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MATTHEW BERGMAN'S RESIDENCE ON VASHON ISLAND IN PUGET SOUND NEEDED TO BE MANY THINGS AT ONCE. Although creating a comfortable family home was paramount, the residence would also require room for the owner to host charitable and political fundraisers. Given the home's hilltop site, with views over the treetops to the water and Mount Rainier, the design demanded enough glass to properly unveil the postcard vista. Yet Bergman also has an extensive art collection that includes rare works sensitive to light.

Architect Rick Sundberg's design provides for all these functional needs, but its collection of spaces rises to something far greater than the sum of its parts. "We spent a lot of time looking at the location and established a structural design that fit and was grounded into the site," Bergman recalls.

ARCHITECTURE Rick Sundberg, AIA, Sundberg Kennedy Ly-Au Young Architects		
HOME BUILDER Terry Miller, Schultz Miller		
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Suzanne Hattery, Hattery Design		
BEDROOMS 4	**BATHROOMS** 5	**SQUARE FEET** 5,000

TURNING POINT
The custom entry door from O.B. Williams Company was embellished by artist Nadine Edelstein and pivots on a steel frame; the door opens onto hardwood from Advanced Floor Design. A niche carves into one wall to house some of the owner's artifacts.

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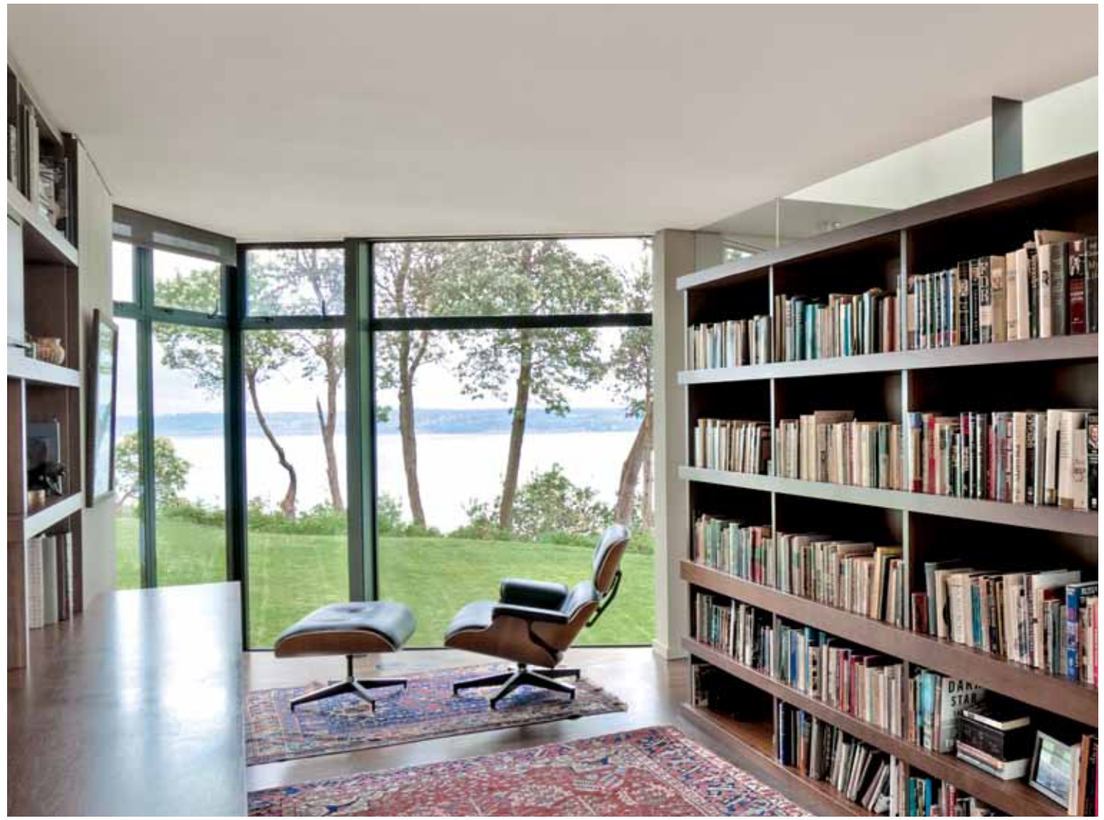
The house, a kind of accordion shape festooned in wood with tall glass walls, is purposely oriented toward Rainier. "On a clear day it should feel as if the mountain is sitting on the window bank right in front of you," the architect says. But as one enters the house, the view unveils itself gradually. "Visitors are kind of led through a sequence before they get the full view. When people go into a building, I think they should be tickled with a little bit of surprise, a little bit of joy," says Sundberg, who collaborated with Gladys Ly-Au Young to complete the design of the residence.

