MODERN LUXURY

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THE DESIGN 9 AWARDS

CELEBRATING DESIGN EXCELLENCE FROM COAST TO COAST



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Modern Luxury Interiors Mountain Edition celebrates Arizona's finest design talent and the National Home of the Year winner.

By LAURA ECKSTEIN JONES & ERIN KAIN

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BEST TRADITIONAL HOME

DeCesare Design Group, Kent Architects, Salcito Custom Homes, Berghoff Design Group



A mix of limestone cladding by Solstice Stone, oak siding by Delta Millworks and steel-framed windows gives this Paradise Valley residence its Sonoma Modern character.

Good Company

In Paradise Valley, New York glamour meets wine country warmth in a family home designed for everyday pleasures and evenings with friends.

by LAURA ECKSTEIN JONES
Photographed by LISA ROMEREIN





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"She's a little bit uptown, and he's a little bit downtown—and that contrast is exactly what interested us." –CAROLINE TYLER DECESARE

For a young couple building their dream home in Paradise Valley, a shared love of New York offered interior designer Caroline Tyler DeCesare a starting point. "She's a little bit uptown, and he's a little bit downtown—and that contrast is exactly what interested us," says the DeCesare Design Group founder. With two children and frequent dinner guests, they wanted a home that reflected their personalities while making everyday life effortless.

DeCesare and project designer Michelle Drake found willing collaborators in the homeowners, whose trust encouraged them to explore that mix throughout. Architect Greg Kent of Kent Architects gave the residence its California wine-country character, realized by Anthony Salcito of Salcito Custom Homes and complemented by gardens by Jeff Berghoff of Berghoff Design Group. Limestone, oak siding and steel windows established the Sonoma Modern exterior, providing a relaxed framework for the metropolitan interiors.

For Salcito, the designers' preparation provided a clear path to construction, with "all of the interior and exterior details, finishes and fixtures documented down to the last screw."

Apparatus pendants illuminate the kitchen's marble-topped island, paired with sculptural barstools by Thomas Hayes Studio. Reclaimed brick, marble and a wood-beamed ceiling add warmth and texture. Opposite page: Rich burgundy seating surrounds a round table in the home's intimate lounge, where a painting by Michael Carson adds character against the warm metallic walls.

The balance of city polish and natural texture begins in the entry, where rough stone walls by Solstice Stone and a wood-paneled ceiling carry the exterior's warmth indoors. A Schwung chandelier introduces a more glamorous note, while artwork gives the arrival personality. Photography continues along the dining hall, drawing visitors toward the near-black dining room.

Because the dining room opens to the hallway and entry, DeCesare made its visibility part of the appeal. Dark walls establish a mood that guests sense on arrival, setting the scene for the owners' frequent dinners. A polished stainless-steel chandelier by Hudson Furniture hangs like a necklace above the table, its contemporary links playing against an ornate reproduction antique mirror by Dennis & Leen.

In the kitchen, reclaimed brick and a wood-beamed ceiling bring warmth to the marble surfaces,


STEINWAY & SONS

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A polished stainless-steel chandelier by Hudson Furniture makes a statement above the Sólido dining table and J. Alexander chairs. An ornate reproduction antique mirror by Dennis & Leen adds old-world glamour to the moody space. Opposite page: A dramatic Cactus Stone surround frames the wine storage by Innovative Wine Cellar Designs, while Hickory Chair seating and a Century Furniture coffee table create a welcoming lounge alongside the grand piano.



A sculptural blown-glass chandelier by Hudson Furniture hangs above a freestanding Waterworks tub in the primary bathroom, where dramatic marble slabs by Cactus Stone and mosaic flooring by Craftsman Court Ceramics create a luxurious retreat.

while Apparatus pendants and Thomas Hayes Studio stools give the island a more sculptural presence. The adjoining breakfast nook offers a brighter setting for everyday meals, with checkerboard marble beneath a table surrounded by Verellen seating and windows overlooking Berghoff's gardens. As DeCesare describes it, "you're surrounded by green, light and airiness, balanced by high contrast and texture."

