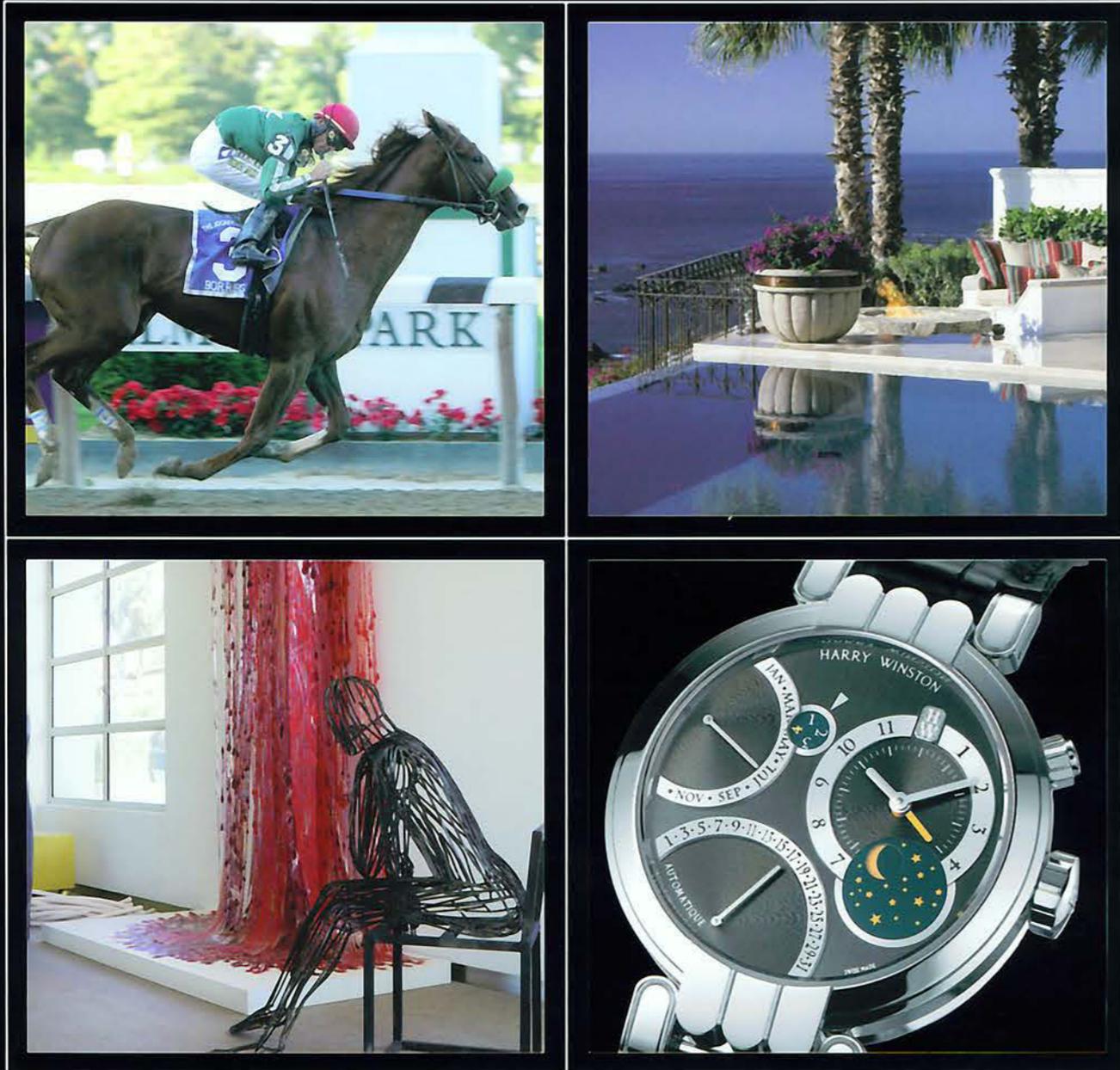


LUXURY LIFE & STYLE

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creation story

THE GOLDSTEINS' DESIGN FOR LIVING



Homeira and Arnold at home

It is on a particularly bright Southern California morning that I approach the doorstep of Homeira and Arnold Goldstein.

