

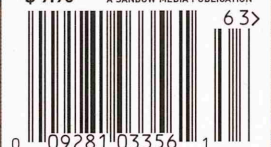
ARIZONA

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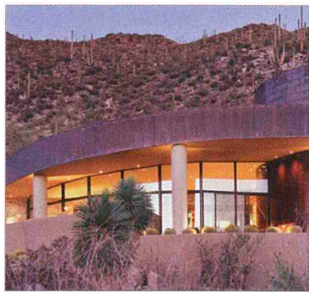


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# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

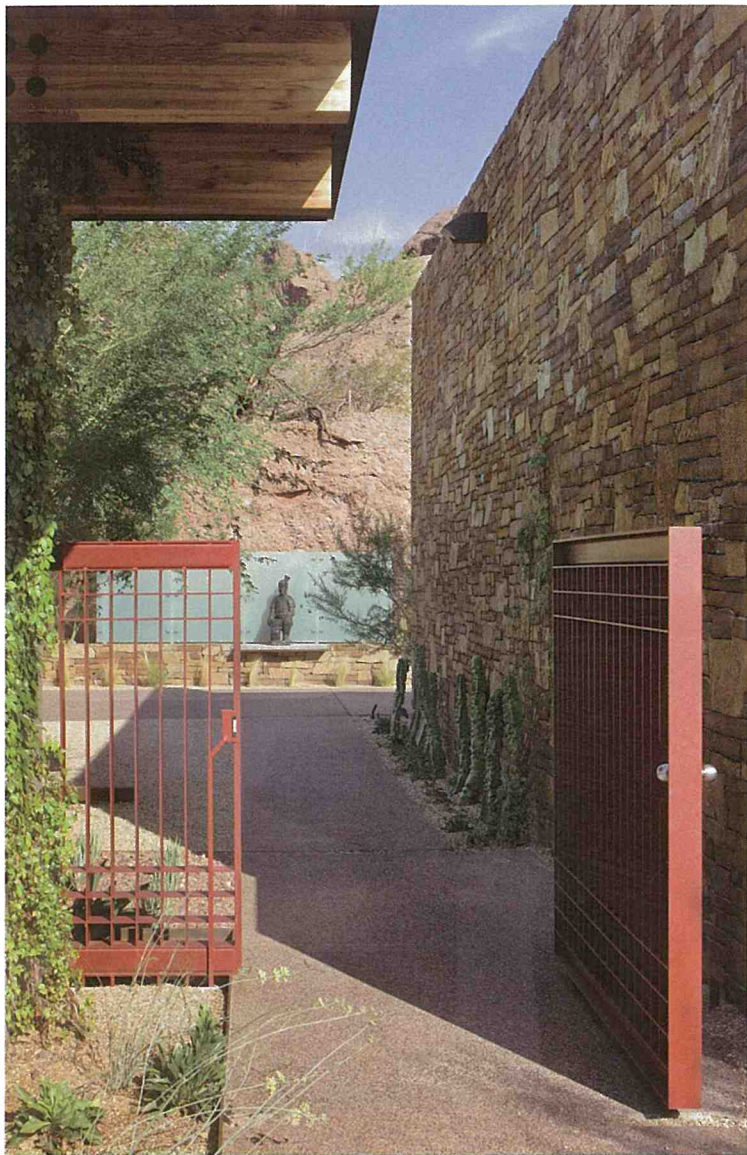
WRITTEN BY MINDY PANTIEL  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BILL TIMMERMAN

EVERY YEAR, OVER 300,000 HIKERS MAKE THE TREK TO THE SUMMIT OF CAMELBACK MOUNTAIN, WHERE ON A CLEAR DAY THE UNFETTERED VIEWS OF PHOENIX AND BEYOND ARE UNPARALLELED. There are a lucky few, though, who actually get to live on the mountainside and gaze at the 360-degree vistas every day. Among the fortunate, a pair of empty nesters—she's an artist; he's in agriculture—who purchased an existing home and lived in it for a year before razing the structure and replacing it with architecture better suited to their lifestyle and the spectacular site.

