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\$ 9.95 A SANDOW MEDIA PUBLICATION

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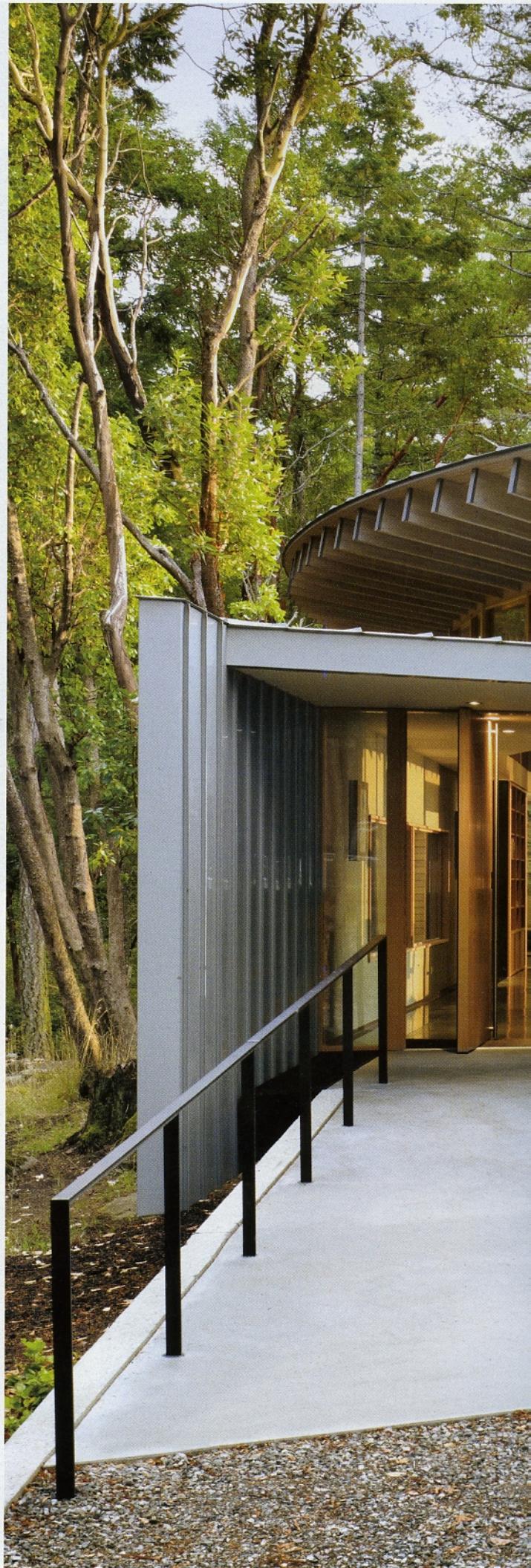
DEEPLY ROOTED

WRITTEN BY JESSE BRATTER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY BENJAMIN WOOLSEY

WHEN ARCHITECT JOSEPH HERRIN AGREED TO DESIGN A COUPLE'S SECOND HOME IN THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS, HE SET OUT TO DEVISE A PLAN THAT WOULD MINIMIZE THE IMPACT TO ITS UNSPOILED ENVIRONMENT OF MOSSY ROCK OUTCROPPINGS AND MADRONA TREES. "The notion of this house is completely rooted in the landscape," says Herrin, AIA, principal of Heliotrope Architects in Seattle. "We tried in a contemporary manner to stitch this home into the landscape in a serious way."

The husband-and-wife owners (he is a retired architect) expressed to Herrin a strong preference for materials, specifically concrete, wood and steel, which drove the palette. Yet it was primarily the 26-acre site, with a prominent rock outcropping, forest and the islands and sea in the distance, that informed Herrin's design. The 180-foot-long home wraps like a ribbon around the outcropping, with focused views of the landscape. The overall form appears as one structure but is actually two buildings with a connecting roof, shaped to control the effects of the setting sun and designed with overhangs to protect the home's fir windows and doors from rainwater. Herrin placed the guest and master bedrooms as bookends to the narrow house, with the kitchen, living and dining rooms in between. "There are constantly changing experiences throughout the day, with the forest on one side of the home and the rock outcropping and framed water views on the other," he notes.

