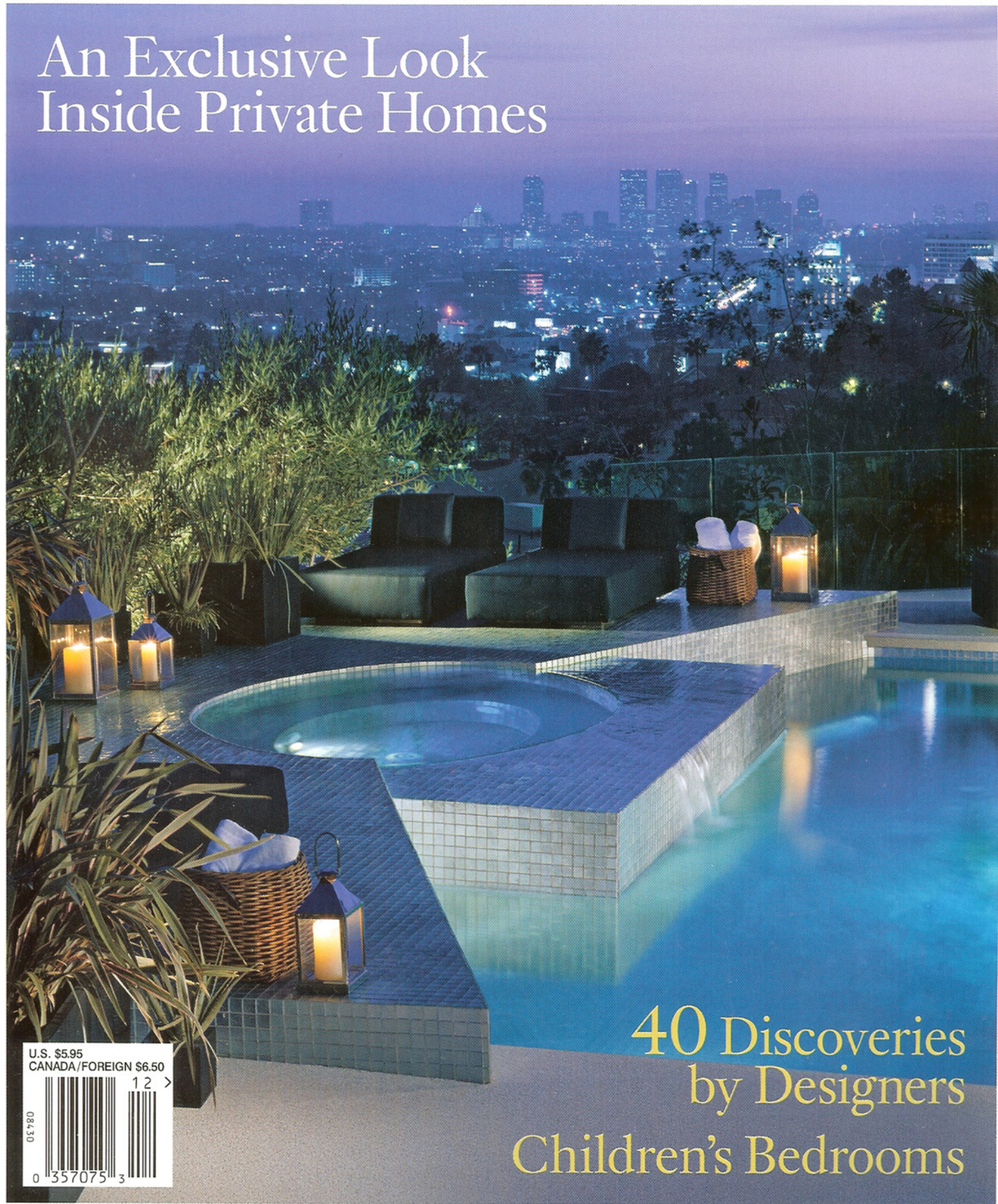


# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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An Exclusive Look  
Inside Private Homes



40 Discoveries  
by Designers  
Children's Bedrooms

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A rectilinear reflecting pool marks the front entrance to fashion designer Randolph Duke's hillside Los Angeles residence. Architects Austin Kelly and Monika Haefelfinger expanded and transformed the original house, adding a second level and opening the house to the site's 270-degree views of the city.

# Glamour Rules Above Hollywood

FASHION DESIGNER RANDOLPH DUKE  
MAKES A STATEMENT IN THE HILLS



“We were the first ones through the gate at the open house. I didn’t even have to look inside. I saw the views and pretty much knew.”



further blur the line between inside and out. “When I first tried to pitch that,” she remembers, “everyone was, ‘Oh no, think of the ’70s—those awful floor-to-ceiling mirrors everywhere.’ But the way I did it, the views just became the jewelry of the house.” Instead of putting together dependably modernist rooms, Tobin encouraged Duke to liberally combine periods and styles of furniture. Together they designed everything from clean-

lined sectionals to Victorian wing chairs, then mingled these pieces with Louis-style parlor chairs, petrified tree stumps, flea market crystal chandeliers and lots of faux-fur rugs and throws. “It’s like putting on a pair of jeans and a gorgeous cashmere blazer,” says Tobin. “It’s all in the mix.”

The same might be said of Duke’s lifestyle. Although he maintains a studio five minutes away, the house doubles as his work space, Emmy season or

not. Still, he insists, “there’s more to life than working 16 hours a day.” Tossing a bunch of pillows on the floor and hosting a Moroccan theme party, for instance, or throwing a Super Bowl bash. Or simply enjoying having the place to himself. “When a woman puts on a dress, the best thing she can say is, ‘Oh my God, I feel like a goddess.’ I knew we were done here when I walked inside and went, ‘Wow, it makes me feel sublime.’” □

**ABOVE:** Metal-mesh draperies provide the only separation between the master bedroom and the rest of the house. “I tend to like long vistas and open spaces, so getting rid of walls was the idea; I didn’t need rooms, because I don’t live that way,” Duke says. **OPPOSITE:** The view from the pool deck.





“The house could take advantage of the hillside and landscape around it.”

While the house was in the early stages of construction, Duke met an interior designer named Tobi Tobin whose sartorial style—“a fabulous chocolate-brown skirt and ivory sharkskin coat with tons of draped chains and slicked-back hair”—convinced him she was up to the task of feathering his new nest. The pair worked with the architects to compose a chiaroscuro of light and dark surfaces inside and out. For the floors, they tracked down a material, made of light quartz stones set in an epoxy base, that doesn't require joints (the designer being as meticulous about seams in a house as in a dress). They selected a charcoal plaster and dark rift-cut oak for the solid walls and settled on a flat-cut black-diamond granite to clad the fireplace. For the pool, Duke and Tobin decided to channel a bit of the designer's hometown sparkle with silver-leaved tiles (“It was either that or a big *R* in rhinestones at the bottom,” he quips).

Duke fancied what he calls “glamorganic” interiors, and Tobin accommodated him in part with mirrors—freestanding mirrors, mirrored walls—that enlarge the rooms and

“I taught him about what grounds a room. And then he just took off,” Tobin recalls of her time working with Duke. **LEFT:** “The experience of the house is integrated with the hillside and living outdoors,” says Kelly. The dining area is adjacent to a patio and terraced garden.

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