

THE LOS ANGELES HOME REDEFINED™

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# RAY OF LIGHT

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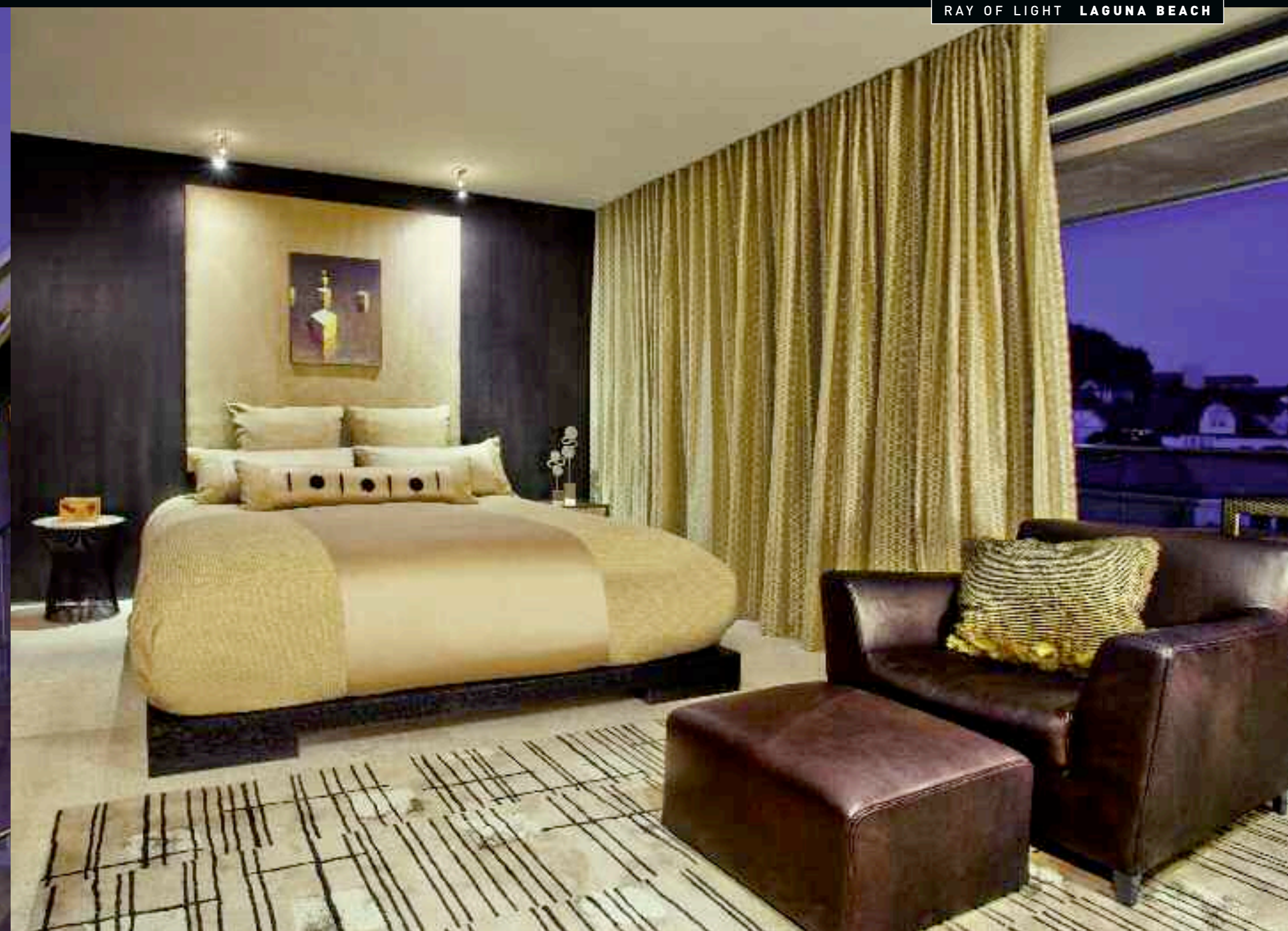
THE OWNERS OF THIS SEASIDE RESIDENCE WEREN'T DAUNTED BY THE FACT THAT IT WAS IN THE FRAMING STAGE THE FIRST TIME THEY SAW IT. They even looked past the fact that there weren't yet stairs. "You had to crawl up a ladder to get to the second floor," recalls the husband, a physician in Colorado. A deciding factor in them purchasing the home was meeting the architect, Horst Noppenberger of Horst Architects in Laguna Beach,