HANG TOUGH
The living room's fireplace mantel, made from an uncut concrete slab, extends from the wall as if floating. Despite its effortless appearance, the unseen structural frame is so large that it had to be brought in with a forklift. Architect Rick Sundberg designed the coffee table.

PRECIOUS CARGO
Though natural light and views were paramount to the design of this Vashon Island home, the windows from Seattle Glass are equipped with shades to protect the owner's art collection, which includes paintings by midcentury masters, and Egyptian and Roman antiques.



STYLE SELECTION
Michael Wisner's handcrafted pottery piece uses incised clay and was inspired by the artist's friendship with late furniture designer Sam Maloof. *White Dovetail pottery, $750; michaelwisnerpottery.com*

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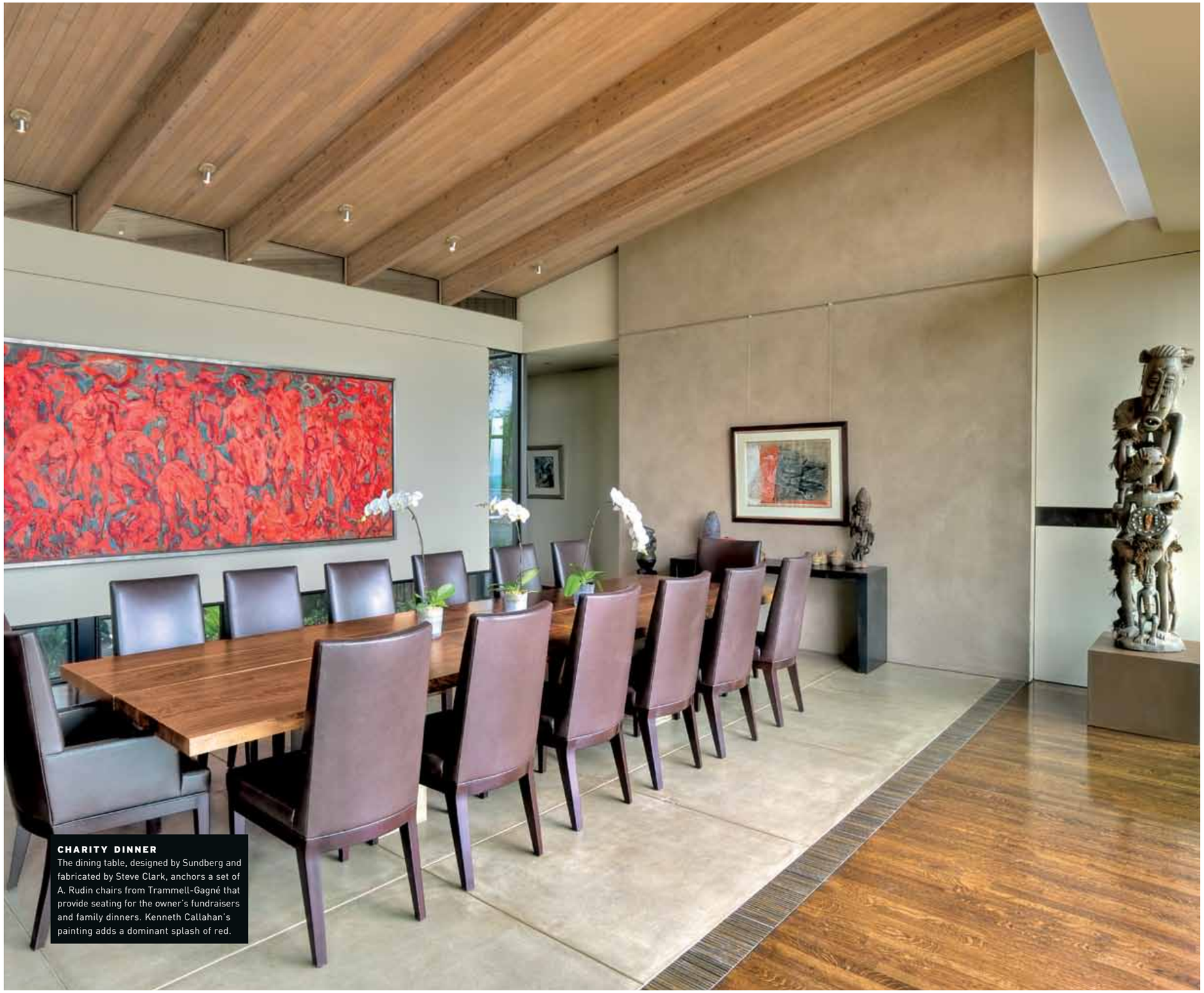
To start the sequence of spaces, the entry becomes a room unto itself, wrapping visitors in cedar siding and featuring an oversize asymmetrical pivoting door. "You feel like you're opening a castle door," says project manager Doug Shay, who helmed the home's construction with builder Terry Miller. Installing the door, he recalls, took a small team of people.

