



CALIFORNIA STYLE

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

The Chicest Eco Pieces
from Luxe Linens to
Gala-Ready Gowns

Timeless Design

INSPIRED HOMES
BY THE S.F. BAY,
O.C. COAST AND
ON A NAPA
VALLEY VINEYARD

PLUS

All the Must-Haves
Your Kids Will Love

Michelle Pfeiffer

Keeping
Hollywood
in the Palm
of Her Hand

BARRE NONE

Will L.A.
Ever
Have Its
Own
Ballet?



life at the top

A YOUNG FAMILY
FINDS RESPITE IN
ITS LAGUNA BEACH
HOUSE ON A HILL

BY DARRA BAKER
PHOTOGRAPHED BY
LISA ROMEREIN





Queen palms and banana trees soften the home's geometric façade. OPPOSITE A shagreen table, blond wood barrel chairs and fossilized seashell sculptures add texture to the living room.



Design opportunity can strike at the most surprising of moments. Recalls Venice Beach-based decorator Chad Eisner, of C.W. Eisner Inc.: “I had gone to a mutual friend’s Boxing Day party at this very ’80s, 9,000-square-foot second home in Laguna Beach [the family’s primary residence was, and still is, in London]. I looked around and thought, “This is a cool house. It needs a lot of work.”” Two years later, seaside serendipity struck as Eisner and the hostess of that fête, Alison Ravano, ran into each other just outside of Neiman Marcus at Fashion Island in Newport Beach. “She asked me if I could take a meeting about their house. Of course, I said yes!” Eisner remembers with a smile, even after completing the three-and-a-half-year renovation.

The meeting went swimmingly as mother-of-four Alison and Eisner first established their collective desire to replace the domicile’s incongruent shiny black granite and polished glass with a warm, welcoming consistency of creamy limestone and beachy textures. They also agreed to a game plan that would satisfy a penchant for clean Italian design (Alison’s husband is Italian-born businessman Emanuele Ravano); Texas-native Alison’s attraction to earthy elements of driftwood, metal, water and fire; and, above all, their four children and their need for fun and relaxation at home with their friends and four Akitas.

It was a tall order, but a lovely underpinning of Turkish, “Aramis” limestone from CA-based Exquisite Surfaces was one big, bright answer to a number of design dilemmas. The light-reflecting, honed flooring throughout created a calming seamlessness while remaining true to the Pacific views. “The eye is able to carry out toward the horizon without being overpowered by too many different materials,” Eisner says.

The floor-to-ceiling windows make live paintings of the shimmering pool area and, just beyond, swaying vibrant greens of the backlit banana palm fronds and the glittering blues

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CLOCKWISE FROM FAR LEFT A polished steel sculpture reflects the 14-foot deep pool. A bubble chair in the Ravanos' youngest son's room. Long emerald tiles comprise the kitchen backsplash. The oil painting in the dining room is by Alex Weinstein. Glass jugs sit atop the foyer's driftwood finished oak table.







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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Living room end tables are by S.F.'s Jiun Ho. A sculptural KOS tub anchors the master bath, as does a fireplace in the Ravanos' bedroom. The living room's driftwood table, linen sofa and barrel chair. An outdoor lounge area offers views of the Pacific. A daughter's love of Pop art comes through in her room. The eldest son's bedroom. OPPOSITE The breakfast nook's Edelman Leather calfskin banquette is flanked by a table and chairs from Poliform.

