



| RESIDENTIAL WALK-THROUGH |

EAST MEETS WEST

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Steffany Hollingsworth, ASID

HVL Interiors

Robin Gray

Robin Gray Architect

Santa Fe, New Mexico

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A RECENTLY COMPLETED HOME BY ARCHITECT Robin Gray and interior designer Steffany Hollingsworth in the foothills of Santa Fe's Sangre de Cristo Mountains is the physical embodiment of a life transition for the homeowners.

"The clients, a couple, were retiring and downsizing" explains Hollingsworth. "They were selling their primary house in Houston as well as their existing secondary home in Santa Fe. They wanted a fresh start with a new main residence in Santa Fe."

The site for the new house, explains Gray, is in the Wilderness Gate area above the city. "The property, which is five acres, has great views looking down into town and has hiking access. The clients had owned it for about 12 years."

Inspired by the clients' artwork and Asian-inspired furnishings, as well as their love of gardening, hiking and the outdoors, Gray designed an open, airy contemporary house



Opposite page: Custom shoji screens close off the kitchen from the adjacent dining room. The custom hood adds a sculptural element. Above: A basalt-clad wall marks the entrance to the house. Right: The inner courtyard and water feature are sheltered from the area's winds.

with subtle Japanese influences, emphasizing views and access to the outdoors.

In plan, a raised, walled courtyard leads to the entrance of the 4,200-square-foot, three-bedroom house, which opens onto the living room, dining area and an adjacent patio. This more public side of the house also includes a media room and office, while a generously sized kitchen, master suite, garage and guest bedrooms surround an interior courtyard, which is highlighted by a water feature. "It tends to get windy in that area," notes Gray, "so we designed a protected courtyard."

In elevation, the exterior of the house includes a flat roof, a stepped-back design and canales that speak to regional design motifs, but with a crisper edge. Soft gray exterior walls are contrasted by an accent wall clad in hammered basalt that serves as an anchoring element and runs from outdoors to in. Walkways and surfaces for the courtyards and portales are tinted concrete, with a rice finish. "Raw rice gets rolled across the concrete as it's setting," explains Gray, "then as it dries, the rice shrinks and can be brushed off, leaving a texture."



Indoors, Gray and Hollingsworth collaborated on materials and finish selections. Limestone and mesquite flooring add an organic quality to the interior, while pale clay plaster walls reflect abundant daylighting. Cabinetry in the kitchen and bathrooms is horizontally scraped fir, stained a rich brown, topped with thick Okite countertops. In the master bath,



Above: In the living room, new fabrics freshen existing sofas, allowing the area rug and views to be focal points. Right: Coral and rust hues brighten the master bedroom, where an antique kimono is displayed as art.



flooring is a ceramic tile that looks like Cor-Ten steel, underscoring walls of marble tile.

Custom touches abound, including Gray's design for the sculptural steel hood in the kitchen, the shoji screens that can close off the kitchen from the dining room and the courtyard's water feature, which is framed by a Chinese red wall. In the dining room, Hollingsworth and Gray designed a wall-mounted console, crafted of weathered steel and wood.

Furnishings and accessories were largely selected by Hollingsworth from the clients' existing

pieces. "The challenge was retrofitting existing furniture from the previous houses in Santa Fe and Houston," explains Hollingsworth. "We chose furniture that fit with the scale and look of the new house, and selected new fabrics and some accent pieces." Hollingsworth also placed art throughout the house, including in a hallway to the master bedroom, which serves as a gallery.

In the living room, Hollingsworth had two rust-colored sofas recovered in a muted fabric to allow a vividly colored area rug from the homeowner's collection to become a focal point. A custom cop-



per and iron coffee table freshens the setting. In the dining room, Hollingsworth had the classic McGuire chairs' seat cushions reupholstered in a durable commercial fabric, while Gray designed a custom area rug with a stylized peony motif.

For the master bedroom, Hollingsworth drew inspiration from an antique kimono, which she had displayed above the bed, and from the coral and

green tones of an antique Indian dental cabinet, displayed in the room. "Those are the things that drove the color palette," she notes.

Recently completed, the home is a new, yet familiar, place for the homeowners to begin a new phase in their lives. It's intimate enough for the two of them, yet provides enough space for entertaining and visits from family and friends. ■

Clockwise from above: The back yard includes raised flower beds and distant views. Pale marble tiles in the master bath contrast with ceramic tile flooring that looks like Cor-Ten steel. A custom rug by Robin Gray underscores the dining room, which also includes a wall-mounted console designed by Gray and interior designer Steffany Hollingsworth.

Architecture and custom rug design: Robin Gray Architect, 1512 Pacheco St., C202, Santa Fe, NM 87501; (505) 995-8411 or www.robingray.net.

Interior design: HVL Interiors, 1012 Marquez Place, Suite 205A, Santa Fe, NM 87505; (505) 983-3601 or www.hvlinteriors.com.

Builder: Tony Ivey & Associates, LLC, 2019 Galisteo, Suite A-1, Santa Fe, NM 87505; (505) 986-9195 or www.tonyivey.com.

Landscape design: Design With Nature Ltd. Co., 129 Romero St., Santa Fe, NM 87501; (505) 983-5633 or www.designwithnatureltd.com.

Cabinetry: Kitchen Dimensions, 150 S. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87501; (505) 986-8820 or www.kitdim.com.

Appliances: Sierra West Sales, 856 St. Michael's Drive, Santa Fe, NM 87505; (505) 471-6742.

Countertops: Okite, www.okite.com.

Shoji screen fabrication: Cherry Tree Design, www.cheerytreedesign.com.

Interior plaster: American Clay, www.americanclay.com.