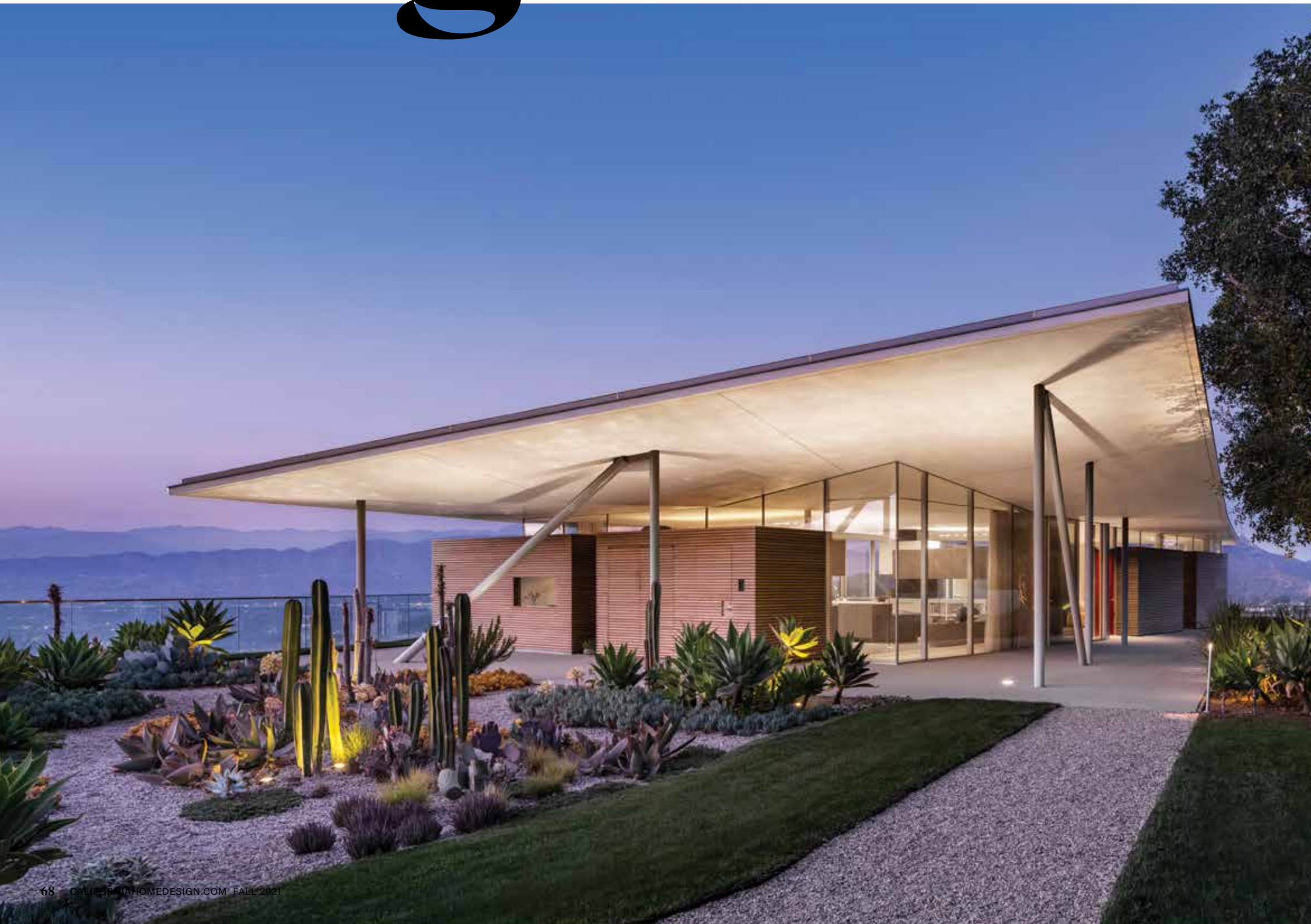


good GLUCK

GLUCK+ designs a modern home in Los Angeles with roots in the past and an eye on the future

by **ABIGAIL STONE** photography by **PAUL VU**



LEFT: The home's cactus garden, designed by Hoerr Schaudt Landscape Architects. **RIGHT:** Homeowner and film producer Will Gluck, whose credits include the recently released *Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway* and his wife, writer Trista Gladden, in the living room.

Upholstered in shades that channel the colors of the light and shadows of the sun as it moves throughout the house during the day, GLUCK+ designed easily movable modular pieces for the living room.



ABOVE: All of the home's electrical systems run through the singular sculptural divider that separates the kitchen from the dining and living area. The swivel chair and rug were custom designed by GLUCK+. **BELOW:** Wood-clad boxes punctuate the glass facade. Each piece was cut, measured and assembled by hand on-site. They conceal bathrooms, storage, a fireplace and an office.

