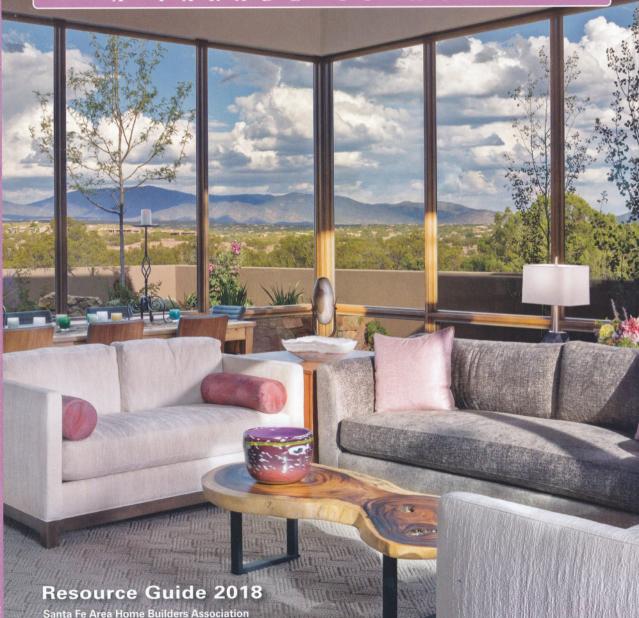
Home Building Santa Fe Style taciendas



sfahba.com

2017 Grand Hacienda



A Compelling Language

Tierra Concepts taps into their signature style to win a sixth Grand Hacienda

By Amy Gross Photographs by Wendy McEahern

ne might assume that after winning the Grand Hacienda award for a sixth time, Tierra Concepts, Inc., might feel like taking a breather, maybe rest on their laurels for a while. If anything, the win in 2017 has Tierra upping their game to stay a step ahead of architectural trends, and more importantly, constantly evolving Santa Fe style. As a spec house (which sold the day it went on the market) and a brilliant example of the firm's signature "contextual modern" design, the home on Picacho Peak in Las Campanas kept Tierra's partners—Kurt Faust, Keith Gorges, and Eric Faust—sweating, if just a little.

"It's very easy to stay within a language," says Gorges. "There's contemporary; contemporary is easy. There's traditional; traditional is easy. But when you try to do something like contextual modern, I think you take more chances, because you have to envision the way the materials are going to play off each other. And sometimes that's really hard to do."

It's undoubtedly a look, carefully cultivated by Tierra, that Santa Fe homeowners are eager to see more of. "Contextual modern is a modern approach to Santa Fe style, and in the context of the material of Northern New Mexico," explains Gorges.



Right: Wood, stone, and glass play against one another in a mixed but harmonious blend of natural, touchable textures. In the background, a contemporary sculpture by artist Kellogg Johnson.

Tierra Concepts, Inc.



Left: A stunning example of Tierra Concepts' contextual modern design, the kitchen takes old world materials and craftsmanship and pairs them with modern finishes and treatments. Glossy, lacquered cabinets, sculptural wood seating, and a hanging steel lighting fixture look perfectly balanced against the over-grouted and rough-cut stone walls.

Below: With the Sangre de Cristo Mountains in the distance and easily visible through huge picture windows, the master bedroom offers some of the best views in the house. Again, there's a play here between traditional elements and modern finishes and conveniences, with an effect that's warm and inviting.

"It appeals to people because it takes our unique heritage in Santa Fe and re-stylizes it in a contemporary way, but without losing the essence of what makes it Santa Fe style.'

Examples in the Picacho Peak home include the over-grouted stone wall bisecting the home that represents a more primitive masonry technique; the way the contemporary, lacquered cabinets are laid against a rough wall of Jerusalem limestone; and lighting that's recessed into a massive, geometric steel frame suspended from the kitchen ceiling.

The home made an impact on judges in the 2017 Parade, who appreciated its seemingly effortless blending of contemporary architecture, old world craftsmanship and materials, very modern treatments, and superior design and flow-which was put to the test during a wellattended opening party. With flowing, amorphous landscaping and exquisite interior design and staging by Annie O'Carroll and Jessica Savage of Annie O'Carroll Interior Design, the 3-bedroom, 3.5-bath residence demonstrated everything that makes a hacienda grand.

"Other parts of the appeal of that house are the light and the views," notes Kurt Faust. "You can't really take that for granted." Sliding pocket doors, which Gorges likens to "the equivalent of a pool in this climate," open grandly to a garden portal and breathtaking views of the Sangre de Cristos, removing any obstruction between the indoors and outdoors.



Wall-washer skylights are strategically placed throughout the home, allowing dramatic natural light to suffuse the interior spaces and create the play between light and shadow that has intrigued Santa Fe artists for centuries. "The light changes every five minutes," notes Tierra marketing director Saguna Severson, "and the wall washers show the sun going around the house the entire day."

From the rustic kitchen, to the Zen-like master bath and the fun, crimson-hued laundry room, Tierra's award-winning residence seems designed to satisfy every emotional need. "A house should be a playful thing," says Gorges. "It should be something that takes you through different emotional space—introverted space and extroverted space. It should take you on a journey where there's different moods." Even the art, which includes calming geometric sculptures by Kellogg Johnson and contemporary paintings by Helene Pfeffer, speaks to different frames of mind. As with so many elements of the home's design and décor, the art introduces modernism to an old school conviction, in a way that's fresh and beguiling.

"It's good to take parts of our past, and retain them—to hold them and preserve them," observes Gorges. "But it's also good to take that and move forward into where our imaginations take us." III

Tierra Concepts, Inc., tierraconceptssantafe.com