Verdant bamboo stands at attention in the art deco planters that line the path leading to their front door, and I am struck with the sense that here is a space where even the landscaping pulsates with an unusual life. The clean, modern lines of their home's steel-grey stone and metal exterior comprise a facade that is best described as enigmatic, since it provides me with very few clues as to what lies inside.

What does await me inside the Goldsteins' home is an art collection that is unrivaled in its eclecticism – an array of more than 230 paintings, sculptures and mixed media pieces produced locally, nationally and internationally. I am greeted by Homeira herself, who then leads me to the formal living room where she, Arnold and I will discuss their history, home and the love affair that each of them has with art and promoting artistic awareness locally.

Arnold Goldstein is the President and Founder of Shorewood Realtors. Started in 1969, it was rated the 65th largest real estate company in the United States relative to dollar volume in sales during this past year, a sizable \$2.2 billion. Arnold informs me that among the company's more than 450 people are sales associates and employees that have been part of the Shorewood team for over 30 years. As a young man growing up in Detroit, Michigan, he recognized within himself a creativity that found fulfillment in drawing, painting and illustrating fashion. Later, he found his talent in selling and started working in real estate sales in 1962. Today, Arnold still channels his professional energies into directing all aspects of Shorewood Realtors, including the hiring of sales associates.

At Home with Arnold and Homeira Goldstein • Mexico's Hot Properties
Musician David Benoit • Dining: Trump National and Mozza

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Homeira and Arnold met one another on a blind date in 1986. At the time, she was the president of her financial consulting firm. In both of their estimations, the extent to which they share a common vision is uncanny, and this is certainly evident in what can only be described as the powerful energy that permeates their home and their efforts.

The Goldsteins decided to build their home from the ground up so they enlisted the talents of renowned Architect Patrick J. Killen. They collaborated with him in developing the house's plans for two years before starting construction on the 10,000-square-foot, three-story home in early 1990. The home was finished in late

they wanted to create a space that would transcend classification and encourage a sense of possibility. The overriding Zen-like, modernist lines of their house, as well as those of the backyard and pool, contribute to the sense that virtually any form of creative expression can find a place there. Floor to ceiling windows throughout the home further seem to invite that which is outside *in*, not unlike Homeira herself who is the Chairman of the Board of Arts Manhattan.

Arts Manhattan is a local non-profit arts education organization committed to bringing art to the community. Through its ongoing sponsorship of exhibitions, art tours, children's workshops and soirees, it has



1994. When asked what inspired them aesthetically, Homeira and Arnold state that they had always admired the stylized dynamism of the art deco period. Art deco flourishes can be found throughout the structure of their home, as well as their cabinetry and fixtures. Further, Homeira notes that to maintain the artistic integrity of the house design and her commitment to the art, with a few exceptions, all the furniture and fixtures throughout the house are made by artists.

They are also quick to point out that

played a vital role in raising artistic awareness while also supporting the efforts of both local artists and artists from around the world. A primary goal of the organization, states Homeira, is to reveal to people that art is not just found on canvases or in bronze. Through its support of innovators in today's art world, Arts Manhattan strives to illuminate the plethora of mediums used to create contemporary art, from chocolate and lipstick to wet suits, neon and parachute material.



Homeira commissioned Simon Ouwerkerk to create a hanging sculpture made of her son's childhood toys.

Above Left: kitchen design by Homeira and *Running Man* sculpture by Tony Barone

Right, dining room designed by Homeira and fabricated by artist Peter Kukay

Far Right, five-piece sculpture on wall by Peter Shelton and floor sculpture by Maria Nepomuceno



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One need not speak for very long with Homeira and Arnold before it becomes apparent how interactive their relationship with the art world is. The many soirees that they enjoy hosting in their home are orchestrated to create dialogue and challenge preconceived notions of what defines this realm.

