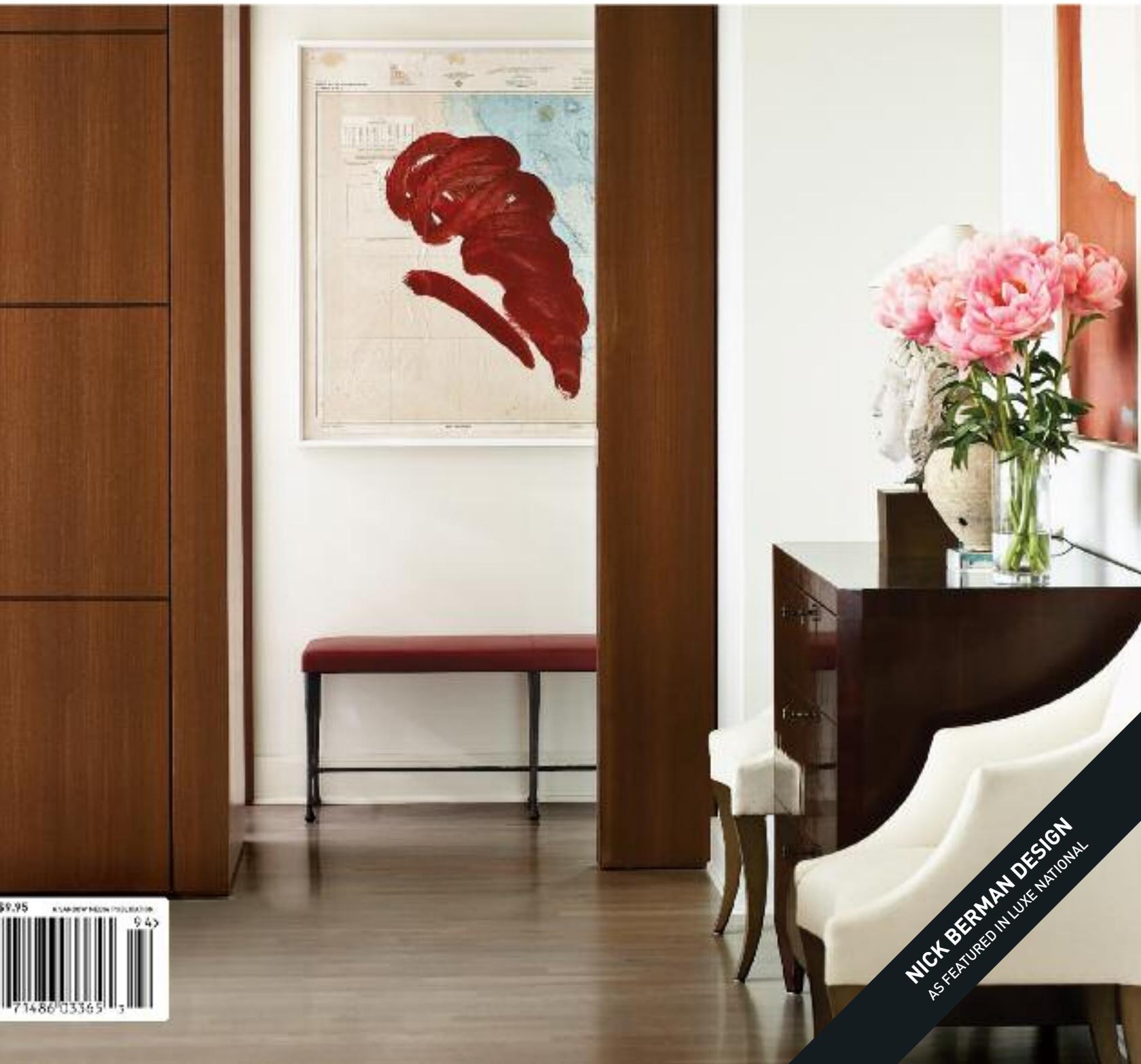


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NICK BERMAN DESIGN
AS FEATURED IN LUXE NATIONAL



SENSE OF DISCOVERY

WRITTEN BY BRIELLE M. FERREIRA
 PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER AND KELLEY GIBSON

FOR MOST PEOPLE, OLD HABITS DIE HARD, AND FOR DESIGN MAVERICK NICK BERMAN, OF LOS ANGELES-BASED NICK BERMAN DESIGN, THIS WAS NO EXCEPTION. A few years ago, he put his interior design practice on hold to develop his popular furniture line Berman Rosetti, but it wasn't long before he got that familiar itch: the urge to create something beautiful and remarkable from something dated and ordinary. When former clients Bill and Joan Feldman contacted Berman to take a look at the plans already in progress for a small remodel to their vacation residence in Sun Valley, Idaho, he agreed. What he didn't account for, however, was how that trip would affect his self-imposed design hiatus. "I flew up to Sun Valley and took over the project immediately," Berman says. "It was an amazing, very joyful experience. It made me rediscover why I became a designer in the first place."

