



# ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

### **DESIGNER VIEWS**

Interview by Kevin Mark Lodie

Sitting in the clubby office of LA-based interior designer David Phoenix, you recognize some familiar faces in the photos that line the walnut-paneled room: the Pope, past presidents, A-list celebrities. When your clients live unique lives, they open you to possibilities and reveal what fundamentally matters in design and living. I met with David to get his perspective.

## You have projects throughout the country. What makes LA unique?

Diversity. People are interested in many styles: Spanish, Eastern Seaboard styles, a lot of contemporary homes like Paul McLean's work, but also many classic styles. I just broke ground on a 1920's home in Los Feliz with Richard Manion. We're respecting its classic Italianate vernacular while also upgrading infrastructure to today's standards. Is smart technology one of those standards? Definitely. It has filtered into all aspects of home design: lighting, AC, entertainment... How does that affect design? It makes spaces more flexible. When rooms don't have to be hardwired for a specific purpose, anything you need can happen anywhere you please. In a single room, you can find someone cooking, another on their Peloton, and the kids on xBox and laptops. **Sounds** like Google headquarters. Exactly. The smart tech allows everyone to come together in one communal space. Even in these 8-bedroom houses on your walls? Yes. Then is "luxury" about community? It's about comfort and the time to enjoy it. What else is your client looking for? Quality, good value. Bespoke items and treatments: the kitchen, the closets... every detail. For many of our clients, I have textile artisans designing carpets, wall coverings and fabrics that are unique to their environment. They're beautiful and completely original.

It's no surprise Phoenix will debut his own line of original fabrics created for Kravet later this year.







## ARCHITECTURAL HOMES OF THE WEEK

**DESIGNER: GAVIN BRODIN** 



BEL AIR | \$49,900,000

Majestic east gate Bel Air compound on rare flat parcel of over an acre with every luxury.

JOYCE REY 310.285.7529 CalRE#00465013 ARCHITECT: PAUL WILLIAMS



BRENTWOOD | \$16,950,000

Classic Paul Williams on one acre with ocean views. Most prestigious street in Brentwood.

MARY LU TUTHILL 310.979.3990 CalBE#00556630

### ARCHITECT: MICHAEL BARSOCCHINI



MALIBU | \$9,650,000

Contemporary beach house on sandy section of Malibu Road 3BR + loft office.

IRENE DAZZAN-PALMER 310.317.9354 CalRE#00597226