1 A million-dollar remodel that Patrick Tighe did for Nina Montee Karp and husband Harvey, author of *The Happiest Baby on the Block*, in Pacific Palisades. 2 Designed by Zoltan Pali, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts is known for its copper-colored cement-panel cladding. 3 The 9,000-square-foot Brentwood canyon dwelling for Oscar-winning scribe Tom Schulman is the house that *Dead Poets Society* built.

4 Says Michael Maltzan of his Sixth Street Bridge, which is under construction and will connect Boyle Heights to the arts district: "We're trying to make the bridge a new model for the way the city is changing."

5 Lorcan O'Herlihy builds multifamily dwellings like West Hollywood's 19-condo Habitat825, once home to *The Biggest Loser*'s Bob Harper. 6 Marc Appleton built Hilary Swank's former Pacific Palisades mini-mansion.









6

Alan Hergott (who represents **Brad Pitt**) and his partner Curt Shepard. After having dinner there, Michael Ovitz asked Maltzan to design the 28,000-square-foot home where he hangs his Picassos. Since converting a staple factory in Queens to a temporary Museum of Modern Art, he's designed the Hammer Museum's Billy Wilder Theater. What's next His exuberant design for DTLA's Sixth Street Bridge — deemed the "Ribbon of Light" and largest bridge design in L.A. history — is set to open in 2019.

### LORCAN O'HERLIHY

Lorcan O'Herlihy Architects Known for Rich Roll's Jai House in Malibu When the first project O'Herlihy built — a modern house for his mom and dad, Oscar-nominated Dan O'Herlihy won kudos, "that was helpful for me to get my career going," he says. In L.A., O'Herlihy built West Hollywood's Habitat825 con-

dos, once home to

The Biggest Loser's Bob Harper; Jai House in Malibu for former entertainment attorney Roll and renovated late architectural photographer Julius Shulman's 1950 steelframe house. Born in Dublin, O'Herlihy studied at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, helping I. M. Pei with his glass pyramid at the Louvre along the way. Today, he's designing a 28,000-square-foot downtown Art Share L.A. museum. What's next Says O'Herlihy: "We have to provide a place to live for those who are less fortunate," like his 26-unit MLK Supportive Housing that will foster community with a rooftop patio and green spaces.

#### **ZOLTAN PALI**

SPF Architects
Known for Wallis
Annenberg Center for
the Performing Arts in
Beverly Hills and the
Academy Museum of
Motion Pictures
L.A. culture vultures know Pali's
restoration work:
the landmark
Pantages Theatre in
Hollywood, the Greek



# AN L.A. LEGACY: FRANK GEHRY GIVES BACK TO WATTS

## The pro bono campus for kids will foster an increased sense of community BY ABIGAIL STONE

he quintessentially L.A. idea of having **Frank Gehry** build a trauma center for the Watts-based Children's Institute International, a social services organization that serves kids affected by violence, came to **Gelila Assefa Puck** while she was, of course, driving. Says the fashion designer and Ethiopia-born wife of restaurateur **Wolfgang Puck**, who sits on the board of the 110-year-old group: "I thought, 'How amazing would it be if we could get a notable designer?' "She felt strongly that the neighborhood still haunted by the race riots of 1965 could use a new kind of notoriety. The agency recently had bought a plot at 102nd and Compton. "Our main goal was to create a beautiful, welcoming space that would become a hub of community activity for the children and families of Watts [and] take away any stigma with receiving clinical services," says CII chairman **Charles P. Diamond**.

From the outside, Gehry seemed like a long shot. Though the lyrical swirls of his Walt Disney Concert Hall may only be two miles from Cll's site, the distance between them — economically and socially — is much greater than the 5,000 miles that separate L.A. from Paris, Bilboa, Prague and other cities hosting Gehry's bold designs. Then there is the work: For every critic who praises the architect's buildings, there's another complaining they ignore the environment. Detractors say the sun reflects off the arches of Walt Disney Hall and heats up the condos across the street, while the building destined for 8150 Sunset Blvd. has been met with protests from WeHo residents; L.A. City Councilman David Ryu wrote that the "elevations are out of scale" and "traffic impacts ... significant." Gehry's involvement with the L.A. River has fanned fears of gentrification, yet Steve Appleton, an artist who has worked with Friends of the LA River and in Watts in the mid-'90s, insists: "I drive through the area, and there's a dearth of high-quality public spaces and institutional involvement; it's admirable that he's there."

Puck, who's known Gehry and his wife, **Berta**, for years, isn't surprised by his signing on. She laid her proposition before Gehry over lunch at the Bel Air Hotel. "We explained what the agency does, and he gave me a handshake right there," offering to work pro bono. "He cares very deeply about the community." Adds Gehry: "The people whom I met from CII made an impression on me of their commitment and deep feelings about the children that they could help with this facility. ... It was without hesitation that I said yes." Of his design - a series of two-story, garden-surrounded buildings that echo the modest scale of the neighborhood, their shiny roofs the only Gehry-esque note — he says: "This building is not fancy but has all of my heart and soul in it. I worked hard to make spaces for the kids and families that would use it so that they would feel special." Adds Diamond: "One of the unique aspects is the sense of togetherness Mr. Gehry has created, even in a 50,000-square-foot campus." Puck tears up just talking about breaking ground in 2018: "After he accepted, I was in shock. Now the second step will be to see other buildings move in and change the community. That will be my biggest dream come true."

Theater in Griffith Park and the Getty Villa in Malibu. He also reused the 1930s Italian Renaissancestyle Beverly Hills Post Office by Ralph C. Flewelling as an entrance for his ingenious Wallis Annenberg Center. His luxurious residences are cherished by Beverly Hills' Tyler Perry, musician turned realtor Don Caverhil and, soon, producer Gavin Polone. Born in L.A.'s Chinatown to Hungarian parents, Pali, 56, studied design at UCLA. He and his wife, Judit Meda Fekete. founded Studio Pali Fekete Architects in 1990 and have two sons — Ezra and Renzo (for Italian architect Renzo Piano, with whom he was to convert the May Co. building into the Academy Museum until Piano left that project in 2014). Must-see L.A. sites The rotating bar atop the Bonaventure Hotel, the 110.

### PATRICK TIGHE

Tighe Architecture

Known for

documentary filmmaker Nina Montee Karp's house "I am proud of our diversity," says Tighe (pronounced "tie"), whose work ranges from highend residences like the million-dollar remodel he did for Karp and her husband, pediatrician-author Harvey Karp, in Pacific Palisades to a postproduction space for the U.K.-based Moving Picture Co. in Santa Monica. Growing up in Lowell, Mass., Tighe, 48, studied architecture at UCLA, and worked for edgy firm Morphosis before opening his own shop in Santa Monica. Cantilevered rooflines, perforated metal cladding and the latest tech are his hallmarks. Must-see L.A. sites Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels. And "there is nothing like hiking or biking in the Santa Monica Mountains," he says. What's in "People are craving their personal sanctuaries in the form of gardens, bathrooms, bedrooms, exercise areas."

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