<b>ARCHITECT</b> Horst Noppenberger, Horst Architects
<b>INTERIOR DESIGNER</b> Arianna Noppenberger, ARIA Design
<b>BEDROOMS</b> 3   <b>BATHROOMS</b> 4   <b>SQUARE FEET</b> 2,300



**ON THE EDGE**

The peripheral entry stair cuts through a garden and defines one side of the glass, stone and stucco house. A wall of glass spanning the length of the home provides enticing views.



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**SIMPLY DEFINED**

Clean lines and monochromatic tones in the third-level master bedroom keep quiet next to the ocean views from the glass-walled balcony.

on site that day. He shared his ideas with the couple, showed them renderings and explained that adaptations could be made to personalize their potential new home. As they talked and walked through the dusty construction zone past stacks of wood, they came upon material boards made by Horst's wife, Laguna Beach-based interior designer Arianna Noppenberger of ARIA Design. Taken by her fabrics and textures, and impressed by Horst's architectural renderings, the house was suddenly much more than a rough sketch, and the couple knew they'd found their home. "It was Horst and Arianna's designs and creativity that sold us," says the wife.

A spec house when the couple came along, a developer had bought the 1970s post-and-beam beach cottage and invited Horst and Arianna to



**SECURE BACKUP**  
Interior designer Arianna Noppenberger customized the upholstered Vioski sofa, carving out the back and fitting it with a built-in cabinet that doubles as a buffet.

**STYLE SELECTION**

Add a dash of functional contemporary art with a must-have decorative bowl, detailed with an upper border of stitched and woven grass. *Dot Tangerine Bowl, \$275; kyadesigns.com*



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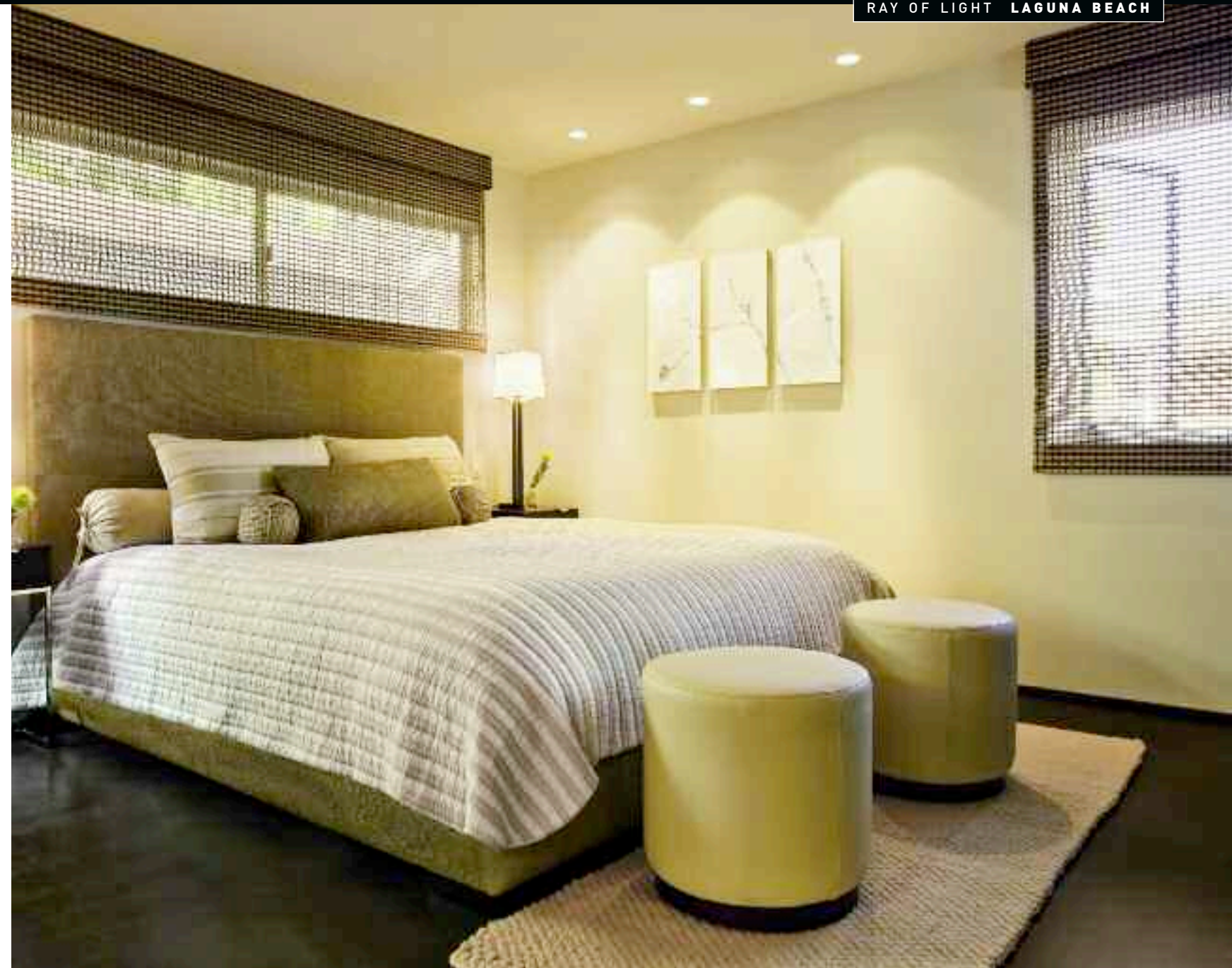
renovate it. A main goal was to open it up. “We removed partitions and created a more open plan, especially at the main level where the living areas are,” says Horst. “We wanted people to have a perspective of the house on every level. When you walk into a house,” he explains, “you’re more comfortable if you can read the space and understand its layout.”

