Philip King Parton didn't already own or couldn't borrow, they supplemented with inexpensive finds from Pottery Barn (the jute rug) and West Elm (the silver Parsons desk). Striped wallpaper left over from another job looks fresh hung sideways. The Warhol-esque Brillo box and orange lamps are unadulterated fun. The expanse of sky in the huge photo on the wall is like another window in the room.

Family Room

2. The TV and fireplace side by side on one wall of Steven Miller's family room say it all: This is a room that's functional, warm and stylish. Ted



Bathroom

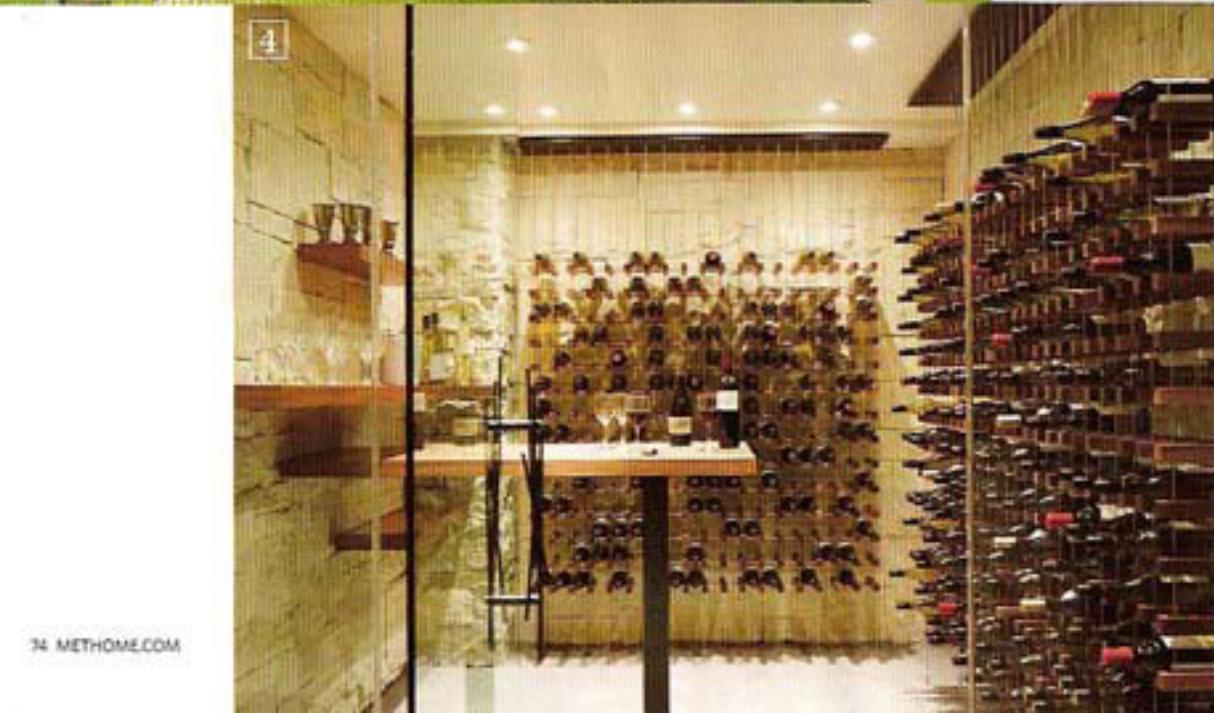
1. The luminous glass tiles from Walker Zanger in MinDay's chartreuse bathroom reflect the treetops that are visible outside the windows (the paint, like all paint in the house, is Behr, here, in Japanese Fern). The bath, with its CaesarStone countertop and Kohler faucet and sink, is shared by a fanciful suite of bedrooms

in pink and blue. The firm's philosophy mixes high-style, custom elements, like the wall covering seen in the pink room, derived from a pixelated digital image of clouds, with affordable commercial products like Flor carpet tiles and Fatboy beanbag chairs.

Guest Room

2. This tranquil guest room by Julie Dowling

and Lorissa Kimm—both are protégés from Michael Graves's architectural practice—has minimal detailing, which is meant to shift the focus from decoration to the inherent qualities of textured materials like the fringed leather chair, fur pillow, sisal rug and side table made of tamarind root. The Roman shade is by the Shade Store.



Guest Bath

3. Like the bedroom, the guest bath is environmentally responsible, with water-efficient fixtures, high-efficacy lighting, Ann Sacks slate floor tiles and organic liners—all in a room that avoids shouting "green."

Wine Cellar

4. Sand Studios uses an ingenious suspension system to cradle bottles. Wine racks are suspended from the ceiling on steel wires against walls with an Eldorado Stone veneer.



