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MODERNIST GEM

Set in on the edge of Los Angeles' historic Hancock Park district, this 186-square-metre gem discretely houses the modernist living quarters of a professional Los Angeles couple

UPON ENTERING THIS HOME'S main swing-door entry, one arrives not inside the house but inside the home's generous courtyard, underneath a frosted glass canopy. The covered walkway treads alongside the home's southern exposure, leading to multiple sliding door entrances that may be accessed from the courtyard.

The home's two-storey floor plan, aligned lengthwise on the northern edge of a 5x14-metre urban parcel, contains a continuous flow of living spaces, perforated by a double-height

ceiling in the living room. Architect Zoltan Pali kept the house as narrow as possible, only slightly larger than a two-car garage, so as to maximise outdoor living space.

Public spaces occupy the ground floor of the home: a TV room/den, galley kitchen, living room and dining room. One room flows into the next, without swing doors or other rigid distinctions between spaces. Behind the kitchen's tall cabinetry, a natural light-infused stairwell ascends to the second floor, arriving between the master bath and a private office



BELOW The sharp, angular form of the property is vastly different to the conservative Californian bungalows that are also popular in the region. **OPPOSITE PAGE** The enormous outdoor entertaining areas are oriented to capture sunlight, which is plentiful all year round in Los Angeles.



ABOVE A barbecue, alfresco lounge area, fire pit and outdoor painting studio were integrated into the outdoor courtyard. **BELOW AND OPPOSITE PAGE** Rooms are narrow but still open and airy, with high ceilings and neutral tones throughout.





RIGHT This stairwell brings a contemporary twist on the traditional staircase. **BELOW** The master bedroom and bathroom and a home office have been blended into one private wing on the upper floor. **OPPOSITE PAGE ABOVE AND BELOW** Function and aesthetics were both incorporated into the final design of the kitchen and bathrooms across both storeys.



facing the street. The home's upper level contains the master bedroom, bathroom and a generous home office. To the south, the home opens up entirely to its equally wide courtyard and outdoor living space. From end to end, the courtyard steps down alongside the house from a garden to a barbecue patio, then to an outdoor lounge / fire pit. Wrapping around the south-eastern corner to the eastern elevation of the house, one encounters a light fabric structure shading the client's outdoor painting studio, separated from the indoor living room by a transparent wall-embedded fireplace. A private haven in the midst of Los Angeles' busy urban landscape, the residence challenges typical distinctions between inside and out, from the moment one peers through the giant entryway into the private court. The home's many fenestrations are almost all located on the southern exposure of the building, overlooking the gardens and making the most of Los Angeles' year-round liveable outdoors. **CHD**

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A PRIVATE HAVEN IN THE MIDST OF LOS ANGELES' BUSY URBAN LANDSCAPE, THE RESIDENCE CHALLENGES TYPICAL DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN INSIDE AND OUT.