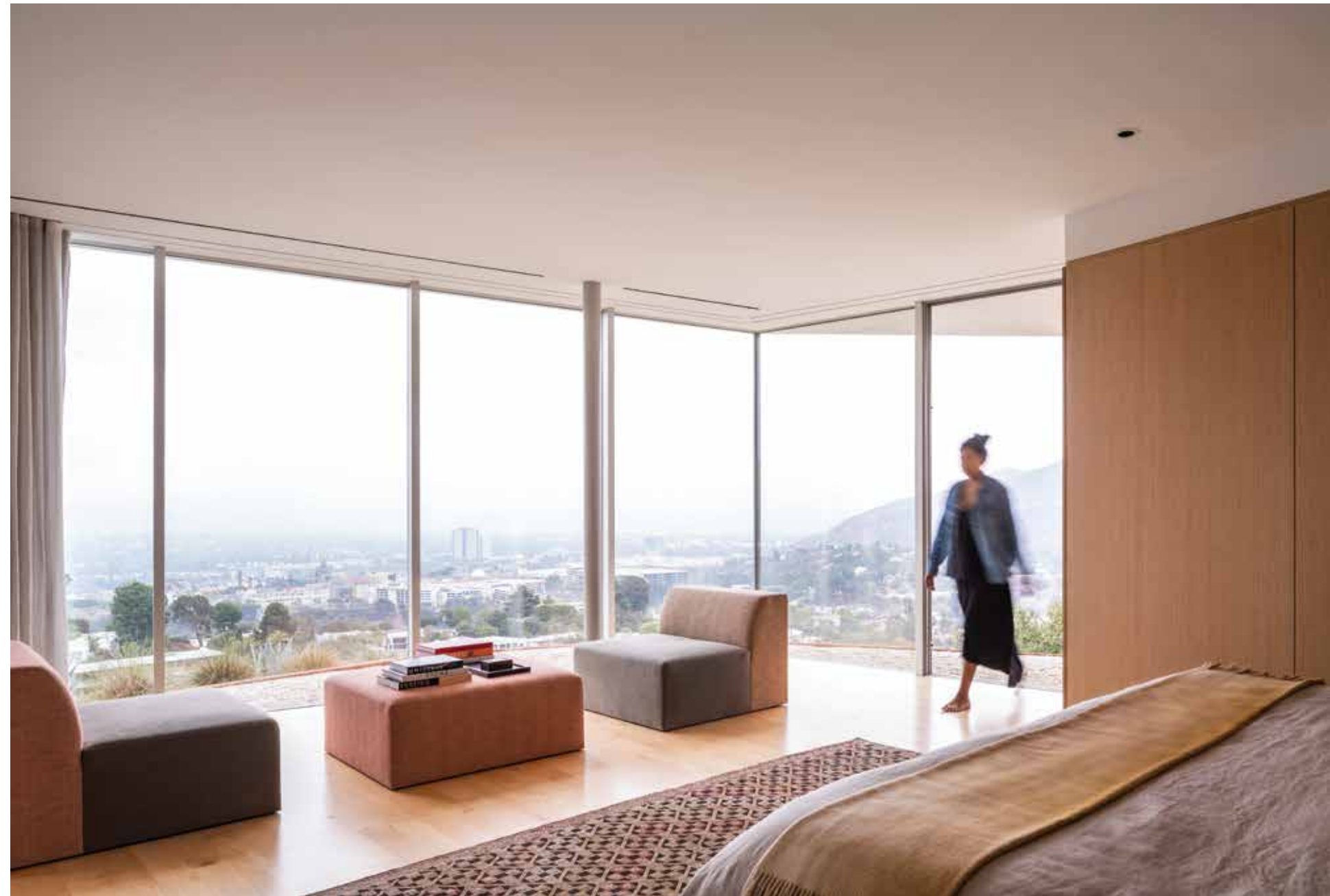
“It turned out to be the perfect site for what we wanted to do,” says architect Peter Gluck of the northward-facing piece of land on Mulholland Drive that showcases the house now dubbed the “California House.” Long considered unbuildable, the awkward promontory ended up being the ideal plinth on which to construct an East Coast ode to West Coast case study architecture. “The intention was to make it a buildable site, given what you can do structurally now.”

Designed and built for Gluck's son Will, a film producer, and his family, the home's sleek, simple profile stands in sharp contrast to its overblown neighbors. “We wanted to have the visible part of the house be as small as possible,” Gluck explains, “So it's just a glass box with wood boxes for all the practical matters of living.” The ethereal pavilion houses the public rooms; the lower level, tucked into the mountain, conceals the family's private quarters. “We do a lot of houses this way,” says Gluck. “In addition to anchoring the project firmly into the landscape, there are building regulations that are made easier when you do that.”





THIS PAGE, ABOVE: The home's den is tucked into the space at the bottom of the stairs where light pours in through the stairwell. **BELOW:** A rug, hung on the wall opposite a long wall of closets in the downstairs hallway, is a favorite piece, inviting family and guests alike to disturb its dense pile with their handprints and doodles. **OPPOSITE PAGE:** The primary bedroom overlooks a northern view of the city.



The inspiration for the design nods to Gluck's first project, a home he hand-built for his parents over five decades ago on a Long Island beach. "It's a more present-day view," he says. Like that structure, this one exemplifies the principles made famous by the Case Study homes and championed by California designers ever since: the smooth transition from indoors to out, casual open-plan living and a controlled use of simple materials.

Like that one, it partners with the realities of the environment. "In the Hamptons, the challenge was the ocean. In Los Angeles, it's earthquakes," says Gluck. And, like that one, he and his team were not only the designers but the builders. "We make the drawings and we're also the contractors," Gluck explains. "If we'd given it

to a regular contractor, who knows what would have happened. Anything that looks straightforward is really complicated to construct." Witness the slatted cabinets, faced with thermally modified clear maple slats on the exterior and rift white oak on the interior, each piece individually cut, measured and assembled, or the cantilevered floating roof, delicately held aloft by a smattering of slender columns. A freestanding sculptural divider allows camouflaged access to electrical, sound and sprinkler services to the roof. It seems that the more things change, the more they stay the same. "You know more, but it's still the same impulses," says Gluck, "Not the forms or the shapes but the response to conditions." Mother Nature and GLUCK+: perennial allies in design.