As a member of the Board of Governors of Otis College of Art and Design, Homeira organized a Fund- and Friend-raising event for the College in October of 2005. With Arnold serving as the Master of Ceremonies, Homeira produced and directed a performance art piece with an artist friend, engaging in a

couple held a fashion dinner reception with live models and a runway at their home for the Costume Council of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. They honored Lloyd Klein, a Canadian-born French fashion designer and former head of Maison Mme. Grés in Paris, who just moved his Atelier from Paris to Los Angeles.

Glancing up at the ceiling during our interview, I noticed a large, swirling configuration of children's toys. Homeira explained to me that this piece is the work of Simon Ouwerkerk. The Goldsteins have several of his steel and aluminum sculptures around the house, and Ouwerkerk is also



Living room art includes blue and white figures, at left, designed by Polish artist, Jolanta Klyszcz

breathing exercise that served as a fluid art installation. Her words to the evening's guests perfectly encapsulated Homeira's deeply personal viewpoint: "Breath is life, life is creation and creation is art. Join me in this journey of exploration."

The Goldsteins also have love and passion for fashion, something they appreciate as art. Homeira states that clothes are a form of communication to the outer world. For her, that is what art tries to do — to communicate. In October 2006, the

responsible for designing the couple's art deco front planters, bar, pool chaises, BBQ stand, trashcans and soap dispensers. One day, while in the process of discarding her son Joshua's old toys, she confided to Ouwerkerk that doing so saddened her. He responded by creating the piece, a gesture very much in tune with the intimate role he has had in lending artistic flair to Arnold and Homeira's living space.

For all of its stone and steel minimalism, the Goldsteins also display numerous or-

Above Left: the master bedroom, with head board designed by Homeira and fabricated by Patrick Spilman and Simon Ouwerkerk.

Right, the foyer with a gold leaf painted wall sculpture by Lynn Aldrich

Middle Right, chair sculpture by Carolyn Applegate

Far Right, the master bath



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ganic-looking pieces that, like their large windows, bring a sense of the outside world into their home. My eyes are immediately drawn to a large green molten glass piece entitled *Glass No. 4M* by the Japanese artist, Kazuo Kadohaga. Located in front of a window that looks out from their living room onto the Pacific Ocean, it catches the light and compellingly reminds me of an ancient geode with origins in some distant and beautiful cave. Hanging from the ceiling in their entry hall is a mysterious piece by artist

Lynn Aldrich, which resembles a gigantic eagle's wing and is, in fact, the actual wing of a single-engine plane that crashed (the pilot survived). Aldrich spent a full two-and-a-half years collecting feathers with which to cover it.

Certain pieces in the couple's collection strike an especially emotional chord, such as two large sculptures by artist Peter Shelton. The first is a large, grey fiberglass installation comprised of several fragmented pieces that to me resembles bro-



The media room was a collaboration between Homeria and Anton Goss with cabinets by Patrick Spilman and projector case by Simon Ouwerkerk

