



AD was founded in Los Angeles more than 100 years ago, and the city and its fascinating denizens and architecture continue to exert a magnetic influence on the design world. As the entertainment industry roars back to life, it feels particularly celebratory to visit a delightful cast of characters in their own environments in this issue. Not all the homes are in the Golden State, but all the players are deeply rooted there and have paid their dues.

Referring to her glamorous Los Angeles hideout, cover star Sofía Vergara endearingly tells AD, "I still wake up every day thinking, I can't believe this is my life." Fashion moguls Jens and Emma Grede similarly liken their Malibu beach getaway to "paradise." Actor Johnny Galecki shares his personal Shangri-la outside Nashville, intentionally far from

the Hollywood glare, and young star Maude Apatow jokes that she has "peaked" now

that she scored a charming apartment in Manhattan's coveted West Village. Prolific producer Ryan Murphy unleashes his formidable creative vision on his latest passion project, a storied 1955 Richard Neutra house in Bel Air in which he has gleefully broken all the rules of midcentury decoration, and AD100 designer Michael S. Smith, an LA legend, reveals his grand new Madrid pied-à-terre. California dreaming around the world.



Follow Tan France to Salt Lake City as he builds a deeply personal dream house from the ground up in AD's new series Home at Last, available on AD's YouTube channel.



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ofía Vergara doesn't mince words about the condition of her palatial Beverly Park manse when she acquired the property. "There were arches on top of arches, all with columns. It felt like a castle in Transylvania," recalls the effervescent actor-producer, currently playing against type as Colombian cocaine queenpin Griselda Blanco in the Netflix series *Griselda*. "But the layout was perfect, and I loved that you could see the landscape from every room, even though there wasn't much of a garden to look at yet. I knew what I would do to make it my own," she insists.

There were, predictably, a few challenges. Despite the voluminous rooms and high ceilings, Vergara wanted the house to feel "homey and comfortable, a place where people would want to hang out and relax," she says. On top of that, the existing 1990s architecture did not exactly conform to her vision of "a house with history and texture, a well-lived house." The structure may not have been new, but it most certainly wasn't old in the way the actor fancied. Fortunately, Instagram led Vergara to the perfect collaborator for her transformation mission. Having long followed the work of



•hara Davies-Gaetano, Vergara simply dialed up the Los Angeles-based designer and got started. "I called her, we clicked, and I fell in love with her ideas," the actor recollects. "When I handed her my inspiration folder, I realized most of the images were hers."

Davies-Gaetano seconds the notion of an immediate click. "Sofía articulated a clear vision for the project. She wanted a home that felt ethereal yet grounded, something fresh, clean, and bright, with lots of great antiques that added patina and warmth to the architecture," the designer explains. "It had to

feel layered and curated. Sofía wanted to tell a particular story," she adds.

Casting a wide net, Davies-Gaetano and Vergara stocked the house with a broad array of Continental antiques from Sweden, Spain, France, and Italy. The airy living room, for example, is anchored by an 18th-century French limestone fireplace and a pale Persian Tabriz rug, while a pair of heavily carved, gilded Baroque armchairs rests beneath a lyrical 19th-century Italian chandelier. "I'm not afraid to spend money, but it has to be for something practical, not just things that are there to look good.





ABOVE THE DINING ROOM IS CROWNED WITH A WALL COVERING THAT IS HAND-EMBOSSED IN PLASTER BY MJ ATELIER. DINING CHAIRS BY DENNIS & LEEN, DE LE CUONA CURTAIN FABRIC THROUGH THOMAS LAVIN, AND A 19TH-CENTURY FRENCH BUFFET. LEFT VERGARA REFERS TO THE LOGGIA AS HER COMMAND CENTER. RIGHT IN A HALLWAY, DENNIS & LEEN LANTERNS JOIN A 19TH-CENTURY ITALIAN CONSOLE FROM BLACKMAN CRUZ AND A MALAYER RUNNER FROM LAWRENCE OF LA BREA.