<b>HOME BUILDER</b> Joe Costello, Stonecreek Building Company, Inc.
<b>INTERIOR DESIGN</b> Angela Tana, AT Design, LLC
<b>ARCHITECTURE</b> Paul Moran
<b>BEDROOMS</b> 3 <b>BATHROOMS</b> 4 <b>SQUARE FEET</b> 5,256







**TRANSITION SPACE**

A shaded walkway guides visitors into the courtyard. The stacked-stone wall is crafted from the same local material used in the Barry Goldwater Memorial in Paradise Valley, and the red-painted steel gate by Arlon & Company in Apache Junction mimics the fiery tones of the rocks in the mountain backdrop.



**OUTSIDE IN**

The same concrete walls, dry stacked stone and painted steel railing seen outside define the living room and loft studio where the tongue-and-groove redwood ceiling conceals insulation, pipes and mechanical apparatus. Quiet gray tones on the wool chair and leather Poltrona Frau sofa were selected to integrate with the surroundings and keep the focus on the view.

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According to the homeowners, they envisioned a modern building that respected the magnificent surroundings. “We didn’t want it to be a sore thumb,” says the wife. “We wanted the house to integrate with the environment and have an almost Anasazi feel.” To make that happen, they selected architect Paul Moran and his associate Angela Tana to design a one-bedroom main house and a separate two-bedroom guesthouse and studio. “We started by imagining we were discovering an old site, which led to the use of dry stacked stone,” says Tana.





**DRINK SERVICE**

On the patio, a pair of woven mesh and aluminum barstools belly up to an outside counter where a flip-top window conveniently opens to a wet bar in the living room.

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Next, concrete walls formed over aluminum panels—a commercial treatment that creates unique patterns—further rooted the residence to its hillside perch. Steel beams support the impressive roof structure, and large expanses of glass frame views of the valley floor from the living room, craggy rock formations from the master suite, and glimpses of Paradise Valley from the wife's painting studio.

Sadly, halfway through the construction process, Moran passed away, leaving Tana, home builder Joe Costello, of Mesa's Stonecreek Building Company, and landscape architect Chris Winters, of Phoenix-based



**MODERN DINING**

In the dining room, classic Wegner chairs by Carl Hansen & Son provide seating for eight. A lithograph by Fritz Scholder hangs on a concrete wall, which borrows its texture from the aluminum panels beneath it. The walnut table is from Bulthaup, and the stainless-steel and aluminum chandelier from Luceplan Group changes color.





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Chris Winters & Associates, to carry out his vision. For his part, Winters conceived an entry experience that begins to unfurl at the driveway, where tufts of Mexican thread grass soften a stacked-stone planter box filled with cactus. Next, a red-painted steel gate opens to a courtyard where a koi pond covered with a solid piece of acrylic separates the lawn where the owners' grandkids play from a more private sitting area. "It's essentially a translucent bridge," Winters explains.

With a stated goal of creating a unique home "tailored to the owners' tastes and lifestyles," Costello crafted a three-car garage with a lift for stacking the vehicles, and two sets of entry doors, one of which opens to the courtyard. "The owner works on his cars in there, so the cedar garage doors were placed so he can still enjoy the view," the builder adds.

#### STYLE SELECTION

Hand-blown crystal and precious metals meet to create this intriguing vessel, which is reminiscent of glass manipulated by a galactic edge. The silver flecks within the vase patina over time for a distinguished look. *Silver Vertical Wrap Barrel Vase*, \$400; [calebsiemon.com](http://calebsiemon.com)