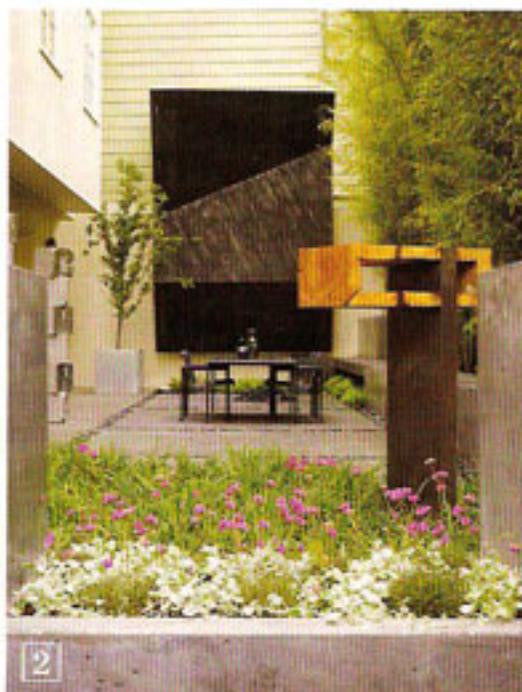


House Exterior

1. Architect Mark English brought the 7,700-square-foot, late-Victorian townhouse in Pacific Heights into the present day with the addition of solar panels from Real Goods, energy-efficient Marvin windows and Trulite doors. Regina Callan of RBR Development took great pains to find recycled brick manufactured by the same company that made the century-old originals.

Courtyard Garden

2. The narrow courtyard is a study in black and white, with a Japanese-style "burnt wall" at one end. Fitted with misters, it's intended to become a green wall of moss in time. Wood



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paneling is installed as sculpture; concrete elements designed and fabricated by Throwing Rock Studio contain strips of LED lights that glow blue at night. The plantings are the work of Surfacedesign, who also did the roof deck.

Roof Deck

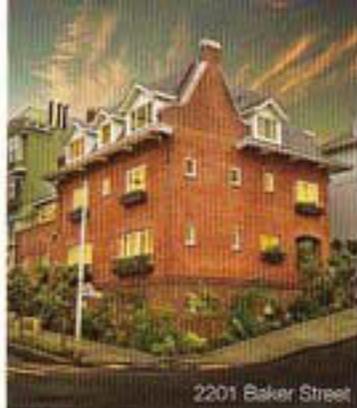
3. Surfacedesign's takeoff point for the roof deck was the local landscape, with grasses native to the California hills. Lighthearted furnishings, all upholstered in Sunbrella fabrics, are akin to soft sculpture. A cantilevered overhang of angled wood slats brings a dynamic modern character to the small but airy space. ❧
See Resources, last pages.

For more Showhouse photos go to Methome.com.



MODERN BY DESIGN

Metropolitan Home | SAN FRANCISCO 2009



2201 Baker Street



Photo: Alissa Photography

On June 17, Metropolitan Home's editor in chief Donna Warner hosted the grand opening gala for the Modern by Design Showhouse in San Francisco where more than 700 guests gathered to admire the cutting-edge design and eco-friendly elements created by the city's brightest stars in modern design.

Led by developer Regina Callan, of RBR Development, the featured designers included Martha Angus & Phillip Parton, David Oldroyd & Greg Stewart of ODADA, Julie Dowling and Lorissa Kimm of Dowling Kimm Studios, Gary Hutton, Jay Jeffers, Jun Ho, Erin Martin, E.B. Min and Jeffroy Day of MiniDay, Nicole Hollis, Sand Studios, Steven Miller Design Studio, SurfaceDesign, and Throwing Rock Studio.

Designers gathered on the roof deck for a group portrait. Deck was designed by SurfaceDesign and featured Sunbrella fabric.

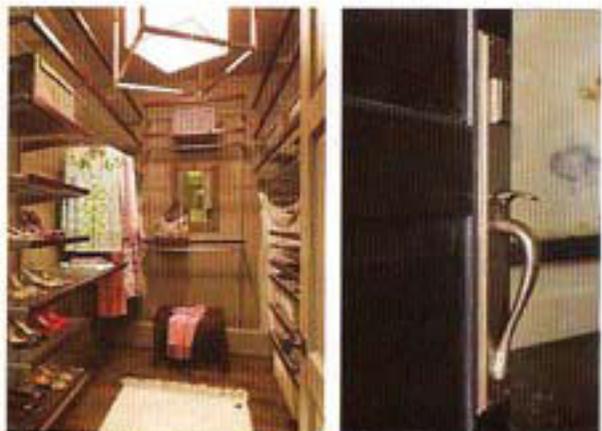
For more information on the house, check out methome.com/modernbydesign



The timeless kitchen, designed by Steven Miller features CaesarStone countertops, Circa Lighting pendants, an Elica hood, Gump's accessories, Kohler plumbing, The Shade Store window coverings, Viking appliances, Walker Zanger tile, and Wood-Mode cabinetry.



The media room, designed by Erin Martin, features a Digeo Moxi two-tuner HDTV DVR unit that allows users to watch what they want, where they want.



Left: Gary Hutton designed this master closet utilizing the eifa® modular shelving system from The Container Store; Right: Rocky Mountain Hardware opens the eco-friendly showhouse with a curved Thumbblatch Entry Set on a TruStile door.