

Arizona's Homes Of The Year ■ Gourmet Hamburgers

PHOENIX HOME & GARDEN

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GOLD MEDAL WINNER

**Byzantine Reflection Pool at
PH&G Designers Showhouse '91
Wins Coveted Award**



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ABOUT THE COVER The crown jewel of Designers Showhouse '91—the Byzantine reflecting pool—won the Gold Medal for unusual water features in the annual NSPI competition. The pool, with its dancing fountains and classical pavilion, was designed by Greg Trutza of New Directions in Landscape Architecture, and constructed by consistent award-winner Supreme Pools & Saunas, Inc. of Scottsdale. Photograph by Pam Singleton.



AIA Winners

Arizona Homes of the Year presents Five Award-Winning Residential Designs



Neither unusually heavy winter rains nor a dim recessionary pallor stopped our Arizona architects from delivering their projects to our sixth annual Arizona Homes of the Year competition. And deliver they did, in droves, proving once more that there is a desertful of fantastic talents right here, creating innovative, comforting homes that match the needs of both client and site. This year's competition, co-sponsored by the Central Arizona Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (CACAIA) and Phoenix Home & Garden Magazine, narrowed the field down to five residential winners designed by Arizona-registered architects. The winning

BY NORA BURBA TRULSSON

entries, in the categories of single-family homes and remodeling/restoration/additions, represented bold new directions, a reverence for the natural beauty of the site and a respect for history. We think they're tops.

Thanks go to our esteemed jurors: Judith Chafee, FAIA, architect and adjunct professor of architecture at Tucson's University of Arizona College of Architecture; Santa Fe architect Jeff Harnar; architect Walter Bendix Nelson, Jr., AIA, of Phoenix; and Phoenix architect Douglas Sydnor, AIA, of Lescher & Mahoney/DLR Group. Our gratitude also to Gordon Rogers, AIA, CACAIA's chairperson for the competition, and Martha Miller, executive director of CACAIA.

SINGLE-FAMILY HOMES



HONOR AWARD

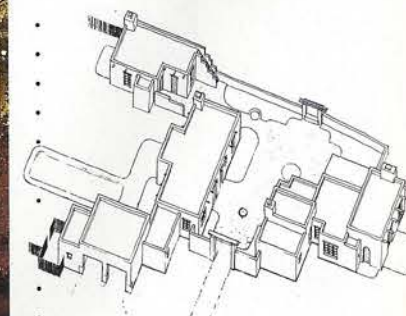
LES WALLACH, AIA
Line And Space Architect/Builder,
Tucson