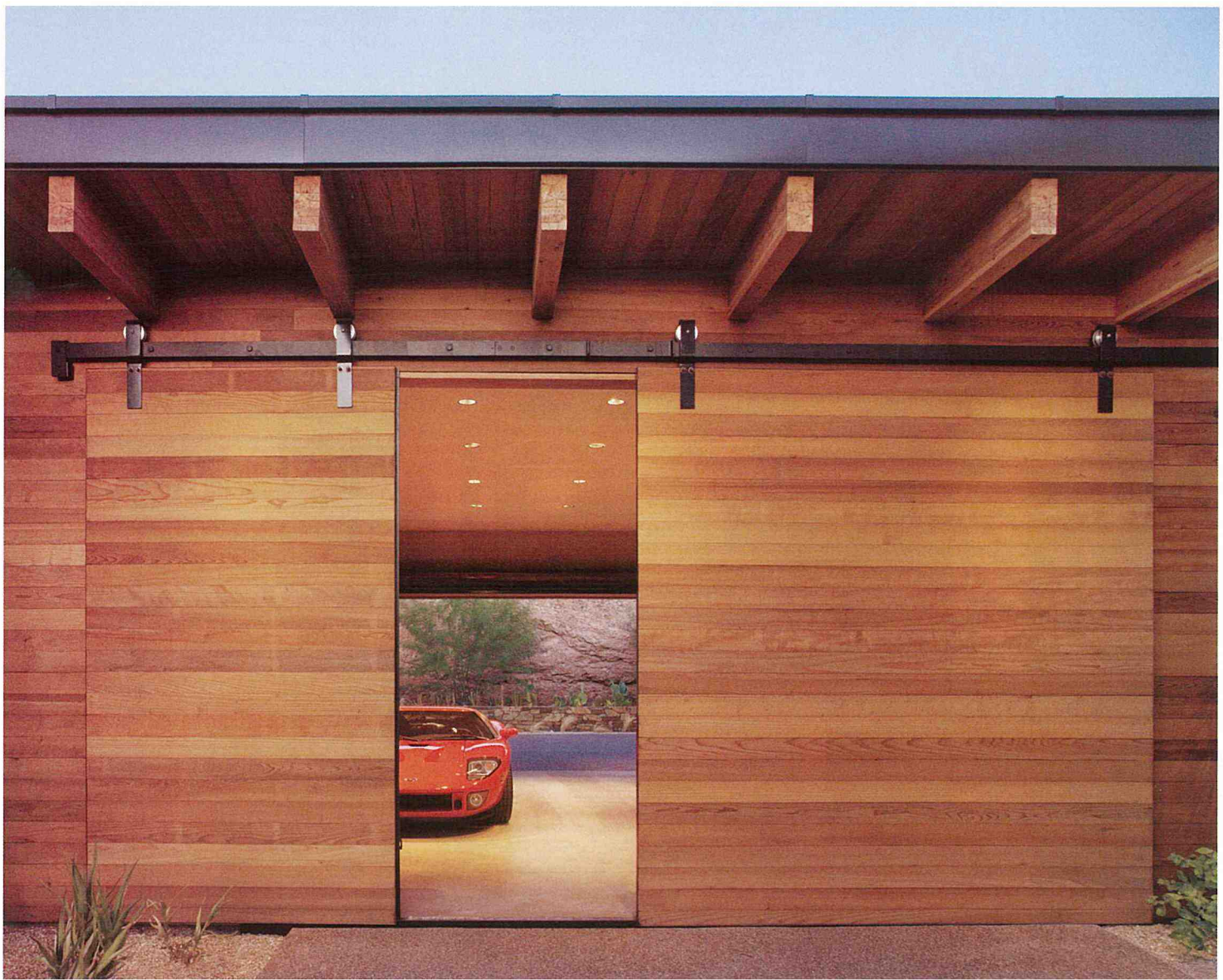




**CULINARY STYLE**

The Bulthaup kitchen features a quartzite-topped island with an integrated sink and stovetop. For visual interest, the cherry panels are laid horizontally on the island and vertically on the refrigerator and wall cabinets. A Sub-Zero refrigerator joins a Gaggenau stovetop and oven and Fisher & Paykel dishwashers to add functional ease to the aesthetics.





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Tying the courtyard to the house is an elaborate 4 x 4 redwood grid that defines the ceiling and provides cover for the decks and entry. “The grid gave us a place to hide the electrical, plumbing and other mechanical needs,” says Costello. “It’s like having a cabinet in the ceiling.” According to Tana, the use of wood softens the exterior elements, and establishes a theme inside the home, where the same wood, stone, concrete and steel repeat throughout. “Doing that made for very few interior design needs,” says Tana, who also assisted the owners with the kitchen design—a space that boasts Bulthaup cabinetry and an extra-long island for casual eating and overflow food preparation—and furniture selection.

#### **CREATURE COMFORT**

The three-car garage includes a lift for stacking automobiles and a sliding barn-style cedar door, which opens to provide courtyard views for the owner while he works on his vehicles.





