

# CALIFORNIA HOMES

THE MAGAZINE OF ARCHITECTURE  
THE ARTS & DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

*Spring's*  
**Arrival**



GARDENS  
*by* GRACE





## Editor's Letter

California certainly has an abundance of world renowned architects and designers so there is usually no problem filling a magazine six times per year with great features on homes.

This issue is partly about indoor-outdoor living. The homes featured are all designed to enhance the surrounding land. From the ocean to our mountains, including vineyards in Healdsburg, we see it all.

I love unique hotels and we often feature something special such as the Prospect Hotel, a new 24-room boutique hotel in a resurrected style project in



the Whitley Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. Award-winning designer Martyn Lawrence Bullard tapped into a rich vein of Tinsel town lore for his inspiration.

One of my favorite books out this year is Margie Grace's book, *Private Gardens of Santa Barbara*. We have extended our review of this book to four pages in order to show you, our readers, some of the most beautiful gardens in California.

We hope you enjoy this Spring issue showcasing the beauty that is California.

Susan McFadden  
*Editor in Chief*



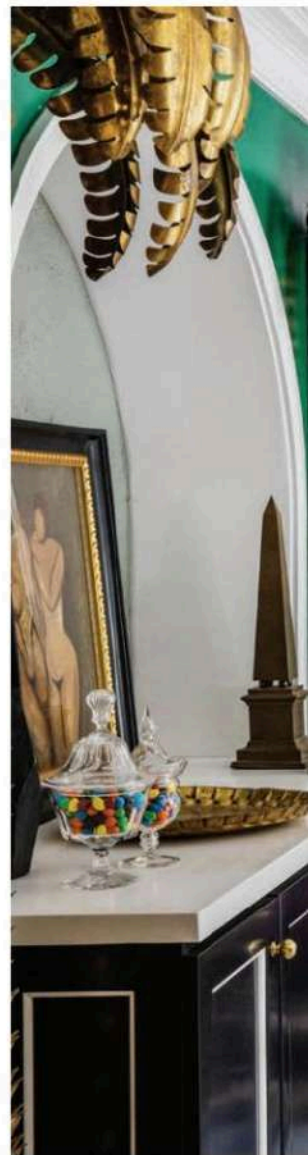


## HOT Prospect

*The Glamour Of Hollywood's Golden Age Is Refreshingly Reimagined In Martyn Lawrence Bullard's Latest Hotel Design Reveal*

BY KELLY PHILLIPS BADAL

LOS ANGELES'S FAMED WHITLEY HEIGHTS neighborhood is home to a particularly rich vein of Tinsel town lore. Once a celebrity-studded community of 1920s and 30s starlets, including icons like Jean Harlow, Marlene Dietrich and James Dean, the area is a treasure trove of Hollywood history—which award-winning designer Martyn Lawrence Bullard happily tapped for The Prospect, a new 24-room boutique hotel in a resurrected



**ABOVE/RIGHT** Set in the midst of a residential street, the subtle yet striking exterior of The Prospect boasts a black and white palette, striped awnings and cherry-red door.

**OPPOSITE** The lobby's jewel tones, gleaming gold accents and geometric floor tiles recall Hollywood's Golden Age. "We took design cues from the regency-style architecture and from the fact that this area had been an amazing celebrity commune, with all that old-school glamour, to create a sense of place," says designer Martyn Lawrence Bullard.







1939 Regency-style property. In addition to Golden Age-appropriate opulence like the lobby's floor-to-ceiling gilded palms and emerald green walls, Bullard hunted down everything from ticket stubs to old Oscar invites and movie stills, all of which refer to the area. Each guest room's bespoke design winks to famous former residents too, the glamorous Greta Garbo perhaps most impressively. "Her great movie was *Mata Hari*, so that room has a wonderful sort of chinoiserie-exotic flavor about it, with a wonderful four-poster

Lucite bed and a beautiful image of her," says Bullard. "I also love the Cary Grant room, which has dark royal blue lacquer with two different types of marble blue wallpaper all juxtaposed with zebra print—which may sound horrendous, but looks amazing together."

That kind of luxurious, eclectic and sophisticated decor that's made Bullard a favorite of the likes of Elton John, Cher and the Kardashians is on bold display throughout The Prospect. Contemporary objets d'art mix with velvet-swathed



# Travel Design

**BELOW** The daily Continental breakfast is an indulgence, with pastries from Tartine and Vittoria coffee.

**BOTTOM RIGHT** Don't miss the chance to sip something sparkly from the minibar vintage crystal stemware, and channel your inner screen siren.

**OPPOSITE** Life-size gilded palm trees steal the show in the lobby. Bullard sourced artwork and furnishings from Texas's Round Top Antiques Fair, eBay, various flea markets, and voila! Creative Studio in Los Angeles.









# Travel Design



banquettes, mismatched vintage oil paintings pair with wildly patterned wallpaper and everything is tempered by a swirl of memorabilia. Bullard browsed the work of Hollywood Regency-style designer mainstays like Billy Haines and Tony Duquette for inspiration too. “I wanted to evoke a true feeling of sense of place, of glamour, of romance, of the history here,” says Bullard. “And it was important to position those

historic takes with modern hits in a way that doesn’t feel tacky or tongue-in-cheek, but interesting and inherited instead.”

It’s only apropos that the hotel opened on the cusp of the 2020 Oscars, even more so that two nominees and one winner stayed the night. “That means The Prospect’s history and vibe has already become part of today’s history,” says Bullard. **CH**





**LEFT** Filled with palm trees and cactuses, the hotel's lush courtyard garden is a laid-back haven that's minutes away from the bustle of Hollywood Boulevard.

**BELOW** A freestanding black clawfoot tub in the Grand Premier Suite looks incredibly elegant set against the chinoiserie-adorned walls.

**BOTTOM LEFT** There's no lack of glam factor throughout the one-of-a-kind premier rooms—some of which even include lacquered kitchenettes.

**OPPOSITE** Each of The Prospect's premier rooms nod to a famous movie star, celebrity or actor who'd lived in the area, and in the Grand Premier Suite—colloquially known as the Mata Hari Suite—Bullard pays ode to Greta Garbo and her famous role with chinoiserie wallpaper, a stunning four-poster Lucite bed and plenty of memorabilia.

