

MODERN LUXURY

Interiors

TEXAS



KITCHEN & BATH ISSUE!

SPRING'S HOTTEST TRENDS

SLEEK AND STYLISH IN DALLAS
HOUSTON HOMESTEAD GETS DRESSED UP
DIXIE CHICK'S STYLISH AUSTIN ABODE
A TOP TEXAS DESIGNER'S LUXE A-LIST
PRIVATE MUSEUM ON THE PLAIN



LIVE LARGE
Exposed pine beams lend character and order to the expanse of ceiling, while locally sourced Lueders limestone turns the fireplace wall into a tactile focal point. The rounded silhouettes of the Triplehorn Hunt Interiors custom sofa and vintage chairs soften the room, and the Blackstone Carpets rug adds texture.



► DALLAS

Opposites Attract

Architects Jason and Signe Smith make two worlds meet beneath one stylish roof.

By **Carla Jordan**
Photography by **Stephen Karlisch**

Chris loves European Modern, Kelly's into Texas Hill Country. At first glance, these homeowners are not a match made in style heaven... unless you're Jason and Signe Smith, an architect team with a knack for finding common ground where little appears to exist, then using it as a catalyst for design.

"How to make two very different design points of view work in the context of real family life for

“We’ve had several people say that our house makes them feel like they are staying at a fabulous resort,” says Kelly.

a couple with two young boys and a lively dog was our challenge,” says Jason. “However, once we started brainstorming with Chris and Kelly, it became clear they were on the same page about the overall concept, and that’s what counts. We knew that everything else would work itself out as the design plan took shape.”

The homeowners agreed that their existing 1940s ranch-style house needed to go. It had plenty of character and charm but was short on space and amenities, and didn’t showcase the wonderful array of mature trees on the lot. “Our goal was to create a modern, yet warm structure—not one of those all-white spaceship houses,” says Kelly. “We wanted natural and local materials; plus, colors that exploited the views of the trees. The house needed to feel as easy to live outside as indoors and be family-friendly, so using materials that would stand up

TREE HOUSE
Lucky, the family dog, takes in the master bedroom’s stunning view created with windows that intentionally frame the trees like art. Furnishings are a mix of old and new. The chair is vintage and covered in Schumacher Gainsborough Velvet; and the custom-upholstered bed is by Tripplehorn Hunt Interiors.









CLEAR PURPOSE
 Above: The homeowners were longtime friends of architect Jason Smith (plus fans of his work) and jumped at the chance to have their new home designed by him. Opposite page: One of the most impressive architectural elements in the home is the massive window wall between the porch and great room with three banks of sliding doors that when opened, create the ultimate indoor/outdoor room.

to everyday wear and tear was important," she says.

"Because the clients really wanted to save the trees," says Jason, "we designed a low-slung, two-story 4,700-square-foot structure that weaves in and around them. For example, the roof near the dining room was notched to accommodate a particularly bended branch of a red oak." By adapting the architecture to nature, 11 of the 14 trees were saved and because the house is sited at a 30-degree angle on the rectangular lot, the view seems never-ending and is more about the trees surrounding it than neighboring houses.

The facade combines rough and smooth-finish Texas Lueders limestone, Douglas fir, stucco and glass. This wraps the home in textural contrast and gives hint to the unexpected mix of modern and Texas Hill Country elements used elsewhere—a look that makes this home a standout amidst others of its kind.

To highlight decor and draw the eye outward to the trees, a neutral color palette was paired with a limited number of materials. "We looked for timeless, long-lasting, humble materials that we could elevate through design," says Jason. Making the cut? White oak flooring—its natural cream color pairs well with limestone and the greenery outside. Walnut cabinets in the master suite, kitchen and wine cellar deliver a warm contrast to flooring, both in color and grain, but do so



MAGNIFICENT MATERIALS

Left: The master bath is a serene retreat with spa-like touches like a Victoria & Albert soaker tub, custom shower and privacy wall created with chic Walker Zanger Roku glass tile. Custom walnut vanity-Welch Custom cabinets. Floor tile-Ann Sacks Athens marble. Right: Thick slabs of statuary Danbe marble form horizontal planes that nest at a right angle, and are a unique way to form a dramatic island and breakfast table. Walnut cabinets and pine beams add warmth to a room otherwise filled with cool-touch marble, glass tile and stainless appliances. Custom walnut cabinets are by Welch Custom Cabinets.



subtly. Painted cabinets in secondary areas are durable and easy to maintain. Exposed pine wood beams and Lueders limestone bridge the gap between contemporary and country.

This streamlined approach was also a clever way to layer individual design preferences and create more common ground between the couple. Chris loves the precision of the glass and the subtlety of the coursing in the horizontally proportioned stone. Kelly's drawn to the natural materials, their soft hues and variety of texture, and how they provide interest without busyness.

Both love the sprawling yet efficient floor plan that allows family and guests to spend time together or off by themselves without feeling crowded.

Once the interior plan was set, attention turned to the backyard, which was a particular focus for the homeowners. "Chris and Kelly wanted a great outdoor living space that accommodated their young boys' inexhaustible energy and delivered the effortless outdoor lifestyle they'd experienced during stays at Mexican beach resorts," says Jason. "So we designed a patio that's a modern take on the traditional Texas porch







Design Details

RESIDENCE

Single-Family

LOCATION

Preston Hollow, Dallas

INTERIOR DESIGN

Ashley Triplehorn Hunt

Triplehorn Hunt Interiors
triplehornhunt.com

ARCHITECTS

Jason Smith, AIA, principal

Signe Smith, AIA, principal

SmithArc Architects

smitharc.com

LANDSCAPING

David Rolston

Landscape Architects

dallasgardens.com

PLEIN-AIR PANACHE

The backyard is the ultimate playground for kids and grown-ups. Flanking the pool is a Texas-sized porch with fireplace, two seating areas and two flat screens. And no mowing is required—synthetic turf keeps the yard maintenance-free.

and a nod to Kelly's love for Texas Hill Country." The patio has living, dining and cooking areas to host everything from kids' ball team parties to elegant dinner gatherings.

"The outdoor area is a favorite of ours. We use the outdoor kitchen several times a week. Chris and the boys love turning on both TVs and watching football while throwing the ball around in the backyard," adds Kelly. What began as a clash in style led to the creation of a home that's warm, sophisticated and family-friendly. "We've had several people say that our house makes them feel like they're on vacation, staying at a fabulous resort," says Kelly. Isn't that how every home should feel? ■