

Foreword Review ARCHITECTURE

Patina Homes & Gardens

Steve Giannetti Brooke Giannetti Gibbs Smith (Jan 28, 2025) Hardcover \$50.00 (288pp) 978-1-4236-6793-3

This inspiring coffee table book reveals the passionate commitment of architecture and design team Steve and Brooke Giannetti, who work to design homes and gardens whose beauty is transformative.

Showcasing seven homes whose designs aligned with the dreams of their inhabitants and with their natural surroundings—buildings described as "living narratives"—the book includes attractive photographs of each home's exterior and interior elements. These depict building materials, books, and plants; each element is in harmony with the home's style. There are rustic, traditional, and contemporary homes included.

Characterized by elegance and simplicity, the homes balance light-filled open spaces with cozy nooks to foster comfort, creativity, and fellowship. A 1920s-era English Tudor–style estate with twenty-first-century updates reflects the energy and playfulness of a young family, with modern touches including a powder room with iridescent walls and an illuminated pink onyx sink. And each home is set amid lush greenery, flowering plants, and gardens designed to nourish the body and soul.

The book includes client testimonials covering how their visions meshed with those of the designers, celebrating the latter for their creativity and intuitiveness. One notes that a massive California wildfire turned a family's previous home to ash; still grieving and wanting to rebuild on the same site, they were enchanted when their new seaside villa preserved their expansive ocean views, employed an eclectic mix of ancient and modern elements (including stone, antique roof tiles, and innovative wall treatments), and brought the soothing hues of plants, the sea, and the sky indoors to honor their love of nature and make their home a healing place.

Patina Homes and Gardens celebrates a husband-and-wife team's fresh approach to architecture and gardening, reflective of their deep connection to nature, reverence for history, and belief in the restorative power of beauty.

KRISTINE MORRIS (January / February 2025)

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