ARCHITECTURE	Joseph Herrin, AIA, Heliotrope Architects				
HOME BUILDER	Peter Kilpatrick, Ravenhill Construction, Inc.				
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	Warwick Hubber, Garden Artisan				
BEDROOMS	3	BATHROOMS	3	SQUARE FEET	3,000







STYLE SELECTION

Handcrafted and designed by Caleb Siemon, this modern pendant plays with the reflective and flexible qualities of glass, making for a radiant piece with endless luminosity. *Clear Happy Kiss Light, \$500; calebsiemon.com*

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To blur the distinction between indoors and out, concrete and bleached cedar siding clad the exterior and continue inside for a seamless transition. "There are large sections of exposed concrete that are polished, colored and have an insulated core, so everything about forming them had to be perfect," says builder Peter Kilpatrick, owner and president of Ravenhill Construction in Friday Harbor, Washington, who worked with project foreman Lloyd Thompson. "There was no margin for error." Making sure the steel beams would follow the sweeping curve of the home's radius set forth another challenge.

Inspiration for the interior scheme also came from the landscape beyond. And the homeowners were particularly exacting when it came to the concrete that would be used on the floors, countertops and on several walls. "They came to our first meeting, handed me a chunk of specially





LIGHT BRIGHT

Natural light floods the living and dining rooms through floor-to-ceiling windows. Bocci pendants hang from the wood-beamed ceiling over a dining table from Seattle's Urban Hardwoods, while a B&B Italia sofa faces the cast-in-place concrete fireplace beyond.



TIMBER LAND

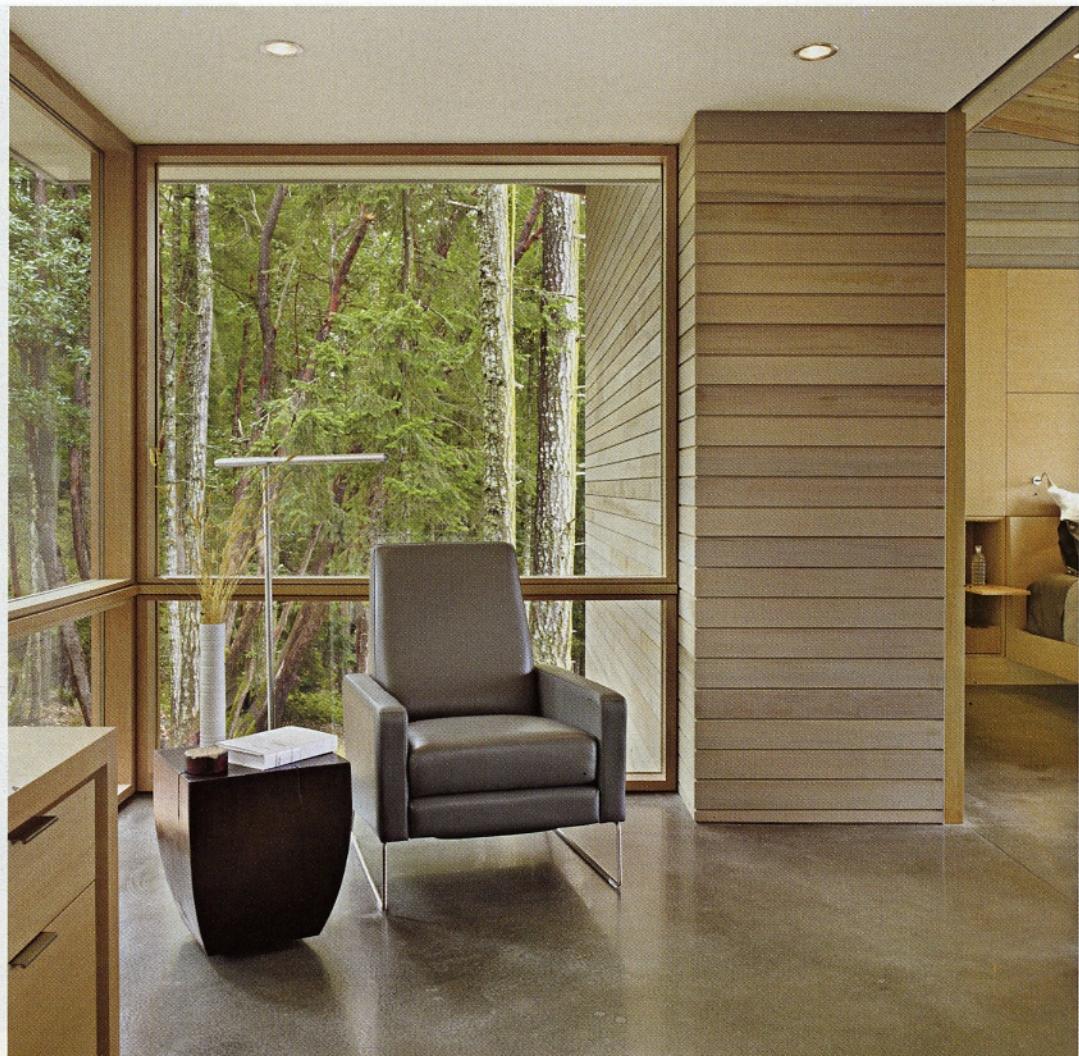
The 180-foot-long home wraps around a natural rock outcropping with window walls and pivoting doors to bring the outdoors in; the design team's goal was to leave the environment as pristine as possible.





