

BEVERLY HILLS

Design & Life

STREET SMARTS

Diane Keaton's home and three others win first-ever Beverly Hills design awards

CLASH OF THE RESTAURANT TITANS

Splichal invades Puck's home turf

OUR OWN FOOTBALL HERO

Beverly Hilton's GM still holds Pac-10 QB record

March 2008

The First Anniversary Issue / \$4.95

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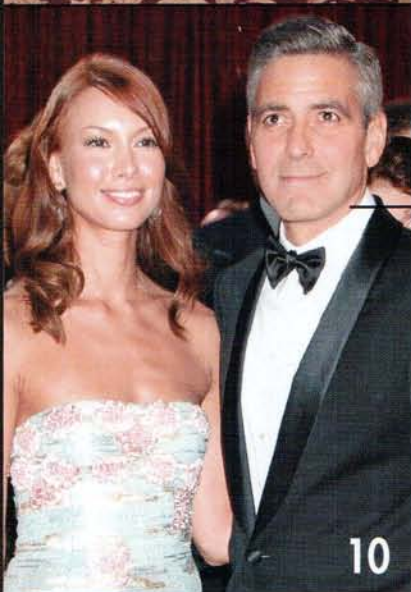
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Street Smarts

By Carla Breer Howard

*Beverly Hills resident
Diane Keaton and
three local couples
take Beverly Hills'
first-ever
residential
design awards*

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Roxbury Dr



(From left to right) Marilyn Weiss, ASID, CID, Chair of the Single Family Residential Design Review Commission of Beverly Hills joins Mayor Jimmy Delshad in presenting one of the first residential design awards to Diane Keaton (home shown opposite) and her design team which includes Tim Campbell and Ben Lunskey. The other homes that won awards are owned by Chuck and Kharlene Boxembaum, John and Kim Miller, and Yossi Attia.

“Enough!” concerned Beverly Hills residents were shouting as they saw the character of their streets forever changed by a tide of overbearing stucco boxes. “There were years and years of houses being built within the height and setbacks,” says Marilyn Weiss, ASID, CID, and Chair of the Single Family Residential Design Review Commission of Beverly Hills. While these complied with building safety, she notes, nothing addressed the mass, the scale, and how it impacted the neighbor’s home. The Commission was formed a little over four years ago to consider these issues.

On January 29, at the City Council meeting, the five commissioners singled out four outstanding examples of residential design, hoping to inspire those who plan future construction. The four award-winning homes—owned by Diane Keaton, Chuck and Kharlene Boxembaum, John and Kim Miller, and Yossi Attia, respectively—range from clean-line contemporary to Moroccan-tinged Old Andalusian.

Unveiling the Mission

Keaton is deeply committed to the preservation of the often-austere, but incom-

parably romantic homes built in this signature style. One only need turn to *California Romantica*, her 2007 collaborative book, for proof.

Keaton worked on her Beverly Hills award-winning restoration with architectural designer Tim Campbell, along with interior designer Stephen Shadley—her team on previous projects. “The thing that drew Diane to the house was its Mission roots,” says Campbell.

But the bones of the mid-1920s beauty were obscured by faux balconies, decorative tile work and even a campanile—all to bowl over a potential buyer. “The whole effect was schmaltzy-Mediterranean,” Campbell says.

“The work that she’s done with these houses is very courageous,” says Campbell. “Diane has the courage that comes from a place of knowing, not from a place that’s learned. There’s a huge difference. One is about listening to the building; the other is about listening to instructions.” With Ms. Keaton’s approach, Campbell observes “The house is happier.” And so is the City.

A Gentleman’s Retreat

John Miller was thinking of his wife Kim with their home addition. “I could see my life a few years after retirement,” John says, “hanging around underfoot, bugging her. I realized I needed my own space, which would allow her to maintain her lifestyle.” The problem was where to put it.

The Millers’ one-story house maxed out the coverage of their lot, so the only place to go was up. “I was so worried that it would look like a cracker box sitting on top of the garage,” he adds.

“There was a lot they wanted in a small space,” architect Tom Avila comments. Not only would there be a well-appointed study with full bath, but the new space would be accessible by outdoor stairs. Making the task even more challenging, it all had to appear original to the 1920s house. Fine detailing and handcrafted elements, along with extending the roof’s eave line, helped to minimize the bulk. Says John, “It’s exactly what I wanted.”