The home, built in a traditional mountain rustic style with heavy wood and log detailing throughout, was a far cry from the light, airy composition the homeowners longed for. The main living area was divided into several closed-off, small rooms, hindering the entertaining potential of the space and the family dynamic. "We have a huge, blended family with seven children and nine grandchildren," Joan explains. "We like to get everyone together. The house had to work for all of us." Berman took the walls down and replaced the massive log posts that functioned

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE	Nick Berman, Nick Berman Design
INTERIOR DESIGN	Nick Berman, Nick Berman Design
HOME BUILDER	Bill Sherrerd, Sherrerd & Wall Construction LLC
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	Karen M. Sherrerd, Native Landscapes, Inc.
BEDROOMS 4	BATHROOMS 5 SQUARE FEET 3,200



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as structural supports with dry-stacked stone columns that echo the natural, neutral material palette that now defines the home. “Once the entire downstairs became visually open, the columns contributed an interesting texture while providing psychological barriers to facilitate function,” he says. “It’s about communal living.”

The work did not end there. With the help of home builder Bill Sherrerd, owner of Hailey, Idaho’s Sherrerd & Wall Construction LLC, what started as a small remodel became a rebirth. The original, dark cedar ceilings were sandblasted and toned to parallel the new French limed-oak flooring.

ART WALK

One of the design team’s favorite elements, the pivot entrance door, custom designed by Nick Berman, is a piece of art. A Mimi London bench and a redwood-and-cedar sculpture by Minoru Ohira complete the crush-worthy gallery feel.



JOB PERKS

The office at the far end of the master bedroom is basked in both natural light and the warm glow of the fireplace. To create the surround, Berman pulled in materials used in the master bath for a sense of continuity.



HEARTH TO HEART

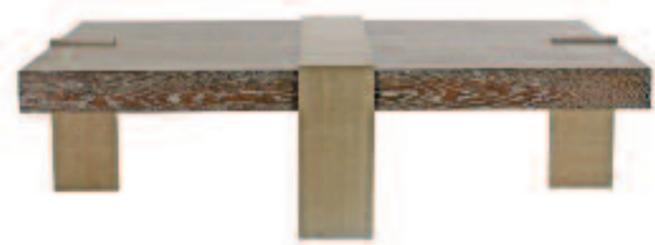
Holly Hunt leather chairs surround a Berman Rosetti cocktail table of distressed cedar with a wenge-wood insert in the living room. Berman designed the stone-and-concrete hearth to wrap around one wall and become a banquette beneath the Raphaelle Goethals painting.



HOOD WINKED
 Berman had to seek approval from the homeowners' association for the kitchen's custom stainless-steel, vertical hood, since it is easily identifiable from the exterior and breaks with the community's requirements for homogeneity.



STYLE SELECTION
 This Berman Rosetti table (available as a round or rectangular coffee table or side table) is shown with an oak au lait veneer top and platinum steel accents. *Montana Table, \$5,460; bermanrosetti.com*



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The kitchen was gutted and outfitted with white rift-oak cabinetry custom designed by Berman, stainless-steel appliances and Walker Zanger's basaltina countertops. In the living room, a poured-in-place concrete fireplace was meticulously constructed with a built-in banquette to bring warmth and interest to family gatherings. But perhaps the most exceptional aspect of the project is how much was done inside without making it too obvious from the outside. "The homeowners' association is very intent on keeping a homogeneous look," explains Sherrerd, who had a hand from project manager Jon Parkinson. "They're trying to maintain the rustic aesthetic the community had when it was built nearly 30 years ago."



POWDER PRINCIPLES
An antique, teak-framed mirror in the powder room acts as an intriguing counterpoint to the otherwise contemporary features, like a bamboo vessel, mahogany travertine tiling and sleek, stainless-steel faucetry.

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A lengthy approval process from the association didn't stop Berman and company from putting their unique stamp on the exteriors, while respecting the home's distinct character that had originally endeared the Feldmans to the community. A pivot door designed by Berman now welcomes guests inside, while a large deck and a desert-inspired landscape by Karen M. Sherrerd, ASLA, principal and partner of Hailey-based Native Landscapes, Inc., beckons them back out. "I was struck by Nick's multiple iterations of texture and color," she waxes lyrically, "so I integrated plantings that would recreate the same simple, rich layers."



DEN LIVING
A sectional sofa and lounge chair from Berman Rosetti form a cluster around Mimi London solid spruce cocktail tables to inspire intimate conversation. Berman-designed floating shelves on the back wall are staggered to bring movement to the room.



BEDDED BLISS

In the master bedroom, a soft-loop wool rug by Patterson, Flynn & Martin is like heaven underfoot, cushioning steps toward ultimate relaxation on the Berman Rosetti aluminum-accented bed.



SOAK IN

Gascogne beige limestone acts as a tub surround in the master bathroom while mahogany travertine flooring completes the natural, spa-inspired look.

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Berman's grand vision would not be complete, however, without the many custom pieces he crafted for the home. From the carved-aluminum and solid walnut plank dining table to the cedar cocktail table in the living room and the majestic master bed, Berman's mark on the home is unquestionable. What is surprising, perhaps, is the mark the home left on him. "I can't imagine not being able to do this," he says. "I have to be involved in creating things and conceptualizing space. It just makes sense to me." **L**

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