#### **LOFTY PERCH**

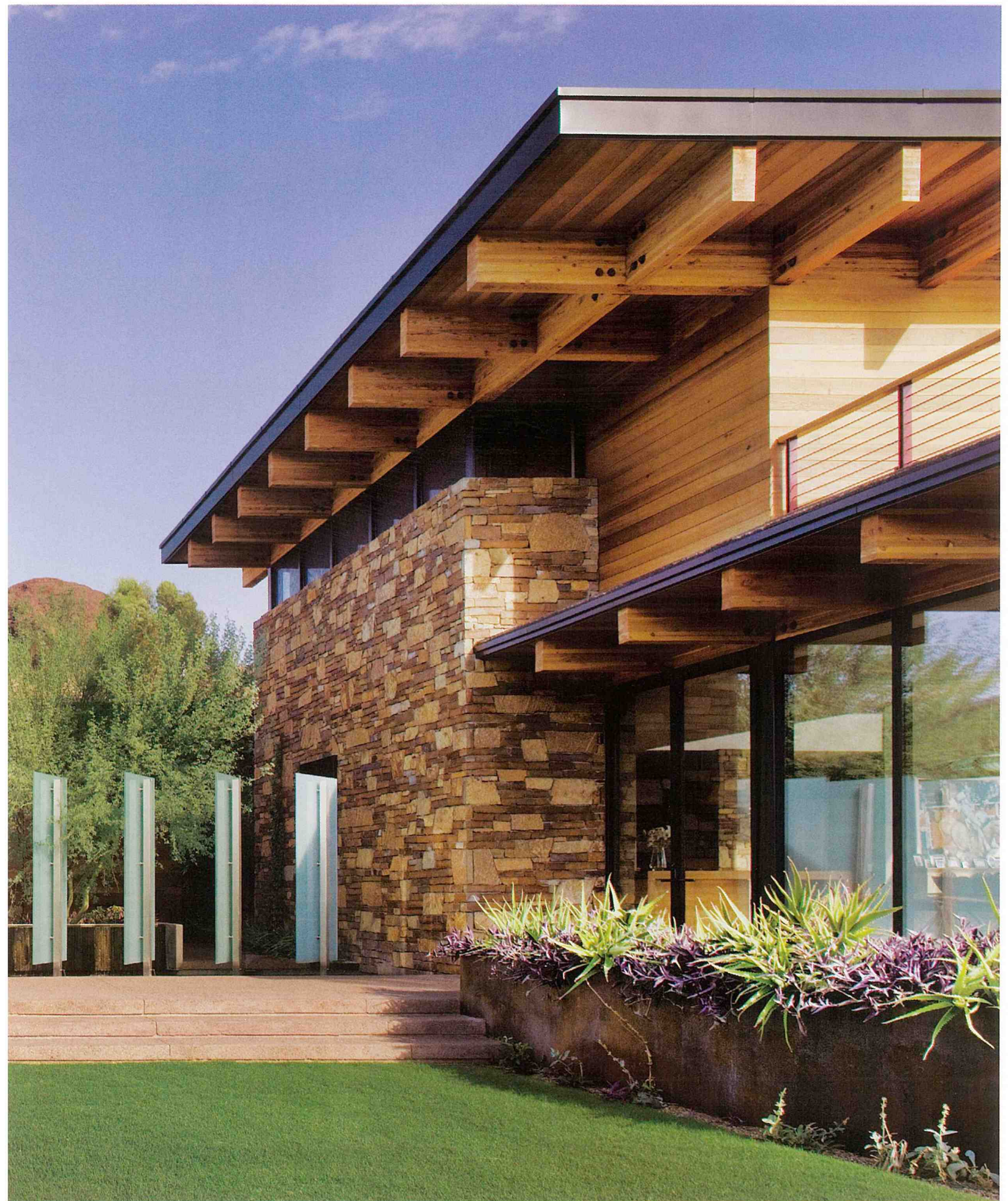
On a clear day or evening, downtown Phoenix, Tempe and South Mountain are visible from the ipe deck that wraps around the living room. In lieu of one large steel beam to support the roof structure, smaller supports guarantee an unobstructed view. The red steel beams and posts for the railings are some of the only painted elements on the house.