HONORABLE MENTION

WILLIAM P. BRUDER
William P. Bruder, Architect, Ltd.,
New River

HUGH KNOELL,
JR., AIA
Knoell & Quidort Architects,
Phoenix

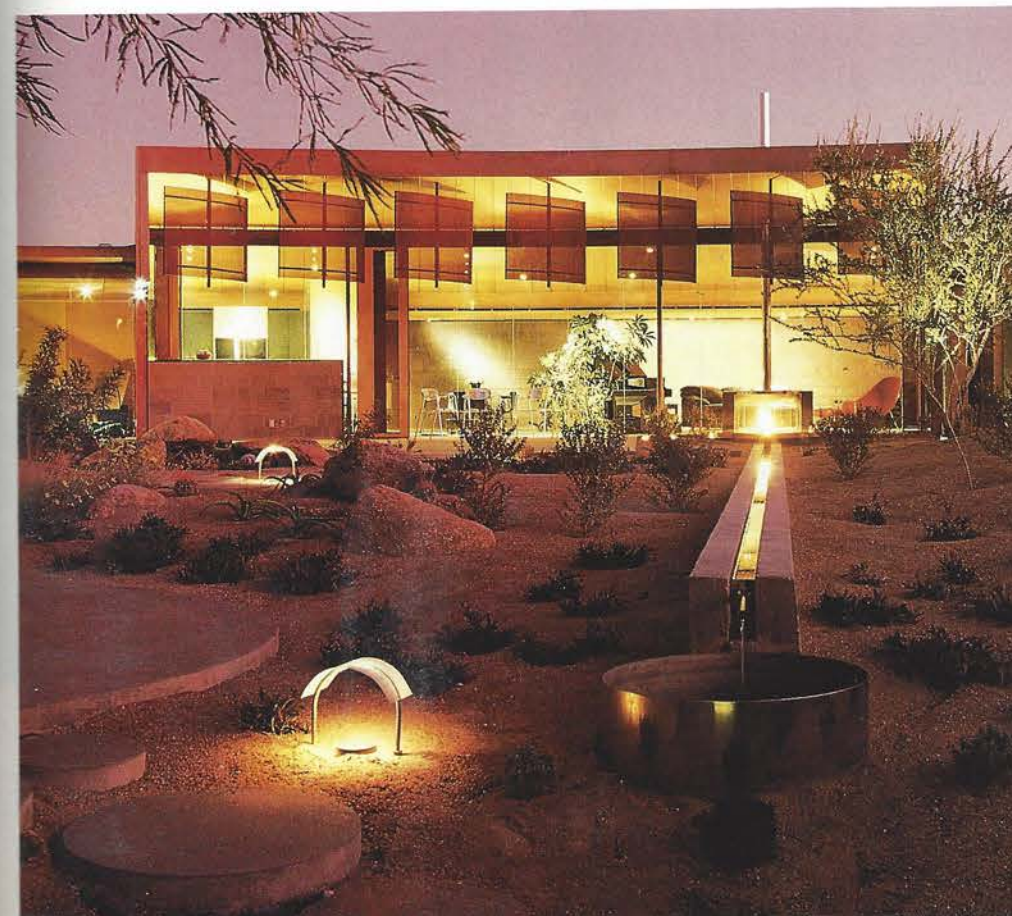
REMODELING/ RESTORATION/ ADDITIONS

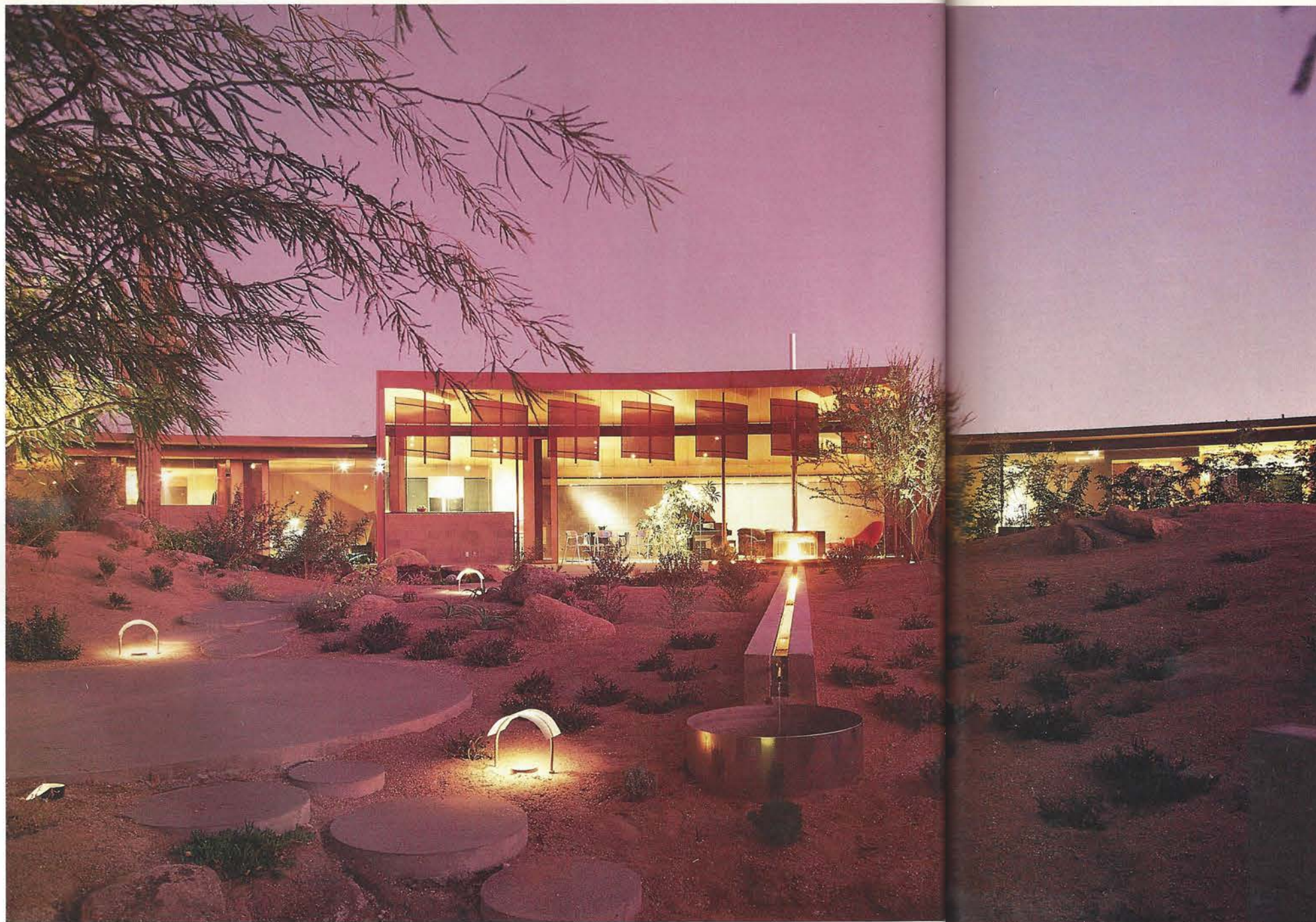


AWARD OF MERIT

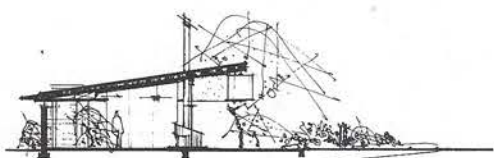
JOHN C. DOUGLAS,
AIA
John C. Douglas, Scottsdale

