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WELL BLENDED

A RENOVATION FOR A NEWLY COMBINED FAMILY RESULTS IN A LOOK THAT IS CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY, YET WITH SPACE FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.

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ARCHITECTURE Erik Peterson, PHX Architecture

INTERIOR DESIGN Elizabeth Rosensteel, Elizabeth A. Rosensteel Design/Studio, LLC

HOME BUILDER Chris Turner, RJ Bromley Construction Inc. | LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Russell Greey, Greey | Pickett

BEDROOMS 5 | BATHROOMS 7 | SQUARE FEET 9,501



It only makes sense to renovate a house for a newly blended family to reflect the merging of lives—in this case, a husband and wife and five girls ranging in age from elementary school to a recent college graduate. The owners had specific updates in mind for the residence that the wife already owned in Paradise Valley. First, they envisioned a household that could evolve with the three younger girls while also offering entertaining space for adults. Second, they wanted to showcase their collection of art in a well-lit house that didn't compete with the architecture. "We wanted it to be classic-contemporary," says the husband, who called on architect Erik Peterson to fulfill their wish list. "He's a genius at interpreting that vernacular."

"Mainly," Peterson says, "we simplified the whole thing." Architectural breakups and steps between the rooms were eliminated in order to create one continuous level. "We didn't do too much major structural change," he says, but did open the kitchen to unfold into the dining area, so the space seats two or 20. He also expanded the master suite, which is finished in two shades of cerused oak, and put on an addition for his-and-her closets.

A mix of old and new furnishings make up the family room, which was revived with a colorful rug from David E. Adler and a sofa reupholstered in Stratum Textiles fabric. The recessed ceiling grid, which incorporates cork to baffle noise, helps center the room.



In the dining room, Loewenstein chairs encircle a palm-wood table with a solid-surface inlay, fabricated by Linear Fine Woodworking. A wallcovering by Phillip Jeffries provides a textural backdrop to anchor and formalize the space. The painting is by James Rosenquist.



Millwork, conceived by designer Elizabeth Rosensteel and fabricated by Brothers Woodworks, fashions an artful display space in the living room. Flooring throughout the ground level is Q-Stone, a porcelain tile by Provenza.

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Chris Turner, the superintendent and project manager on the project, noting the critical 10-month schedule, used his firm's in-house carpenter, Damien Cabrinha, for the finishes and doors. "We were able to create a higher quality by making them custom," he says.

For the interiors, Peterson brought in designer Elizabeth Rosensteel, whose first instinct was to pull the house out of its poured-concrete heaviness. "We're in Arizona," she says, "where everything is about light and how it plays off structure and texture." As a result, the team added skylights to the master bathroom and the living room, where a shaft of light grazes a curved pebbled wall that was previously exposed masonry block. "We made it a focal point of the room," Peterson says.

Rosensteel chose oyster-shell porcelain tile for the flooring throughout the ground level. The tiles, which extend to one of two covered heated patios to help unify the indoor-outdoor spaces, are durable and look clean, even with a dog running around. "It creates a great first impression and sets the tone for the rest of the house," Rosensteel says.

A Tufenkian rug unifies the palette in the living room, where the fluid lines of a pair of low COR sofas from The MN Collection soften the strong architecture. A sculptural pair of walnut chairs with open-lattice frames joins a weighty stone-like cocktail table from Phillips Collection.



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The artwork, after all—with works by Rosenquist, Warhol and Picasso, among others—is center stage, and built-ins throughout, designed by Rosensteel and fabricated by Brothers Woodworks, help show it off. A palette of neutral furnishings in a mix of luxe fabrics lends a quiet elegance that complements the collection. In the living room, for example, three black angular custom steel tables offset two pale green cotton-and-linen sofas and nod to a nearby trio of spherical natural-toned sculptures by Travis James of Brooklyn's May Furniture Co.

In the kitchen, Rosensteel paid homage to Frank Lloyd Wright—she and Peterson met 15 years ago while working at Wright's Taliesin Associated Architects—with a mix of curves and straight lines. Here, the designer went with bullnose countertops on the circular island and repeated that same rounded shape in wood just above the toe kick. High-quality art lighting previously installed throughout the house was repurposed as pendants strung in a circle around the skylight.

Rosensteel designed the kitchen cabinetry, built by Brothers Woodworks, and chose the pale green backsplash tile by Island Stone. The round island, topped with crisp white Caesarstone, reflects a skylight above it.



Walter Knoll barstools from M2L in New York, covered in ink-resistant fabric from Architex's Write-Off collection, are practical for quick meals at the kitchen counter. Handblown glass fixtures by New York designer Joe Ginsberg add a whimsical touch of color.



Landscape architect Russell Greey designed the pool, fabricated by Aqua Essence Pools and featuring a dynamic steel trellis and rain curtain, a zero-edge spa and glass tiles from Noble Tile Supply. Existing furniture was reupholstered in vibrant Sunbrella fabric. Planters by Kornegay Design house tall cacti.



Outfitted with an Americh tub edged in Costa Esmeralda granite and Voguebay Deco tiles that edge the mirror, the master bath is a picture of elegance. Cerused oak cabinetry complements the lighter hues found throughout the home. The bench is by Global Views.

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Outside, landscape architect Russell Greey was brought in to design the pool, hardscape and plantings. Set on an axis with the family room, the pool was purposefully relocated in order to become a focal point from the indoors. Decked out with LED lights and a 12-foot-wide rain curtain with a fire pit, "it has 'wow' factor for entertaining," says Peterson. Adds the husband, "The pool itself becomes almost like dynamic art."

In the end, the entire design team worked together to create the perfect home for the now-combined family—resulting in a space that is at once fun and sophisticated, a place they can enjoy for years to come. **L**

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The master bedroom, wrapped in tones of seafoam, features a custom bed designed by Rosensteel. Open-weave linen, folded as a Roman shade that meets the headboard's backrest, adds visual interest and helps dampen sound, as does the area rug from Scott Group Custom Carpets. Flooring is by Greyne Custom Wood Co. in Fort Mill, South Carolina.