

ORANGE COUNTY

HOME

DECOR ■ FURNISHINGS ■ GARDEN ■ ENTERTAINING



SAND CASTLE

LIVING WITH DOLPHINS AT YOUR DOORSTEP

NO-FUSS CLAMBAKE

YOU DON'T NEED A BEACH TO ENJOY THIS CLASSIC

STUNNING DECOR FROM THE HOUSE OF DESIGN

LIVING IN SEAL BEACH





A ROMANTIC MASTER SUITE, designed by Deanna Robinson of Costa Mesa, frames the ocean views.



Leonard Orth/Osage County Home

were used for the doors and will develop a patina, adding Old World elegance to the home.

The architecture and interior design of the home are "relaxing, not overpowering or out of scale," he said.

Although the lot measures 30-by-85 feet, "When you're in the home, you don't feel like you're in a long, narrow house; the plan flows from room to room," he said.

Architectural details, such as the box-beam ceilings, indirect lighting and five-piece crown moldings, add stylish elegance.

During the design phase the couple made it clear, "this was going to be our home — not a second home or a beach house — so it had to be elegant," Cindy said.

Every design detail was included expressly to accommodate a lifestyle of living and entertaining at the beach. "We didn't build this house for anyone else," Lee said.

Personal touches were added throughout the home, such as three arched, leaded-glass windows in the stairwell, designed to match the windows shown in a wedding photo of Cindy's grandparents.

"Every time I look at the windows, I remember them," Cindy said.

ROMANTIC DÉCOR

When the Gittlemans met designer Deanna Robinson for the first time, they dropped a large box filled with magazine clippings on her desk.

"We said, 'Here's what we like; this is our style,'" Cindy said.

The box contained a photo of a fabric that Cindy found particularly appealing. On their next visit, Robinson had a swatch of the fabric waiting for them. This Renaissance-

THREE ARCHED, LEADED-GLASS windows in the stairwell were designed to match windows shown in a wedding photo of Cindy's grandparents.





INGUETT

THE GITTLEMAN'S ENTERTAIN frequently, which often includes movie night in their luxurious home theater.

