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**Modern In
Brentwood**

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playfully modern

A Traditional Brentwood 1940s
Ranch House Is Transformed
Into A Mid-Century Classic

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The lounge has a Griffin sofa by Lawson-Fleming, with fabric from Fabricut, the pair of vintage rattan ottomans are by Franco Albini. The chrome and glass coffee table are by Warren Palmer, and the abstract oil painting by Kris Smith.





The master bedroom entry features a custom walnut and white lacquer dressing table with a Saarinen stool, a vintage Laurel lamp with a black shade from Rewire LA, and an oil painting by Jenny Hager from Gross McCleaf Gallery.

After living awhile in a Brentwood home that had been subjected to a series of less than stellar renovations during prior ownerships, a prominent entertainment executive and her family built a spectacular screening room. This forced them into a decision as to what to do about the rest of the home's disjointed floor plan and 1940s stylings. Armed with a favorite story pulled from a design magazine, an adoration for mid-century design, and an original Raymond Loewy piece, they collaborated with Jamie Bush, the interior designer they discovered from the article, as well as architect Bruce Bolander who had designed the screening room.



The screening room has a custom wool rug by Christopher Farr, custom sofa from Emmerson Troop with an Ikat pillow by Madeline Weinrib, vintage Danish lounge chairs by Hans Wegner, and a bleached cork and mahogany coffee table by Paul Frankl.






The pool pavilion looks towards the media room and has Italian wicker chairs and a vintage African stool. The cushions on the built-in seating bench are from Sunbrella fabric and custom pillows are in Donghia and Chella fabric. The rug is Rust Jute from West Elm. OPPOSITE The breakfast table is bleached oak wood with walnut dining chairs from Emmerson Troop. The paper lantern is from Noguchi, floors are pickled white oak and ceiling is Douglas fir.

The homeowners wanted to create an environment that would be modern and sophisticated, yet still playful, reflecting their aesthetic sensibilities while nurturing their three children, ages 11, 8, and 3. Bruce Bolander designed the exterior facelift and exterior entry sequence, the pool pavilion, pool, and screening room. A former architect who later realized his passion for interiors, Jamie Bush helmed the extensive remodel. He designed the floor plan, reapportioned the bathrooms and bedrooms, opened up spaces and reconfigured areas. With the Loewy creation acting as the catalyst, Bush incorporated saturated, almost primary colors throughout the house within the palette of walnut, other natural materials, and colors, sometimes more muted and other times more amped up.

The homeowners are well educated in design, allowing for a certain ease in establishing the remodel and all of the preparations for laying out everything from lighting to furniture plans. They were also realistic in terms of how the home would best suit them. While the screening room is fitted with blackout curtains and comfortable seating, the screen itself is recessed into the ceiling and drops down only when needed. The glass doors secured onto tracks accordion and break away to create an indoor/outdoor space that is as cozy and casual as it is functional.



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The master bathroom tub is by Duravit; the pale pink mosaic tiles on the floor and lower wall and the mosaic tiles on the full height walls are from Vetro Mosaico and Bisazza Mosaic. OPPOSITE The custom wool shag rug is from Decorative Carpets. The ottoman shown is one of a pair by Edward Wormley with fabric from Osborne & Little. The hand blown glass lamp is one of two from Orange, LA; the duvet cover is Ikat fabric from Osborne & Little, with a vintage Italian medallion the headboard.

Retaining the traditional shape of a ranch house, Bush took creative liberties to define height and a steady flow throughout the home. The living room and lounge had originally been separated by a wall anchored by a double sided fireplace. Bush took down the wall allowing the fireplace, newly clad in thin black brick veneer, to become the one tall element in the room. Further enhancing the feeling of continuity is the datum line that runs the perimeter of the home promoting similar authorship throughout while unifying the rooms. The three-quarter inch lower wall extension emanates from a uniform height in line with the top of doors and cabinetry, and ranges in subtlety from a slightly different paint to completely different materials. The concept flows into the master bath in which the floor plan was reconfigured to feature free-standing dividing walls akin in nature to the fireplace.

In keeping with the theme of continuity, the yellow found in the family room was brought outside to the pool pavilion extending the seamless interior exterior transition. This conscious decision inspires one's eyes to gaze at each setting as it contrasts against the green of landscape. The bright happy yellows, reds and blues of the public areas bestow a fresh, lively and welcoming sense amidst an air of serenity.

Bush says that the project represents the very best of what he refers to as "serious fun." "The house has a certain vitality of life that is the crux of living in Los Angeles. There are open spaces where you can appreciate a fresh, saturated color palette within a context of natural materials. The design is playful, textured, and tactile, while engaging a serious composition of form, color and space. This is a house for a city that takes its playtime seriously." 