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# ELLE DECORATION

CELEBRATING  
30  
STYLISH  
YEARS

## INSPIRED BY NATURE

STYLISH HOMES  
THAT EXCEL AT  
BRINGING THE  
OUTSIDE IN

## LIVING ROOMS

VIBRANT, EXCITING  
WAYS TO ADD  
PERSONALITY TO  
YOUR LOUNGE

## SULTRY SPRING

*The season's classic colours take  
a more powerful and seductive turn*

## MILAN IN FOCUS

*The ultimate guide to  
the events, tastemakers  
and new launches  
at Salone del Mobile*

## THE ALFRESCO EDIT

*Furniture, fabrics & accessories  
to help you transform your  
outdoor space in time for summer*





# HOMES

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ELLE  
DECORATION

# HOMES

LOS ANGELES / GHENT / STELLENBOSCH / COPENHAGEN / MILAN / ANTWERP

PICTURE: BRIGITTA VOUFOANG BUNNANAD/ISTOCK AGENCY PHOTOGRAPHY, ASPHALL VEST, ISTOCK

## Inspired by nature

*As the sun appears from behind its blanket of winter cloud, we all crave greater connection to the outdoors. Let these stylish homes encourage you to bring the outside in*





‘The *synergy* between the inside and outside was *more important* than anything else. It changes with the *seasons*’



*Architect Ron Radziner's LA home was designed to fit neatly around the trees in the garden, while the earthy interior is also defined by its natural surrounds*

Words **DOMINIC BRADBURY** Photography **RICHARD POWERS**

**Exterior** Two 'Daydream' chaise longues by Francesco Rota for Paola Lenti sit beside the lap pool. The house, clad in brick and large grey zinc panels, was built to suit the garden, fitting neatly around the established sycamore trees **Stockist details on p215 ►**



# Believe it

or not, this expansive family home, surrounded by tall trees, native ferns and wild grasses, is in busy Los Angeles. Located in the neighbourhood of Brentwood, set in leafy Mandeville Canyon, a small community that borders the Santa Monica Mountains to the west, it features banks of dense foliage which disguise other houses that sit little more than a stone's throw away.

'This project was all about the site itself and responding to nature,' explains Ron Radziner, co-founder and design principal at Marmol Radziner, who lives here with his wife, jewellery designer and graphic artist Robin Cottle. 'It was actually fun to have obstacles to design around. The house developed as a series of long rectangles that stagger their way among the sycamores, which became an interesting organising element.'

Its surroundings also inspired Ron to adopt an earthy, organic palette of materials. He opted for bricks by Danish company Petersen, which have a slim profile and a lot of character, to build the lower level. The upper storey, meanwhile, is coated in large dark-grey zinc panels. Overall, the effect is one of subtle camouflage.

The organic surfaces continue inside, with the living areas featuring timber on the floors and ceilings. 'I loved the idea that the dark interiors would become a frame for nature, drawing the eye outside,' says Robin. 'I requested one combined living area in this long space, which flows out to the patio and connects visually with the lap pool.'

Ron designed many bespoke elements for his home, including the custom-made kitchen and the long sideboard that dominates the 'great room' (the couple's name for the open-plan ground floor). This vast area is defined by the double-height ceiling that opens up above the kitchen island at one end, and the brick fireplace that anchors the seating zone at the opposite side.

The family bedrooms and a substantial den – complete with a pool table – are situated upstairs. This floor of the home, which floats among the branches, has the feel of a sophisticated treehouse. Nowhere is the connection with nature more apparent, though, than in the main bedroom, which opens onto a semi-sheltered private deck, complete with its own outdoor fireplace. Here, in the boughs of the sycamores, you couldn't feel further from the noise and clamour of central Los Angeles. [marmol-radziner.com](http://marmol-radziner.com)



**Living room** The 'Extrasoft' sofa by Piero Lissoni for Living Divani defines this area of the open-plan ground floor. The coffee table is a 1950s design by Joaquim Tenreiro. The lamp in the foreground is by Max Jules Gottschalk, while the circular one is the 'Zodiac' by TomAC Alberts for Raak. The artwork above the fireplace is by American Tony Lewis. **Stockist details on p215 ▶**