Sundberg's design divides the home into private and public spaces. This allows Bergman to host sizable gatherings in the living and dining areas, against a backdrop of Northwest abstract paintings and classical sculptures, while keeping the bedrooms tranquil. "It's a great place to host parties but also to curl up and listen to music, and read and sip Scotch in the evening," the owner says.



CHARITY DINNER
The dining table, designed by Sundberg and fabricated by Steve Clark, anchors a set of A. Rudin chairs from Trammell-Gagné that provide seating for the owner's fundraisers and family dinners. Kenneth Callahan's painting adds a dominant splash of red.

SQUARE PEG
A bronze-paneled cube dividing the dining and living rooms houses a bar and powder room. The concrete flooring that runs underfoot and out to the dining room was finished by Maverick Specialty Contracting.

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The dining room is anchored—literally—by a long wood table that seats up to 14 and is built into the poured-in-place concrete floor. Dividing this area from the living room is a block-shaped space paneled in bronze; the section, which holds a small bar, powder room and guest closet, has walls that extend only halfway to the high wood ceilings, thus resembling a cube floating within the larger volume.

The roof slants upward at the back to bring in an abundance of natural light from its floor-to-ceiling glass. The wood glulams forming the ceiling extend outward beyond the glass, also emphasizing the inside-out

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connections, an evocation of classic Northwest modern style. "I think the symbiotic relationship between interior and exterior is what I love most about the place and what I think Rick's greatest contribution was," the homeowner adds. "In the summer, we open up the huge sliding doors in the living room and family room. It's just such a comfortable house to live in, and it works so well."

Despite the size of the home, its architecture and landscape design (particularly a series of descending grass terraces) work in harmony to emphasize its blending into the hillside. "There's a lot of lawn, but that site really lends itself to those strong lines," says Suzanne Hattery, a horticulturist who worked with Sundberg on the landscape design and plant selection. "It also connects those strong horizontal lines with the sweeping views of Puget Sound and Mount Rainier. It's pretty spectacular." L

TAKE ROOT
The home's lines are softened by a blend of maple, birch and cherry trees, as well as ferns, rosemary and Japanese snowbells. Horticulturist Suzanne Hattery used native flora and plant material with interesting color, texture and seasonal change; they pop against the siding from LS Cedar.

LIGHT HOUSE
To wash the house with ample sunshine, Sundberg's design includes not only numerous skylights but also a kind of interior clerestory light in the wood stairway wall by Interior Environments—all watched over by the owner's collection of masks.