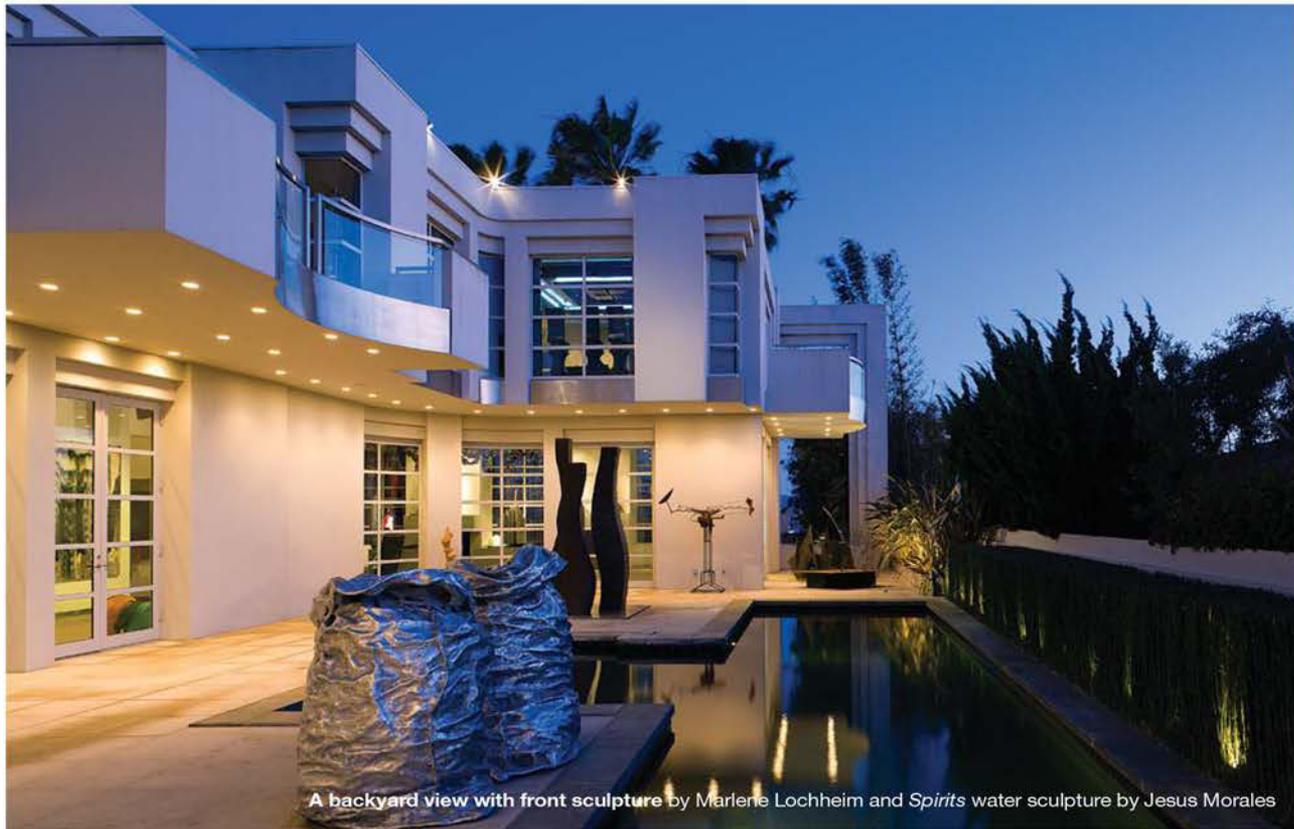
Above Left: the foyer displays a black dress sculpture by Suzanne Erikson and, on landing, *Public Scrutiny* by Ed Benavente

Right, more art on display

Far right, a gathering area.



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A backyard view with front sculpture by Marlene Lochheim and *Spirits* water sculpture by Jesus Morales



Above, hanging aircraft wing sculpture by Lynn Aldrich

ken pieces of bone. Homeira points out that the hole represents a belly button to her – the center of what appears to be a broken human being. The second piece is a large brown fiberglass sculpture that could resemble, depending on one's perspective, either a flattened liver or an abstract, hunched frame.

Before I leave, Homeira directs my attention to a copper and steel wire sculpture by artist Sophie Ryder. Depicting a large dog and a female (whose rabbit-like head sits atop her human body) peering into the distance, it elicits from me a sense of wonder and engagement, as if I were secretly gazing at the pair from a hidden place in a forest clearing. "Just look at their eyes," Homeira compels me. "They say so much." In this instant, I realize that this environment has challenged me to experience art in a dynamic way, too. ●

Marlene Stang

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