

Home of the Arches: An Organic Architectural Design

Written by Written by Melissa Larsen

Down to Earth

Earthy elements like bamboo and river rock add to the natural beauty of this 1,400-sq.-ft. contemporary North Scottsdale guesthouse.

DESIGN TEAM

Designer: Holly Asher of Est Est, Inc.

Architect: Jim Hann

Builder: RD Hendrickson



Guesthouse Exterior

Earth tones and sun-shielding fixtures that produce a warm glow make family and friends feel at ease at this not-youraverage guesthouse. Though the welcoming patios and custom light fixtures are of note, the six majestic arches act as the main architectural focus.

"Using reclaimed wood stumps and metal elements for your side tables and accents are not only interesting, but environmentally friendly."



Living Room

"The room needed to be multifunctional so a custom cocktail table was made with storage for four ottomans on castors that can be pulled out for additional seating," says Holly Asher of Est Est, Inc. The custom bamboo entertainment center, which is more of a contemporary design due to its sliding doors, also acts as a disguise for the television. Reclaimed wood accent tables and an earthy palette cap off the living space.

"Pairing a rustic element with something very sleek and contemporary helps to create a balance in the room and provides a refreshing approach to an interior space."



Kitchen

To bring the outdoors in, natural elements like bamboo cabinetry, a river rock backsplash and strand woven bamboo flooring were used in this contemporary kitchen. To remedy the lighting situation on a tricky arched ceiling, the designer enlisted a custom track system which provides just the right amount of illumination.

Dining Room

In this cozy dining space, the scene stealer is the tamarind wood dining table that is finished with a stainless steel base. "The free-form tamarind wood slab top from South America has a very organic appearance with the natural pitting and gaps from the tree it was reclaimed from," Asher says. "I paired the top with a sleek metal base which makes it functional as the dining table and also a stunning conversation piece."

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Bathroom

To create a green bathroom space, the designer went as far as gathering slab countertops from a scrap yard to eliminate waste. Other Mother Earthly elements are crafted from river rock, recycled glass and bamboo, the most spectacular being the mirror surround which was custom made of cut bamboo reeds that were laid side by side and flanked by natural slate.