WILLIAM P. BRUDER
William P. Bruder, Architect,
New River





At dusk, the Theuers' Ahwatukee home glows warmly through its vast stretches of window walls. Architect Will Bruder designed the semi-circular house to arc forth from a center line, represented by the water-filled trough that runs the length of the garden. The trough is connected at the house to a unique indoor/outdoor fireplace (a gas jet set in a circular, stainless steel pan of water). The shade "sails" hanging from the roofline protect the glass from solar exposure. Photograph by Scott Zimmerman.



SINGLE-FAMILY HOME WILLIAM P. BRUDER *William P. Bruder, Architect, Ltd., New River*

THE LIST OF CLIENTS READ A BIT LIKE THE manifest for Noah's Ark: two curious cats, two elegant Great Danes, two spirited horses and, oh yes, two amiable humans, Rhonda and Robert Theuer.

The Theuers, it seems, owned a lot in Ahwatukee with a great view of the mountains and adjacency to an equestrian park. They asked architect Will Bruder to design a house for them and their six animals that would incorporate their love of the outdoors and provide them with an out-of-the-ordinary living experience.

Working with the trapezoidal-shaped lot, Bruder planned the home in a crescent configuration, with the inner arc lined with floor-to-ceiling window walls overlooking a desert garden, and the outer arc as a protective wall facing the street and the surrounding tract-home subdivision.

A gated driveway serves the garage, stable and tack room, while the entry to the house is located behind a curving, sandblasted block wall and a rust-finished pivoting entry gate. Inside the courtyard, the front door is glass, and to one side, there's also a glassed-in sculpture alcove.

Once in the house, a "squiggle" of polished stainless steel set flush in the concrete floor leads visitors into the main room of the house, where soaring window walls overlook the back patio and desert garden.

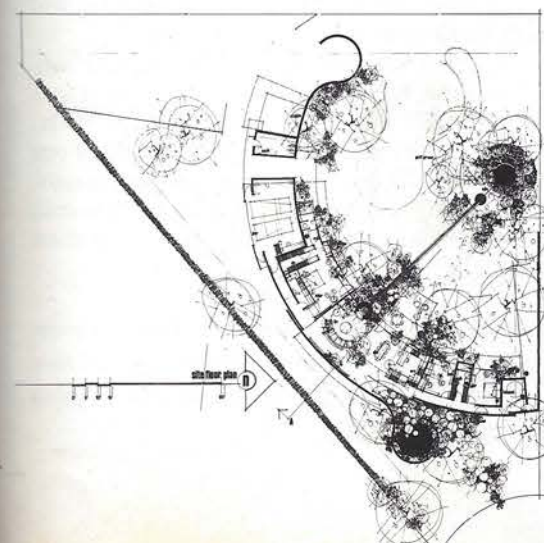
Set into the window wall is an unusual indoor/outdoor fireplace—actually a gas jet sitting atop a stainless steel pan of water. Outside, the pan of water is connected to a long, narrow concrete trough that carries the water some 60 feet through the length of the garden and into the center spot of the property, which happens to be a heated spa. When the fireplace is lit at night, the flame is reflected in the water, and the reflection of fire is carried dramatically down the trough.