Reconfigured, the house now has a procession of space and moves easily from public rooms to private ones. On the travertine-and-stucco exterior, a peripheral stairway leads up a level to the entry. Here, Horst removed floor area to create a glass-walled volume that continues upstairs to help “read the levels,” he says. Arianna celebrated the space with a chandelier that spills light in all directions, illuminating the house like a lantern.

On the middle level, which contains the living and dining areas and the kitchen, Horst employed space-increasing effects that belie the house’s 2,300 square feet. Travertine floors extend out to 400 square feet of decks; above, mahogany planks draw the eye out toward the ocean. The ceiling slopes upward to connect the third-story bedrooms, which have

**HIGHER VOLUME**

In the light-filled entry, a metacrylate chandelier from Foscarini is sculptural by day and functional by night. The mixed-media work, "Untitled Robin's Egg Blue," is by Brian Wills.



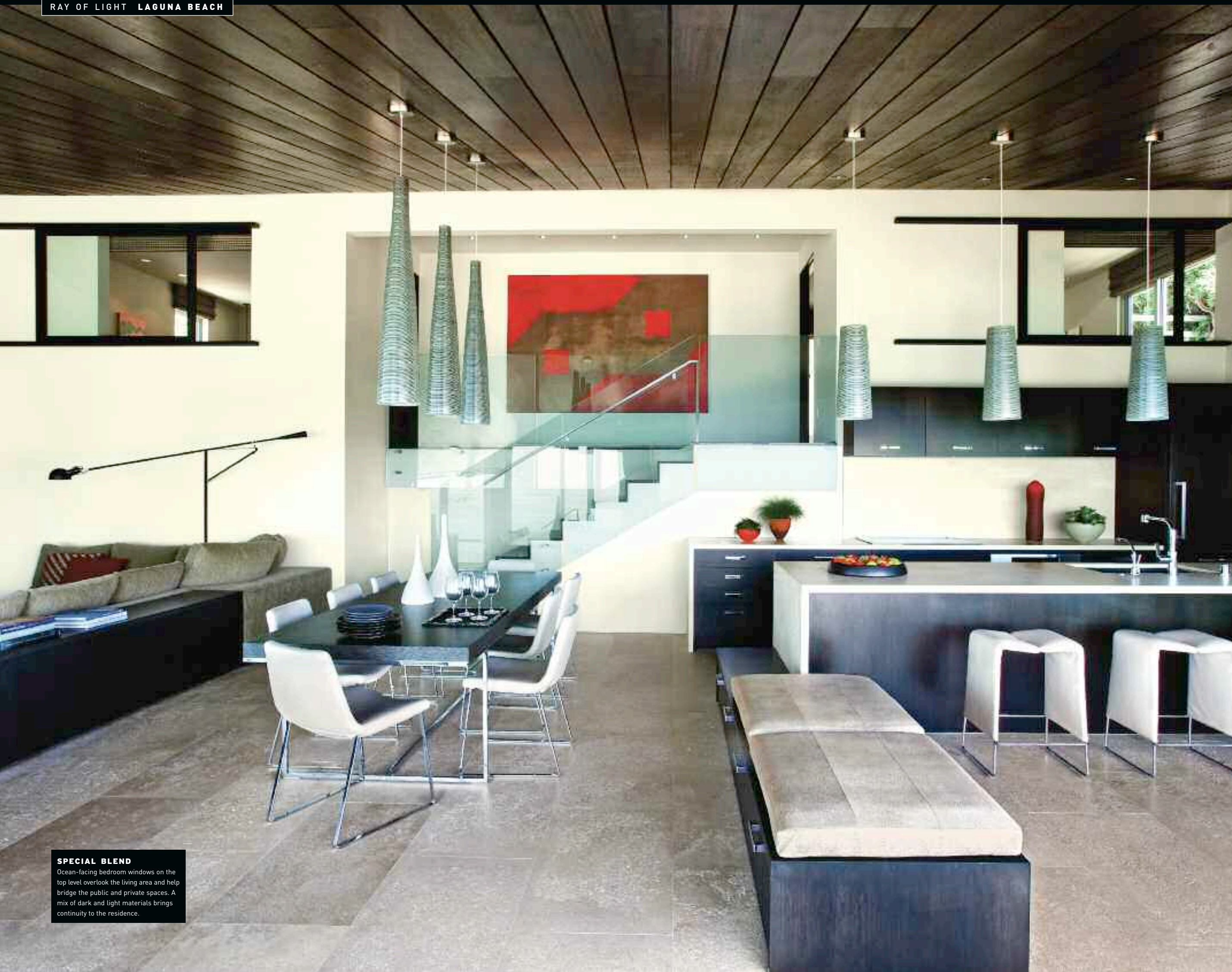
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windows overlooking the middle level that slide to close for privacy. For consistency, the same materials were used throughout the house, but attention was paid to scale: the pattern of the travertine walls in a bathroom, for example, is a smaller scale than that on the middle level's expanse.

Arianna devised a plan for the interiors that was influenced by the colors of the beach. Sand and rock formations were interpreted as earthy neutrals, like beiges and browns in the living area and master bedroom, and a crisp dark-and-white combination in the dining room and kitchen. The residents love red, so the designer used splashes of it here and there—on a throw pillow, or as a prominent color in a painting.

**OCEAN VIEW**

Various textures in this guest bedroom add interest to its palette of beach-inspired neutrals, including hues reminiscent of driftwood, surf, sand and seashells.

**SPECIAL BLEND**

Ocean-facing bedroom windows on the top level overlook the living area and help bridge the public and private spaces. A mix of dark and light materials brings continuity to the residence.

**STYLE SELECTION**

Suggesting ease with its fluid shape, this ottoman doubles as a table when topped with wood or backpainted glass. *First Sight Ottoman, from \$1,830; geigerintl.com*



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Scale was important, too, especially for the middle level's volume and height. "My sense of proportion and color are all from the past," says Arianna, who was born in Italy and pursued classical studies. With those principles in mind, she kept the living room's seating area low, "to enhance the height of the room," she says. Rows of dramatic cone-shaped Foscarini pendants also help punctuate the space. "The effect," she explains, "is that the room seems quite large."

The residents couldn't be more pleased with the results. Door to door, the beachy escape is just four hours away from Colorado, and it's a popular place for the couple's two grown children to visit with friends. Then again, they practically called it home the first day they saw it. "Horst and Arianna had a vision, and they were able to share it with us," says the wife. "It was exactly what we were looking for." **L**