**ELEGANT OASIS**

Rather than going right to the front door, visitors pass through a courtyard and walk across an acrylic bridge above a koi pond by Scottsdale's Daniel J. Goss & Associates; the two elements serve to separate the main house from the guesthouse and studio. A series of moveable glass panels pivot to provide more or less privacy as needed for a hidden outdoor sitting area beyond.

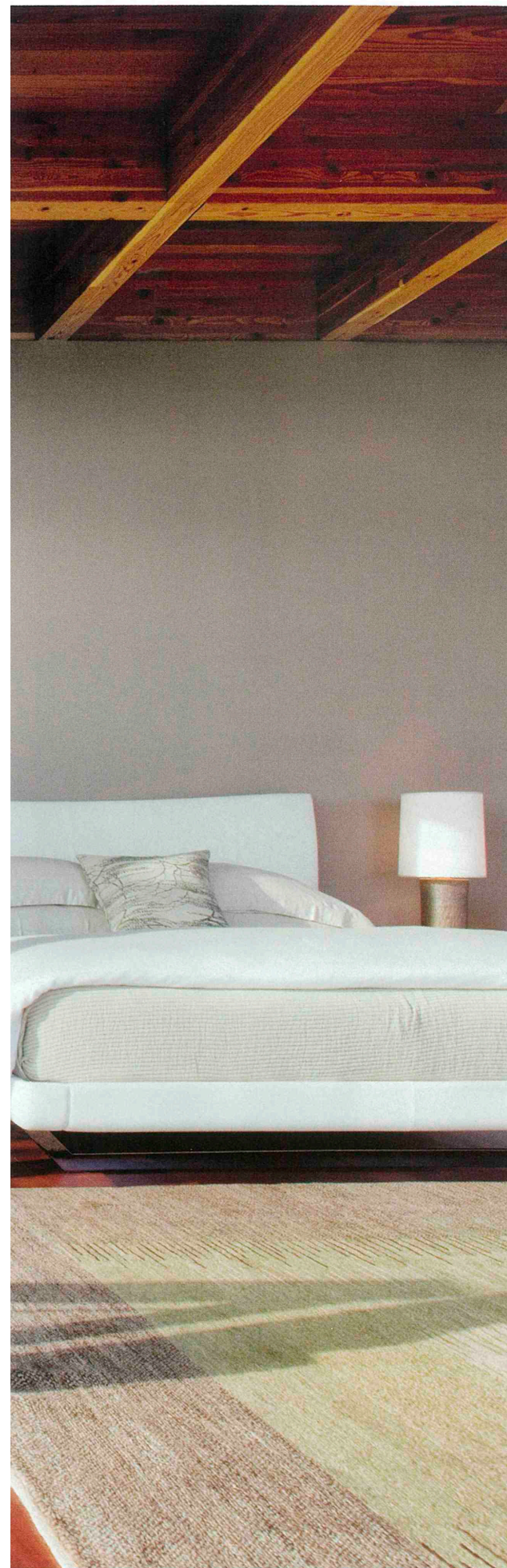






**ROOM WITH A VIEW**

With the focus on the vistas, the master suite furnishings are intentionally simple. A white leather Poltrona Frau bed frame and laminate bedside tables from Lumature pop against the charcoal gray walls. A wool rug from David E. Adler lies atop Brazilian cherry wood floors, while a statue from the homeowners' collection looks on. The coffered wood ceiling adds warmth while grounding the large expanses of glass.



**DEEP SOAK**

A custom Japanese soaking tub by Roberts Hot Tubs in Richmond, California, is wrapped in teak and enjoys commanding views of Camelback Mountain; bath filler is from Dornbracht. The loose pebble floor allows water splashed out of the tub to drain easily.

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Pieces like the Poltrona Frau modular leather sofa, walnut Bulthaup dining room table, and Poltrona Frau leather bed frame were meant to be a starting point, not a definitive statement. "We got in some key pieces, but the owners wanted to take more of an evolution-inspired approach to the interiors," says Tana. "They wanted to live there and allow the house to reveal itself over time." **L**