

SAN FRANCISCO | PENINSULA | SILICON VALLEY

HOME

GENTRY

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DRAMA
& LIGHT

A Fresh Take

As our editorial team compiled the stories for this issue of *Gentry Home*, the themes of spring and renewal provided strong direction. All three of the homes featured are marvelous examples of the limitless possibility of design—two are major remodels, while the third is a brand new residence imbued with the spirit and grace of the timeless estates of Montecito.

San Francisco-based interior designer Kendall Wilkinson breathes new life into a mid-century Russian Hill apartment with panoramic views of the San Francisco Bay. Owned by luxury real estate professional Gregg

Lynn and his partner Glenn Risso, the 1,000-square-foot condominium was in desperate need of remodel. To that end, Lynn assembled a team including architect Stephen Sutro, Wilkinson, and the expert builders from Black Mountain Construction. The results are nothing short of stunning (*Sky-High Drama*, page 48).

One of Julia Morgan's most important private residence projects is the subject of an extraordinary revival by award-winning

designer Linda Floyd. After a painstaking refurbishment that brought the structure up to 21st-century codes, Floyd imbued the 13,000-



Glenn Risso and Sotheby Real Estate's Gregg Lynn at home on Russian Hill



square-foot English-style country manor with classic elegance and charm (*Masterpiece Redux*, page 56).

Award-winning San Mateo-based architect Farro Essalot and San Francisco interior designer Jane Antonacci conjure a sublime estate in Hillsborough. Built on a gentle sloping lot, this spectacular new home is reminiscent of the work of 20th-century architect Birge Clark, but on a grand scale. The home is the embodiment of the California lifestyle with a seamless flow between interior and exterior spaces (*Mission Revival*, page 64).

Also in this issue, brilliant chef Marco Fossati of Quattro at the Four Seasons Silicon Valley shares a mouthwatering recipe for Watermelon Carpaccio (*La Dolce Vita*, page 38).

We catch up with prolific designers Jeffrey Weisman and Andrew Fisher to discuss their new book and new line of light fixtures named for their breathtaking villa, Casa Acanto, in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico (*Elegant Imaginings*, page 34). Author and noted design expert Diane Dorrans Saeks interviews textile maven Madeline Weinrib on the eve of the opening of her new San Francisco showroom (*The Joy of Color*, page 22). And we take a look at the results of the \$33 million remodel of Rancho Valencia, the five-diamond Relais & Chateaux property just 30 minutes north of San Diego (*The Rancho Returns*, page 42). Enjoy!



Kendall Wilkinson

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A custom sectional sofa and a pair of club chairs upholstered in grey mohair provide plenty of seating for taking in the stunning Bay views.



SKY-HIGH DRAMA

Kendall Wilkinson infuses a Russian Hill
condo with Zen-like chic.

The key to designing this space,” stresses Kendall Wilkinson, “was color. It needed to be a shade that would work seamlessly with the ever-changing color of the sky and water just outside the windows.” With panoramic postcard views, this 1,000-square-foot property was not without challenges. Notes owner Gregg Lynn, “My partner Glenn Risso and I had lived in this building for years and always knew that there was a ‘secret unit’ that was vacant.” Finally, the so-called mystery apartment came on the market. “No one had lived in it in decades,” recalls Lynn, a real estate professional with Sotheby’s International in San Francisco. “We took one look at the jaw-dropping views and knew that this was where we wanted to spend the rest of our lives.”

Lynn and Risso moved into their new home for about a year before they decided to remodel. “We wanted to get a feel for the space and see how we’d live in it first,” recalls Lynn. “Then we assembled a dream team to re-do it.” Lynn tapped Kendall Wilkinson, Sutro Architects, and Black Mountain Construction to execute the remodel in record time. “We’d fallen in love with the place,” says Lynn, “and knew we’d have to move out temporarily during construction. I wanted to ensure that the remodeling timeline was as short and efficient as possible.”

“Gregg and Glenn have very discerning tastes and they gravitate toward contemporary, clean lines,” says Wilkinson. “They wanted a home that was calm and serene.” A firm believer in the theory that order equals calm, Wilkinson set out to provide abundant storage to meet the needs set by her clients. “One of the builders said to me, ‘You’re putting the kind of storage you only find in a five-bedroom house into this one-bedroom apartment,’” recalls Lynn. “Everything is hidden,” stresses Wilkinson. “We wanted to keep things sleek. In the living room, we created a wall of cerused oak. Hidden behind the wood panels are a bar, TV, home office, and closet. The kitchen cabinets go from floor to ceiling, utilizing every possible inch of storage space.”

In many ways, the home functions like many luxury yachts that pass by its windows. “Kendall did an incredible job selecting the monochromatic palette in the living room,” notes Lynn. “We wanted the sightlines to take you straight to view, so we chose a palette of cool grays. The silvery tones also serve as the perfect foil for Lynn and Risso’s art pieces. The mid-century abstract painting in the dining room was spotted by the couple at the San Francisco Fall Antiques Show back in 2012. “I remember snapping a picture of it and emailing Kendall, saying, ‘Good luck, this is the first piece of art for our new home,’” says Lynn.

“The painting was terrific,” insists Wilkinson. “A fabulous finishing touch.”

INTERIORS: KENDALL WILKINSON DESIGN, SAN FRANCISCO
ARCHITECTURE: SUTRO ARCHITECTS, SAN FRANCISCO | PHOTOGRAPHY: DREW KELLY
CONTRACTOR: BLACK MOUNTAIN CONSTRUCTION, SAN FRANCISCO



The dining room includes a bold Piero Lissoni table with a high-gloss finish surrounded by leather-wrapped chairs. The floors throughout the dining and living room are high-tech Italian stoneware that has the tactile feel of worn wooden planks but with the strength and resistance of stone.







Elegant panels in the living room (opposite above) cleverly conceal a home office, bar, and plenty of storage for dinnerware. Glimmering textured mosaic walls (opposite below, right) are balanced by a sleek metal sink in the powder room. The kitchen sink (opposite below, left) features a stone backsplash and sculptural pot filler. The master bath walls and floor (this page) are clad in Carrera marble complemented with modern Dornbracht platinum fixtures.



The master bedroom features a paneled headboard and custom bed with built-in drawers. Wilkinson selected a monochromatic palette in taupe, but added interest with a play of textures.