Making the family room equally inviting required rethinking how people would gather. "A sectional can kill a room if it's all about facing the TV," DeCesare says. She arranged two Taylor King sectionals with backless center pieces, allowing guests to turn toward the kitchen, fireplace or lounge as movie nights give way to conversation. A wood ceiling and soft rug balance the plaster walls, which Hopper Finishes made to resemble board-formed concrete.

Behind the family room fireplace, the lounge accommodates smaller gatherings, with Hickory Chair seating arranged for conversation and a game table nearby. Stone from Cactus Stone frames the wine storage, making it part of the architecture, while Allied Maker lighting illuminates the adjoining bar's marble and antique mirrors. Downstairs, reclaimed brick and wood give the second bar and theater a downtown New York sensibility, creating an evening escape within the family home.

In the primary suite, wood beams and textured wallcovering complement the bedroom's marble fireplace, with a Verellen sofa providing a comfortable place to linger. A blown-glass Hudson Furniture chandelier adds glamour above the freestanding tub in the adjoining bathroom. Elsewhere, upholstered walls give the daughter's bedroom a cozy character, while a Pilates studio supports the wife's daily training and teaching.

Outside, a courtyard fire pit and inviting patios extend the entertaining spaces. Black tile and white plaster give the pool a graphic look alongside a stone-and-steel loggia. "It feels like a pool you would find in the Riviera or in a Slim Aarons photo," DeCesare says.

For Salcito, the home's character is as memorable as its craftsmanship. "The house is very warm and inviting, and has an enduring quality," he says. DeCesare agrees: "There is Riviera glamour and moody allure, but what you feel most is how personal it is."

A crystal chandelier by Visual Comfort & Co. crowns the primary bedroom, where a Century Furniture bed, Verellen sofa and Hickory Chair swivel chairs offer inviting places to unwind. Weitzner wallcovering and wood beams by Doorworks add warmth and texture.

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Design Details

Interior Design
Caroline Tyler DeCesare and Michelle Drake, DeCesare Design Group
decesaredesigngroup.com
Architecture
Greg Kent, Kent Architects
602.956.4000
Builder
Anthony Salcito, Salcito Custom Homes
salcito.com
Landscape Design
Jeff Berghoff, Berghoff Design Group
berghoffdesign.com
Custom Cabinetry and Millwork
Desert Cove Woodworks
dcwoodworks.com
Architectural Woodwork
Door Works
doorworksusa.com

RESOURCES

Apparatus
Kitchen lighting
apparatusstudio.com
Cactus Stone
Lounge wine wall; primary bathroom marble
cactusstone.com
Century Furniture
Lounge coffee table; primary bedroom bed
centuryfurniture.com
Craftsman Court Ceramics
Breakfast nook and primary bathroom flooring
craftsmancourt.com
Delta Millworks
Exterior oak siding
deltamillworks.com
Dennis & Leen
Dining room mirror
dennisandleen.com
Hickory Chair
Lounge and primary bedroom seating
hickorychair.com
Hudson Furniture
Dining room and primary bathroom chandeliers
hudsonfurnitureinc.com
Innovative Wine Cellar Designs
Lounge wine storage
winecellardesigns.biz
J. Alexander
Dining room chairs
jalexanderfurniture.com
Lacanche
Kitchen range
lacanche.com
Ravenhill Studio
Breakfast nook and family room lighting
ravenhillstudio.com
Rubelli
Dining room drapery
rubelli.com
Rug & Kilim
Family room rug
rugandkilim.com
Schwung
Entry lighting
schwung.design
Sólido
Dining room table; custom furniture
solidollc.com
Solstice Stone
Exterior limestone cladding; entry stone walls
solsticestone.com
Taylor King
Family room sectionals
taylorking.com
The Stone Collection
Primary bedroom fireplace
thestonecollection.com
Thomas Hayes Studio
Kitchen barstools
thomashayesstudio.com
Verellen
Entry, breakfast nook and primary bedroom furniture
verellen.biz
Visual Comfort & Co.
Primary bedroom chandelier; lounge lighting
visualcomfort.com
Waterworks
Primary bathroom tub and faucet
waterworks.com
Weitzner
Primary bedroom wallcovering
weitznerlimited.com