HOOD WINK

Bleached and clear-finished fir wood forms the kitchen cabinetry, custom-designed by architect Joseph Herrin and fabricated by builder Peter Kilpatrick's cabinet shop. A Bertazzoni range and hood from Basco Appliance nestle into the cabinetry.



NATURE BY DESIGN

An armchair from Design Within Reach offers a spot for repose against a backdrop of the forest, illustrating the importance of the indoor-outdoor connection.

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pigmented concrete and said, 'We want a lot of concrete, and we want it this color,'" recalls Herrin. Muted earth tones, selected by the owners to complement the red, green and brown hues of the site's native trees, permeate the furnishings and artwork throughout the home.

To heal the land and restore it to its original splendor after the home was built, Warwick Hubber, owner of Garden Artisan in Friday Harbor, delivered drought-tolerant native plants that would provide a low-maintenance option for the owners. "The main intent in the landscape design was to not compete with the architecture of the house or the natural surroundings," he says. "Its purpose was to not be noticed, which actually makes it quite hard to describe." The green roof, he says, is a perfect example of this concept. Located on the south end of the home, what appears to be a rocky, grass-laden ground is actually a roof that covers the home's lower level guest suite and garage.



CONCRETE JUNGLE

The exterior finishes of cedar siding and cast-in-place concrete continue inside the master bath for a seamless transition from the outside. A Wetstyle tub and sink lend clean, contemporary lines.

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To further emphasize the importance of the landscape, fences were set up 6 feet away from the house, and anything beyond them was declared off limits. "One of my favorite aspects of this house is how it relates to the landscape," Kilpatrick says. "We staked things out and established a no-impact zone around the perimeter of the house so the impact was kept within the home's footprint. The house looks like it was dropped in by helicopter. You step off the deck onto a mossy rock that is undisturbed."

The balance between the natural beauty of the environment and the refined details of Herrin's design created quite a gem on the shores of the forested string of islands. "The way the house is oriented and positioned on the site is phenomenal," Hubber says. "Dramatic view, dramatic house." **L**



SMALL PACKAGES

The architect custom-designed the bed in the master bedroom to maximize the room's space. The ground outside offers a peek at the green roof above the home's lower level.