



CAPTURING THE ART OF TRANSFORMATIVE ARCHITECTURE

Refuge. That's the best single word to describe this home built at the corner of Corral Road and Saddle Drive. The owner of this haven of light and simplicity, Lorry Prentiss, has spent her professional career working in finance. While speaking of her career world, she lights up with excitement. This is a woman who brings her passion to all that she tackles, and it's evident in this home. Well-chosen material, an open entertainment layout that also manages to feel cozy, focused design by Hans Berglund with Berglund Architects LLC, and solid construction at the hand of Alex Dammeyer with Meadow Mountain Homes, are all part of what is so simplistic and yet so intricate about this symphony of architecture.

"My home is meant to be comfortable, and everyone who comes along is meant to feel happy," she gestures towards the floor to ceiling windows. "I wanted to have the outside come inside, with lots of windows and natural light." When Lorry approached Berglund Architects LLC, she was adamant that she didn't want a large house; she wanted a home with clean lines, an open floorplan



with limited interior distractions, and maximized storage and balance. Lorry chose the architect and builder by researching who could match her intentions in a living space.

The philosophy of Hans Berglund's company is to "create architecture that has the power to positively affect life experiences, bring people together and make them more in touch with their surroundings." Lorry looked at his portfolio and took the plunge.

The signature style of Hans is evident throughout the home, from the zero-profile windows to the curved beams that yawn towards the south. "He was just thrilled when I told him that we could switch the design from the original straight angled ceiling to one with curved beams," recalls Lorry. Hans and his colleague, Stephanie Lord Johnson, were very involved in the process of perfecting those beams: it took 23 tries to get the color just right.

In sharing his thoughts on the project, Hans reiterated the importance of making sure that they took advantage of the sun and the amazing views, all the while focused on creating spectacular space. The "jewel of the house", as Hans describes it, is the great room. Featuring floor to ceiling windows and a black metal fireplace surrounded by indigenous stone, the room offers the illusion of being able to touch nature from anywhere inside the home.

Lorry shares that she stepped out of her comfort zone when it came to a few specific architectural features, such as installing similar floor to ceiling window walls in the bedrooms on the second floor. "I initially thought that it would be strange to have windows to the floor up so high, but then I saw what happened to the rooms as a result, and I couldn't be more pleased."

The deceptively simple design choices throughout the home are what provide a feeling of calm and relaxation for Lorry as well as her visitors. "It's nice to put everything away in places where they belong," she sighs contentedly. The alder cabinetry, provided by Genesis Cabinet Company Inc., was chosen for its color and storage style. "I kept the same cabinets, trim and stain uniform throughout the house, so it's calming throughout and you don't really know why," smiles Lorry. Even the three warm gray tones of paint throughout the home were carefully cultured colors from The Paint Bucket at the request of Lorry and Alex, such that it is nearly impossible to distinguish the change in color from wall to wall or room to room.

When asked about her favorite part of the house, Lorry pauses to contemplate. "That's a hard question. There is a lot to love. Mostly the light that I get here; I am lucky to be so high up here in Singletree. It's very quiet and peaceful. I feel really safe here, I am happy here. I am calmer living here."

"It took us 9 months to design and about a year to build," she finishes proudly. Throughout the process, Lorry worked very closely with both Hans and Stephanie. According to Lorry, "they reviewed everything right down to the knobs I chose for the cabinets". She spoke to Alex every day even if she was out of town. Hans remarked that the project represented a highly successful team-oriented collaboration between the owner, the architectural team and the builder, with each participant doing what they do best while at the same time, being allowed to freely express themselves. In her words, Lorry recognizes and appreciates that "this house was built with tons of love and interest".

As we wrapped up our interview, I asked her how closely she kept to the budget. "Well," she says, leaning forward in her chair, "we ended up at about 3% of our original budget!" My jaw dropped to the floor. Never before have I interviewed an owner who has built a house from the ground up and stayed that close to budget!

That, my readers, is how you build a beautiful house, for a beautiful life.



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