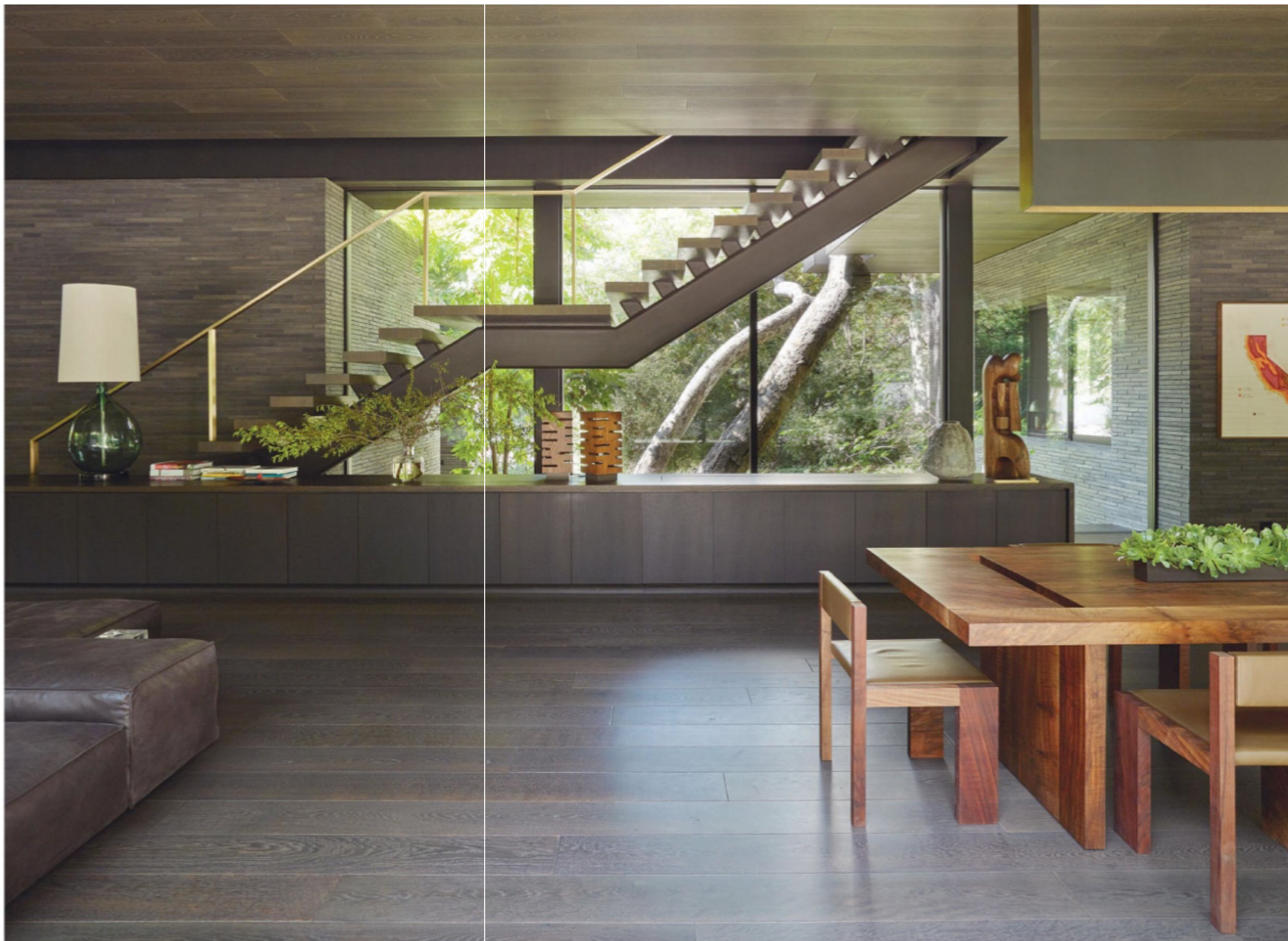
**Living room** Floor-to-ceiling windows invite views of the garden inside, while the relaxed feel of the indoors extends onto the terrace, where there's another 'Extrasoft' sofa by Piero Lissoni for Living Divani. The lamp is a vintage brass design by Kari Ruokonen for Finnish brand Orno **Stockist details on p215 ►**





Named the ‘*great room*’, this open-plan space spans the *entire* ground floor, with views of the *garden* on all sides

**Dining area** Placed at the very centre of the house, this space forms the central portion of the ‘great room’. The dining table and chairs, as well as the long sideboard behind, are all bespoke pieces by Ron’s architecture firm Marmol Radziner ➤







**Kitchen** A double-height ceiling with a lightwell adds a dramatic feeling of space to this end of the house. The island and stools were designed by Marmol Radziner and the table lamps with Murano glass bases are vintage pieces by Flavio Poli for Seguso **Stockist details on p215 ►**



I loved the idea that the *dark* interior would become a frame for *nature*, drawing the eye outside'



**Bedroom** Executed Variant by American artist Julian Hoeber hangs above the 'Extra Wall' bed by Piero Lissoni for Living Divani. The 'Extrasoft' sofa on the terrace, also by Lissoni for Living Divani, is placed by a fire pit designed by Marmol Radziner. Stockist details on p215