

# CALIFORNIA HOMES

THE MAGAZINE OF ARCHITECTURE  
THE ARTS & DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

## OUTDOOR LIVING

MARIN COUNTY  
PACIFIC PALISADES  
PASADENA  
SUNSET BEACH

2018  
+ *Kitchen  
Design*



# A Designer of LIGHT

BARCLAY BUTERA CREATES  
BEAUTIFUL AIRY SPACES TO  
ENHANCE HIS CLIENTS' LIFESTYLES  
TEXT BY KATHY BRYANT | PHOTOGRAPHY BY RYAN GARVIN

The living room is resplendent in crisp white but was kept warm and inviting by using darker woods and furniture to balance the space.



**RIGHT** Butera maintained this “blue on white” theme throughout the entire project. He used a rich velvet on the hallway settee to create a warm respite in there.

**OPPOSITE** The symmetry and balance of the dining room was enhanced by matching sideboards with a center chandelier acting as jewelry for the room.



**T**HIS CHARMING TRANSITIONAL CLASSIC home in Pasadena, California, designed by Barclay Butera, principal of Barclay Butera Interiors in Newport Beach, was the first family house he'd done for this client; other projects were vacations homes. “It was very exciting to get this project. New clients always inspire, although we want to do an amazing job for all our clients. Our mantra is ‘client for life’ so we always aim to please on the first go around,” says Butera.

It was kismet that brought the client and Butera together in the first place because his firm had designed the husband's sister's home first. “The client came into our showroom and saw those drawings on the presentation table and was hooked.” Butera posits that one of the perks of having a showroom is that potential clients get to see projects both in progress or finalized. Often that leads to new business.

Butera enjoys working in Pasadena because there is so much heritage there and it's a beautiful community steeped in tradition. It's certainly true that it's a joy to drive through neighborhoods there since much of the old Southern California architectural past still shines through. “We find that people in Pasadena know what they want, although they are open to new ideas too.”

This over 5,000-square-foot-house built in 2015 on almost a half an acre of land was a case in point. Butera worked closely with the client who had strong ideas about what they wanted. “We like that because then we can use our talents to create a lifestyle space that makes their vision come true. Elegance with comfort and livability was the plan.”

Known for his love of a white and blue palette, Butera finds it both crisp and soothing with its echoes of the sky, ocean and soft sand. This project was right for that palette so they ran with it. The client wanted everything new and fresh so the majority of the pieces in the home were in the design plan. Butera has many licensed collections that he can draw from and integrate into his design projects which gives him many creative choices. So although nothing here was fully bespoke, they did customize pieces specially for the client.

Since this is a family home and the client has young children, Butera worked with the architect to create a living room that had an area for their children's tutoring. Opening up the great room to the outside with glass doors for an airy feeling and for easy entertaining was an important feature also. The downstairs bedroom serves as the husband's own getaway retreat as well as guest room. Butera always works closely with the architect to ensure that the architecture and exterior design coordinates with the interiors.

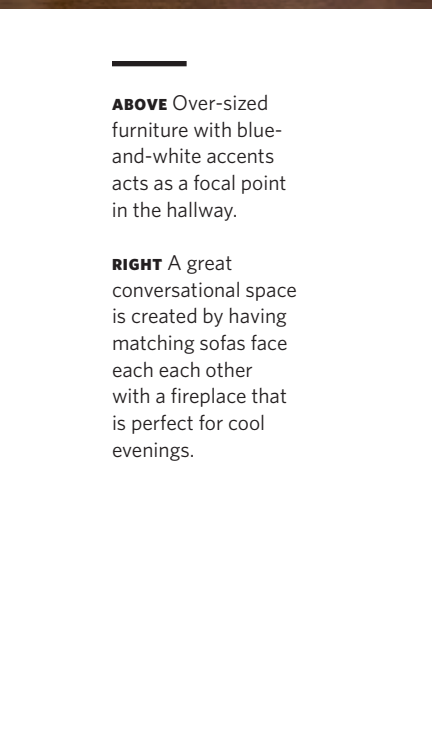
“Our goal was to marry form and function here, all the while keeping it very glamorous,” continues Butera. “I think the success of any project has to be the overall final result and happy clients make us the most proud.” CH





