



Fuse Architecture



The Name Reflects A Philosophy

*By Melanie Chatfield
Photography Wayne Capili, Interface Visual*



The name *Fuse Architecture* was inspired by a design philosophy—to create a fusion of natural and built environments.

Hailing from Flagstaff and Los Gatos respectively, Daniel Gomez (Dan G.) and Daniel Townsend (Dan T.) met at the University of Arizona where they earned degrees in architecture in 1998. They discovered their symbiotic design approach and philosophy and both joined large architectural firms in Orange County. With several years of experience in commercial, industrial, retail and restaurant design under their belts, the duo established their Capitola-based firm in 2000 to focus on an extensive residential project.

One day, Dan T. got a call from family friends in Los Gatos. “They’d purchased 100 acres in the Santa Cruz Mountains and wanted to develop the land for use as a vineyard and personal residences,” he says. The two architects did the master planning for the acreage, sited and designed three homes—each with its own spacious multipurpose structure—and followed through to furnishings, finishes and landscaping. “We create a landscape concept for almost every project and consider it integral to the overall design,” adds Dan G.

GRACING PAGES 52 TO 54: 41 House was named for the owner’s motorcycle racing number. A two-story, 2,500-square-foot garage houses his extensive collection of the two-wheeled speedsters. Nestled among the trees atop the Santa Cruz Mountains, the 6,000-square-foot home was designed and built from the ground up for indoor-outdoor comfort. ON THIS PAGE: The residence of Greg and Jan Madsen bears little resemblance to its predecessor. This Santa Cruz home was built with their four active children in mind—with commercial grade rubber on the kitchen floor and cabinets that everyone in the household can reach and plenty of space for play and gear storage.





They draw on *modern* design roots, and refer to their approach as *progressive* rather than *contemporary*. “We don’t have a *style*—every project, whether a remodel or new construction, is unique,” says Dan T. “We develop a relationship with our clients and work closely with them to create environments that express their personality and lifestyle. We design living spaces that they can really *live* in”

A keystone of their design philosophy is creating no “dead ends.” “At the end of every hallway, there’s always a window so you can see out,” says Dan G. “We always look for the interior and exterior to mesh. In one house, we put a window in the pantry—there was a great view from there.”

SHOWN ABOVE: 18500 Vineyard House is a testament to good taste. Designed and built for owners who love spending time inside, the 6,000-square-foot retreat offers plenty of room to live in comfort and style. Perched high in the Santa Cruz Mountains this exquisite residence offers vineyard, valley and mountain views. The sprawling “Auto Barn” shown on page 71 features more than ample room for man and machines.

BELOW: The Carver residence—home to Diane and Jason and their son Jackson—was remodeled to create an outdoor haven. The interior is slated for the next phase of redesign which promises to yield an equally livable place to dwell.

Every new home or remodel they create is a “smart home” to a varying degree. “At a minimum, we’ll work in passive solar techniques,” says Dan T., “but many homeowners want complete automation from window shades and lighting to home entertainment and security systems.” They also employ green building techniques using materials from renewable resources as well as innovative water, heating, cooling and air filtering systems that conserve energy and natural resources.

“Our approach takes a lot of communication to make sure that all the details will work together as we, and the clients, intended,” the two agree. “Architecture is not just a business to us, it is more of a way of life. It impacts how we approach our own lives in relationship to our clients, our projects and the planet.”

Fuse Architecture
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RESOURCES

18500 Vineyard House
American Ornamental Iron
(Custom Metal work)
Santa Cruz
(831) 419-5635

Nathan Frank Bachara (Faux painting)
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(408) 896-4748

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Jason and Diane Carver Residence
Garage Doors Inc.
San Jose
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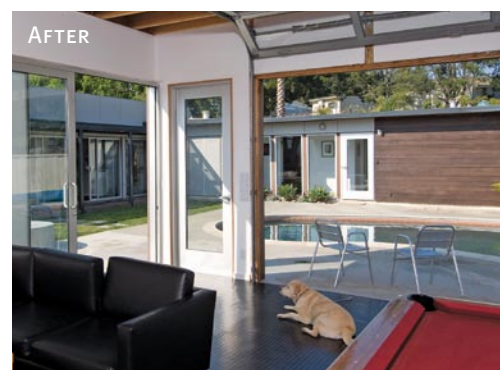
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Greg and Jan Madsen Residence
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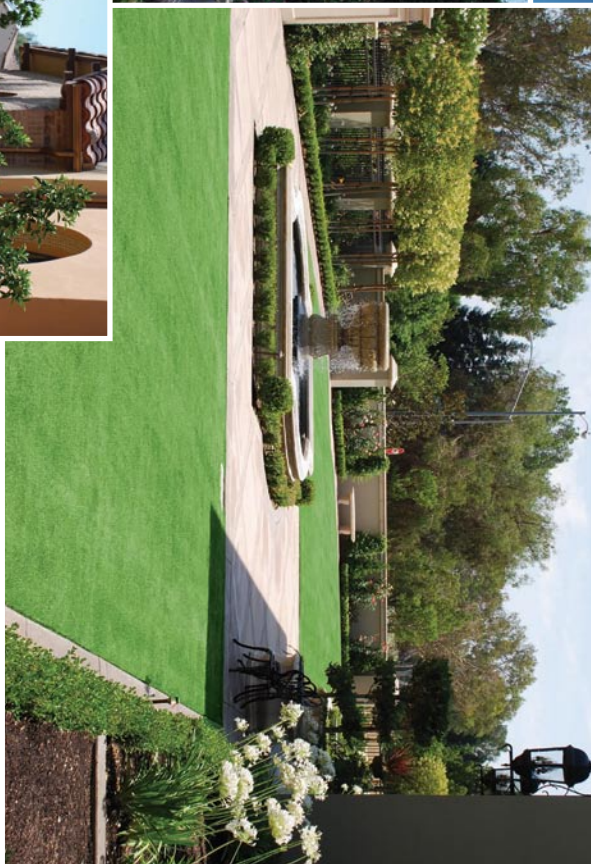
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