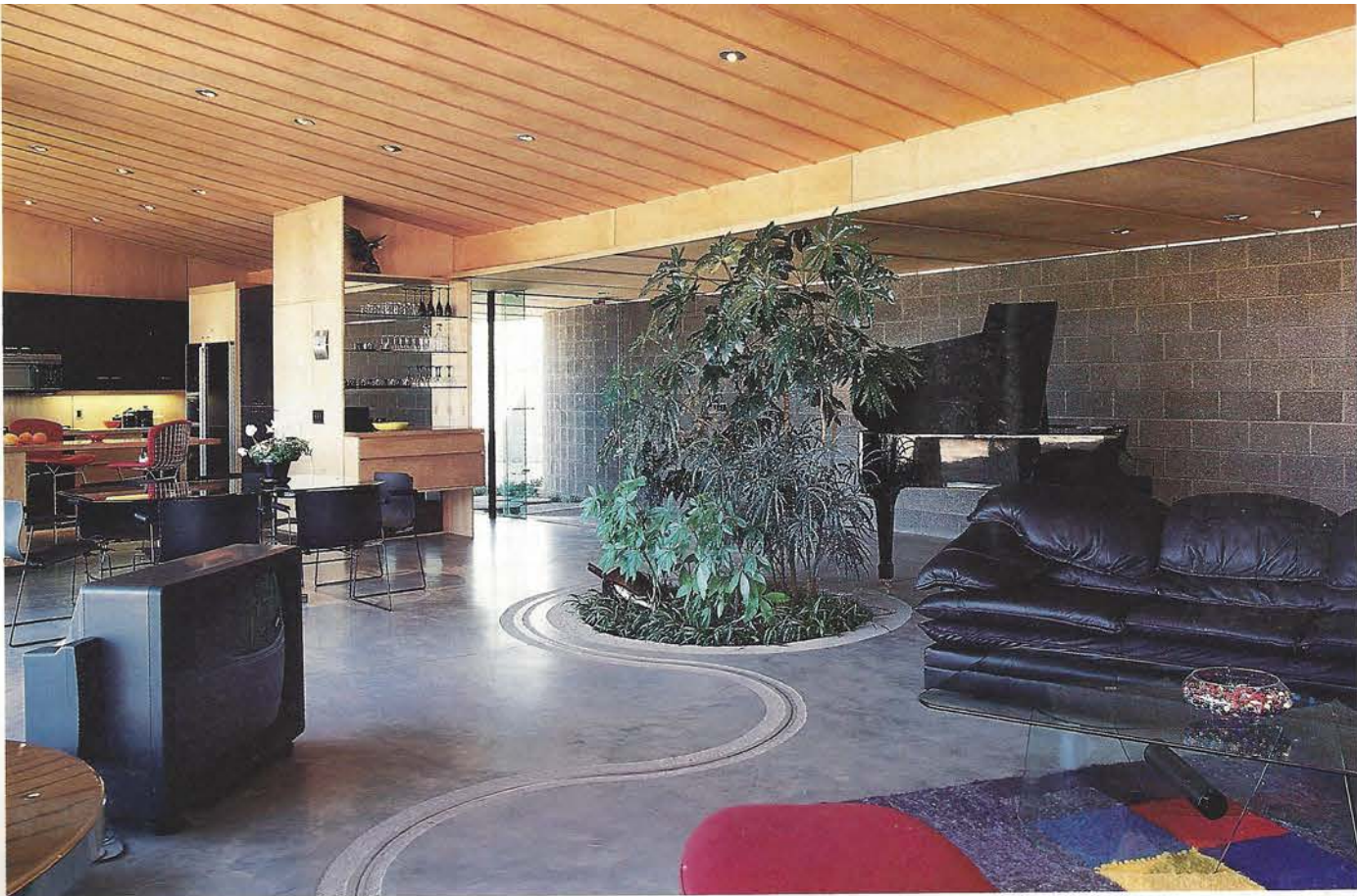
Inside the house, the kitchen is set to one side of the main living and dining room; guest bedrooms are down one curving hallway. On the other side, the master suite is a private retreat, complete with a glassed-in corner shower, set a bit below grade.

There are no window coverings in the house, as privacy is achieved with walls toward the street and neighbors, and, where needed, densely planted vegetation in the back yard. To minimize solar heat gain in the summer months, there are rust-finished, perforated "shade sails" suspended from the roof

see next page

Rhonda and Robert Theuer (and "watch cat" Rolex) in the garden of their Will Bruder-designed home. Photograph by Sal Corbo.





Above: The main room of the Theuers' home overlooks the garden, and is punctuated by a stainless steel "squiggle" set in the concrete floor, and a circular indoor planter.

Left: A warm kitchen alcove off the main room allows the homeowners to be part of any activity happening in the living or dining areas. The red stools are favorite lounging spots for the family cats. Photography by Scott Zimmerman.

outside the main room's window wall. The shades can be adjusted seasonally to the sun's angle.

For the Theuers, the house has become a wonderful daily experience of light, shadow and reflection. On the practical side, the simple materials are easy to maintain and virtually "pet proof." The horses are settled in their new stables, the dogs enjoy the privacy of their dog run, and the cats have found cozy roosting spots on the red stools in the kitchen. The house is peaceful and relaxing when the Theuers are home alone, and invigorating when they entertain.

Bruder's studio team for the house included Wendell Burnette, Robert Adams and Tyler Green. Landscape architect was Christy Ten Eyck, ASLA, of The Planning Center in Phoenix; lighting consultant was Roger Smith of Lighting Dynamics, also in Phoenix. Structural engineering was handled by Jack Trummer, JT Engineering; mechanical by Roy Otterbein. Both are in Phoenix.

JURORS' COMMENTS: "Inventive." "The home's geometry is about achieving privacy, yet letting the house have a feeling of openness." "The outdoor and indoor spaces are well integrated."