

DISCOVERIES



“We saw our role not as redefining architecture and landscape but as lifting it up.” — *Rob Michel*

artisan James Thomas to create a new stained-glass window (a nod to Wright if not an exact re-creation). As for that driveway, whereas it once culminated in a rear motor court it now leads to a garden brimming with native Southern California plants and simpatico species from Latin America and Australia. A new pool and elevated spa, clad in flagstone, look as if they’ve always been there. Says Michel, recalling the monthslong construction, “it took tons of trucks and regular road closures.”

Furnishings depart from the house’s ethos of organic architecture. “Bill wanted grandeur and glamour for his home, not a classic continuation of the usual midcentury designs,” recalls Rizzo, who sourced pieces from his own collection. The mix now spans vintage Carlo Scarpa lighting, an India Mahdavi dining table, an Eero Aarnio Bubble chair, and gold faucets in the shape of swans—just like those Kaulitz spotted at the Ritz Paris hotel. For him, a glass-walled house is a welcome departure from the shadowy hotel rooms of his teen-idol years. “I used to be so shielded behind curtains,” he reflects. “I wanted to create a place that feels open but still private. In Germany, I have to keep moving. Here I can relax in solitude.” Some afternoons, he might drift asleep with his French bulldog, Alfia, on the corner sectional. Other times, he’ll soak in the Jacuzzi, the Hollywood sign in the distance. There’s no routine. “I can’t think of anything worse than doing the same thing every day.” —FELIX WAGNER

This story was produced by AD Germany. It was translated by John Oseid and adapted by Sam Cochran.



1. A CUSTOM-DESIGNED STAINED-GLASS WINDOW, FABRICATED BY JAMES THOMAS STAINED & LEADED GLASS, ENLIVENS THE DRESSING ROOM. 2. THE PRIMARY SUITE’S BUILT-IN BED. 3. PAOLA LENTI CHAISES LOUNGES AND A SANTA BARBARA DESIGNS UMBRELLA IN THE GARDEN.