**ABOVE** This Pasadena house has traditional architecture to correspond with the neighborhood.

**OPPOSITE** Butera loves a crisp white kitchen but placed chocolate croc leather barstools to warm the space.



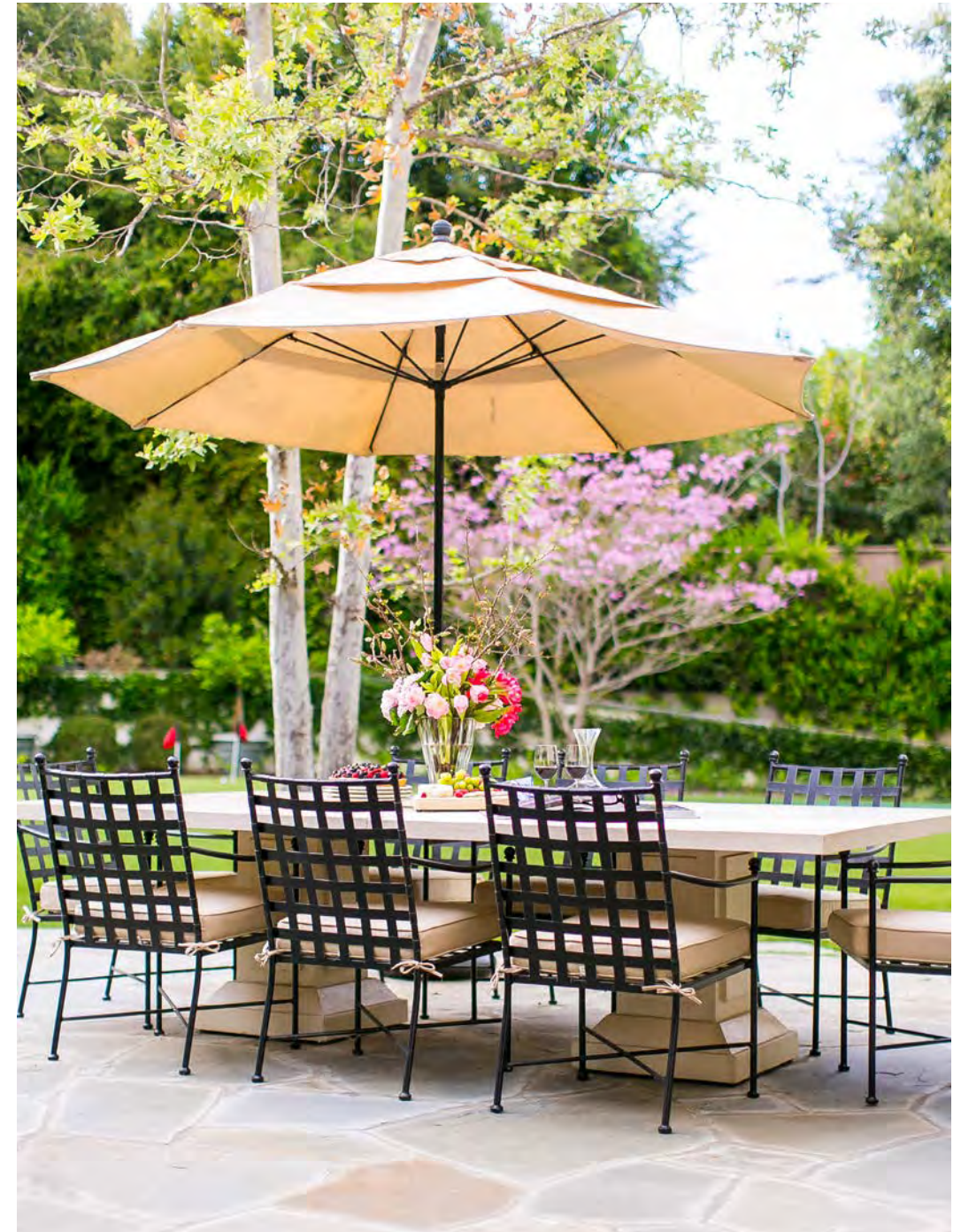
**ABOVE** Over-sized furniture with blue-and-white accents acts as a focal point in the hallway.

**RIGHT** A great conversational space is created by having matching sofas face each other with a fireplace that is perfect for cool evenings.



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- DESIGNER BARCLAY BUTERA



**ABOVE/OPPOSITE** The owners love to entertain so the outdoors is a perfect place for pool parties and relaxing evenings. The furniture was selected to be both comfortable and glamorous.