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■ SPIRIT QUEST ■

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YEAR-ROUND GOLF WAS THE DRAW TO ARIZONA FOR AN ENTREPRENEUR AND HIS WIFE, WHO FOUND THEIR NEW HOME AS A "DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH" IN SCOTTSDALE'S DESERT HIGHLANDS. Having remodeled a 1940s home in Chicago and built a custom home in Utah, they weren't intimidated by the fact that the property needed some help. Originally built eight years ago, the house had good bones, but repetitive interiors with literal references to the Pueblo Revival style were begging for a design transfusion. Furthermore, the interiors didn't relate to the spectacular surrounding vistas.

INTERIOR DESIGN Janet Friedman, ASID, and Traci Shields, ASID, Friedman & Shields Associates

HOME BUILDER Jason Smith, Identity Construction LLC

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Tracey Adams, Duo Design Group

BEDROOMS 4 **BATHROOMS** 4 **SQUARE FEET** 4,125





The homeowner interviewed interior designers but didn't find a fit until looking through a magazine. "There was an advertisement for Friedman & Shields with photographs of rooms that were not my taste at all; they were much more contemporary," she says. "But they were very beautiful—and I appreciated the beauty!" Once brought on board, designers Janet Friedman and Traci Shields, of Friedman & Shields Associates in Scottsdale, drew on a transitional style they call "contemporary territorial," a combination of contemporary design and the more relaxed territorial style, to update the home and breathe some much-needed life into it.

The front door's massive solid-wood panel was relinquished to one with windows that maintains the Southwest sensibility while brightening up the foyer. Mullioned windows throughout the home were replaced with taller clear-view windows to take full advantage of the golf course view, and the former block-wall fence that further obscured the beautiful greens was replaced with the deconstructed profile of minimalist rebar stakes. A French door was also removed, making way for a 16-foot-wide sliding glass door that brings in more light and creates easy outdoor access.

SOUTHWEST WELCOME

Landscape architect Tracey Adams created a sense of arrival for the home with beds of golden barrel cactus. Rust-colored urns, a flagstone pathway and dramatic lighting honor tradition while hinting at the interior's new contemporary vibe.



TUMBLING ORGANICS

Natural stone and stripped-log rafters, known as *vigas*, are now more dramatic thanks to new textures like custom alder-wood cabinets from Blue Horizons in Phoenix and BeamsDesign in Silver City, New Mexico, as well as a custom spoon-carved console crafted by Earth & Images in Scottsdale. The Timber coffee table by Mimi London is composed of wood blocks wrapped in metal and was acquired at John Brooks in Scottsdale. Beverly Hills, California, artist Kyle Cody's oil landscape, *Road to Oak Alley*, leads the eye to the landscape outside.



BRANCHING OUT

The dining area's custom branch light fixture by Paul Ferrante was purchased at John Brooks. The rubbed-bronze Milan table base is by Century Furniture and was purchased from the Scottsdale showroom. The figured cherry Higashi tabletop is by Apache Junction artist Ronald Gill and was acquired at Trappings in Scottsdale. Dining chairs are by All Wood Treasures Co. in Tempe, in a woven fabric by Pollack from JW Harris in Scottsdale. The ginger jars are from Brix Home in Scottsdale.



STYLE SELECTION

Designed by Paul Ferrante, this light fixture is available in a variety of finishes, shown here in iron with a Dutch metal finish, providing an organic focal point. Branch Chandelier #2125, price available upon request; paulferrante.com

Inside, dated square openings in walls near the ceiling were merged into more contemporary horizontal elements, and redundant display niches were walled over to improve visual flow and create broader expanses for large artwork. "People are moving away from clutter and toward open, cleaner, more contemporary spaces," says builder Jason Smith, owner and principal of Identity Construction in Scottsdale. Interestingly, Smith was recruited to the project by the designers and, by sheer coincidence, was also the home's original builder, with his father, Dan, formerly head of Phoenix Smith & Co., Inc. (Dan remains a consultant and project manager at the company, which Jason renamed when he took the helm.) "A lot has changed in these eight years as far as how we view how a home, great room or a kitchen function," Jason says. "What was up to date and satisfactory at the time is no longer sought after."

Walls were washed a warm neutral, and subtly reflective surfaces like reglazed cabinets and metallic glass tile above the range now dance in the light. Rich hues of copper, sage and graphite were also introduced. "Patina drew everything together," Friedman explains. "Before, everything was flat and rough.



There was no real contrast to the stone and beams. So we put in contrasting textures like wool and silk rugs and woods like the sofa-back table that make you want to run your fingers over them.”

Before construction, the man of the house scouted out a view of the sunset and staked the location of his soon-to-be-favorite chair, where an intimate seating arrangement just off the dining room has become a preferred place to relax. A dining table was positioned in the middle of the enormous great room to create three distinct living areas, and, where a heavy 5-foot-wide traditional chandelier once hovered ominously over the dining table, a delicate branch-style fixture now adds artful ambiance that doesn't compete with the view.

The fireplace wall remains the focal point in the great room, now outfitted with cabinetry in a shallower profile for today's slimmer electronics and liquid metal accents layered onto the copper and stone. Recessed ceiling lights and hidden illumination visually wring every drop of subtle coloration from wood, stone and metal.

EARTHY SPARKLE

In the kitchen, cabinets received new life with reglazing and iron pulls by Rocky Mountain Hardware from Flair Supply Company in Scottsdale. The custom light fixture by 2nd Ave. Lighting was acquired at Alexander • Sinclair in Scottsdale, as were the counter stools by Wesley Hall. Tres Feltman tile from Ann Sacks in Scottsdale adds sheen to the backsplash.



DYNAMIC ENERGY

A banquette and custom-crafted table echo the curves of the breakfast alcove. The olive wood tabletop with solid alder band was crafted by BeamsDesign so the grains radiate in a graceful sunburst. The table base of distressed hot-rolled steel was crafted by Blue Horizons. The chairs were manufactured by and acquired from Walters Wicker in Teterboro, New Jersey, and covered in faux leather from Pindler & Pindler in Scottsdale. The woven tray is from Palecek in San Francisco.



WELL DRESSED

In the relaxing master bedroom, recessed ceiling channels hide mechanicals for motorized room-darkening blinds from Mr. P's Blind and Shade Company in Scottsdale. The Berman Rosetti bed from John Brooks is dressed in seven fabrics, including silk, wool, cashmere and a variety of textured and woven fabrics that coordinate with the chaise by Classic Custom Upholstery & Furniture in Scottsdale. The alder bedside tables with zebra wood finish were custom-made by Blue Horizons and BeamsDesign.



WARM EMBRACE

The master bath includes a bust fashioned from banana leaves acquired from Trappings and purchased for the homeowner by a friend. The sea of warm earth tones includes reglazed wood cabinetry, honed travertine, a rug from Azadi in Scottsdale and a vanity bench by Scottsdale ironworker Vilma Besch in fabric from John Brooks. The vases are by Kinder-Harris for Paragon.

Outside, landscape architect Tracey Adams, of Phoenix's Duo Design Group, redesigned the front and rear yards. Her work on the former included creating an agave garden and removing part of the patio for more planting space. For the latter, she tamed overgrown vegetation for better views and added a seat wall and fireplace, amongst other changes. Adams chose arid plants that would "perform best during the months the clients are in town," she says.

Today, the house's zestful joi de vivre measures up to the majesty of the panoramic Arizona highlands. Best of all, the couple feels right at home. "I love it," says the lady of the house. "The reveal was just unbelievable—one of the most euphoric moments of my life." **L**