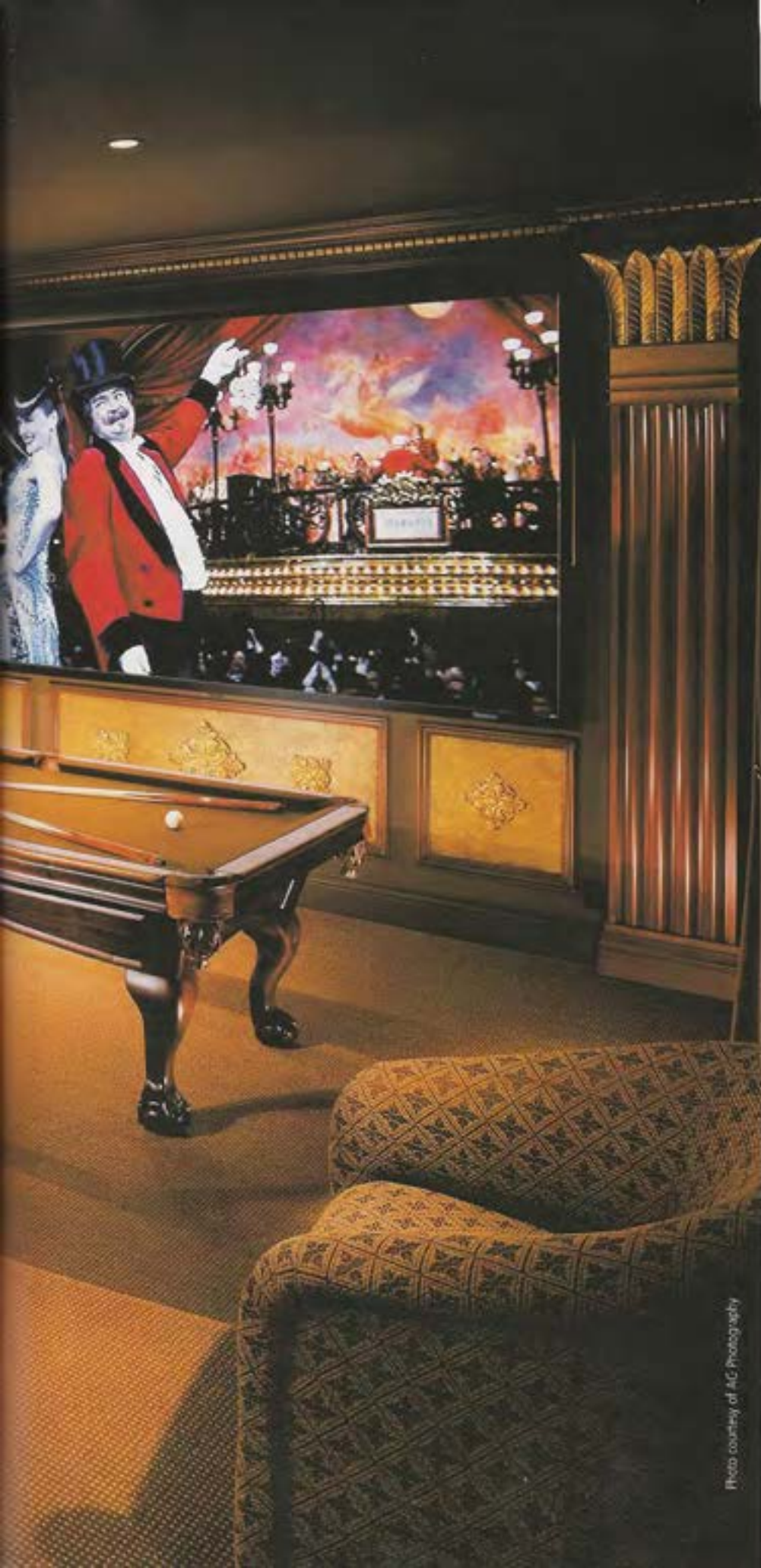


Photo courtesy of A/C Photography

inspired fabric became the color scheme for the entire home. The same fabric was used to upholster the dining chairs.

"It's important to choose the right fabrics for life at the beach," Robinson said. "Everything in the home had to lend itself to all types of entertaining; people may be in a bathing suit or a tuxedo."

Comfortable chenille was chosen for the downstairs furniture, with silk reserved for the bedrooms. Because sand would inevitably be brought in from the beach, Portuguese limestone flooring was used throughout the downstairs and in the upstairs bathrooms, making cleanup easy. Radiant heat under the floor allows the couple to walk barefoot all winter, and wards off the chill if they want to open the windows and enjoy the ocean breeze.

Artist Gary Tichy added finishing touches to the media room, dining room and stair railing, which was accented with gold and copper leafing.

Using computer-aided design (CAD) software, Karen Clabaugh of Deanna Robinson Interiors created custom cabinetry throughout the home, which provided adequate storage without overpowering the spaces.

On the second floor, windows frame the ocean. The homeowners can open the motorized blinds with the press of a button, without getting out of bed.

The thoughtful planning to maximize ocean views extends to the master bath: an elevated spa tub for two allows the couple to watch the waves while soaking. "With the window tilted up and the doors open, it literally feels like you're sitting outside in a Jacuzzi," Cindy said.

Architectural features allow light to filter in throughout the home, not just from the windows facing the beach. A skylight in the steam room showers bathers with light in the master bath. Reflections of the ocean bounce off the mirrors and glass.

The home is "inviting, not ostentatious," Robinson said. "They didn't want it to be real formal; it's definitely casual elegance."

RESOURCES:

Architect – Eric F. Mossman, AIA, Newport Beach. (949) 675-1252

Builder – Longman Construction, Newport Beach. (949) 722-7711

Designer – Deanna Robinson Interiors, Costa Mesa. (714) 957-5725

Faux finishes – Gary Tichy, Costa Mesa. (714) 957-5725

Leaded-glass windows – Sunlight Studio, Newport Beach. (949) 631-2775

THE ELEGANT DINING ROOM was elevated above the living room to accommodate an ocean view. "It's just stunning to sit here during a dinner party with the surf in the background," Cindy Gitelman said.

