

INTERNATIONAL

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# WHAT'S UP



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Unlike many iconic Los Angeles homes that are designed to enjoy panoramic city views, the Laurel Hills Residence is in the foothills of the famous Laurel Canyon.

The house offers a secluded and inwardly focused experience against the backdrop of lush, majestic trees.

It was designed by Assembledge+ from LA.

Laurel Canyon became famous in the mid-late 1960s and early 1970s as home to many of L.A.'s rock musicians, such as Frank Zappa, Jim Morrison of The Doors, Carole King, The Byrds, Buffalo Springfield, Canned Heat, John Mayall, members of The Eagles, Neil Young and Brian Wilson of The Beach Boys amongst others.

It was party time all over. Those were the days and many things have changed including the Laurel Canyon. It became an exclusive residential area.

# lady of the canyon





Previous page: the 40-foot-long pool and a series of outdoor rooms at the Laurel Hills Residence. The minimalist palette of charcoal colored panels and Western Red Cedar serves as a neutral canvas, complementing the landscape featuring California native species.

These pages

Top left: the kitchen, designed for uninterrupted entertainment. Below: the walkway of concrete pavers, lined by wild grasses leading to the front door.

Right-hand page: following in the tradition of Southern California modernist design, Assembled+ created seamless connections between indoor and outdoor spaces extending daily living into nature.

photos: Matthew Millman

This villa was composed of three pavilions connected by a series of glass hallways, the single-story residence seeks to create a residential oasis in the heart of Los Angeles.

The Western Red Cedar lined guest house/garage pavilion establishes a datum line that carves and connects the two larger volumes of the living and sleeping pavilions, comprised of oversized charcoal-colored board, batten extra and cement board siding.

Large windows, skylights, and pocketing doors infuse the home with natural light, reflecting off wooden floors and marble countertops. A deep overhang mitigates solar heat gain and shields from the sun exposure.

A walkway of concrete pavers, lined by wild grasses leads to the front door, passing a courtyard with olive trees. The entry to the house is located within a glass hallway connecting the living pavilion to the west and the sleeping pavilion to the east, creating an intimate scale on entering the other parts of the house.

The fluidity between the kitchen, breakfast room and family room, creates a harmony of transparency and lightness.

A glass hallway connecting the guest pavilion to the living area makes metaphorical reference to the geological history, spanning bridge-like across an old creek that once ran through the property.

The entire site is treated as the designers did with the interiors. The surrounding trees and hills set the parameters and the exterior walls of the house were reconceived as a series of partition walls. The grounds are interlocked with the interior spaces, creating a series of outdoor rooms.

A minimalist palette of charcoal colored panels and Western Red Cedar served as a neutral canvas, complementing the home's landscape featuring California native species.

The large surface area of the living volume provides an enough surface for over fifty solar panels that allow the residence to be sustainable and remove itself from the city power grid.


Design team: David Thompson (principal-in-charge), Greg Marin (project manager) and Raul Aguilera (project architect).

Interiors: Susan Mitnick Design.

Landscape: Fiore Landscape Design.





A photograph of a modern architectural structure featuring a long, narrow glass hallway. The hallway is supported by a series of vertical glass columns and has a white ceiling. It spans over a body of water, which is visible through the glass. The surrounding area is lush with greenery, including trees and bushes. The interior of the building is visible through the glass, showing a living area with a sofa and a pool area. The overall design is minimalist and integrates with the natural environment.

**A glass hallway connecting the guest pavilion to the living area makes reference to geological history, spanning bridge-like across an old creek that once ran through the property.**



