

Santa Barbara MAGAZINE

MODERN Tastemakers

Brian & Jessie De Lowe manifest
their dream house



\$6.99 DISPLAY UNTIL JUN 13
2.13
0 74831 19475 1

PLUS A new design district downtown, architectural gems, sustainable style, and timeless trends

Perfect Vision

A blissed-out young family finds domestic nirvana in the form of a reimagined 1950s ranch house infused with SOULFUL style

WRITTEN BY CHRISTINE LENNON
PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHAD MELLON



Family portrait photographed by Sam Frost. Jessie and Brian De Lora, and their daughters, Amelia and Luca, in the great room of their Montezito ranch house, which they renovated with the help of interior designer Tamara Kaya-Honey of House of Holey. An Arteriors Ashburn pendant from Lightology hangs above a vintage travertine coffee table from 1stDibs and a Lulu and Georgia Mackenzie sectional sofa. The hanging wall art is by Nikki Studio, and the painting is vintage.

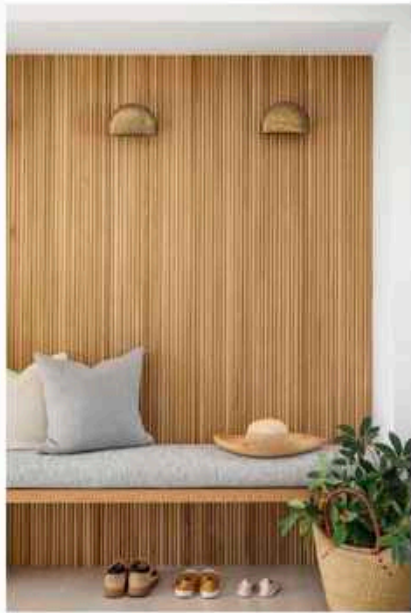


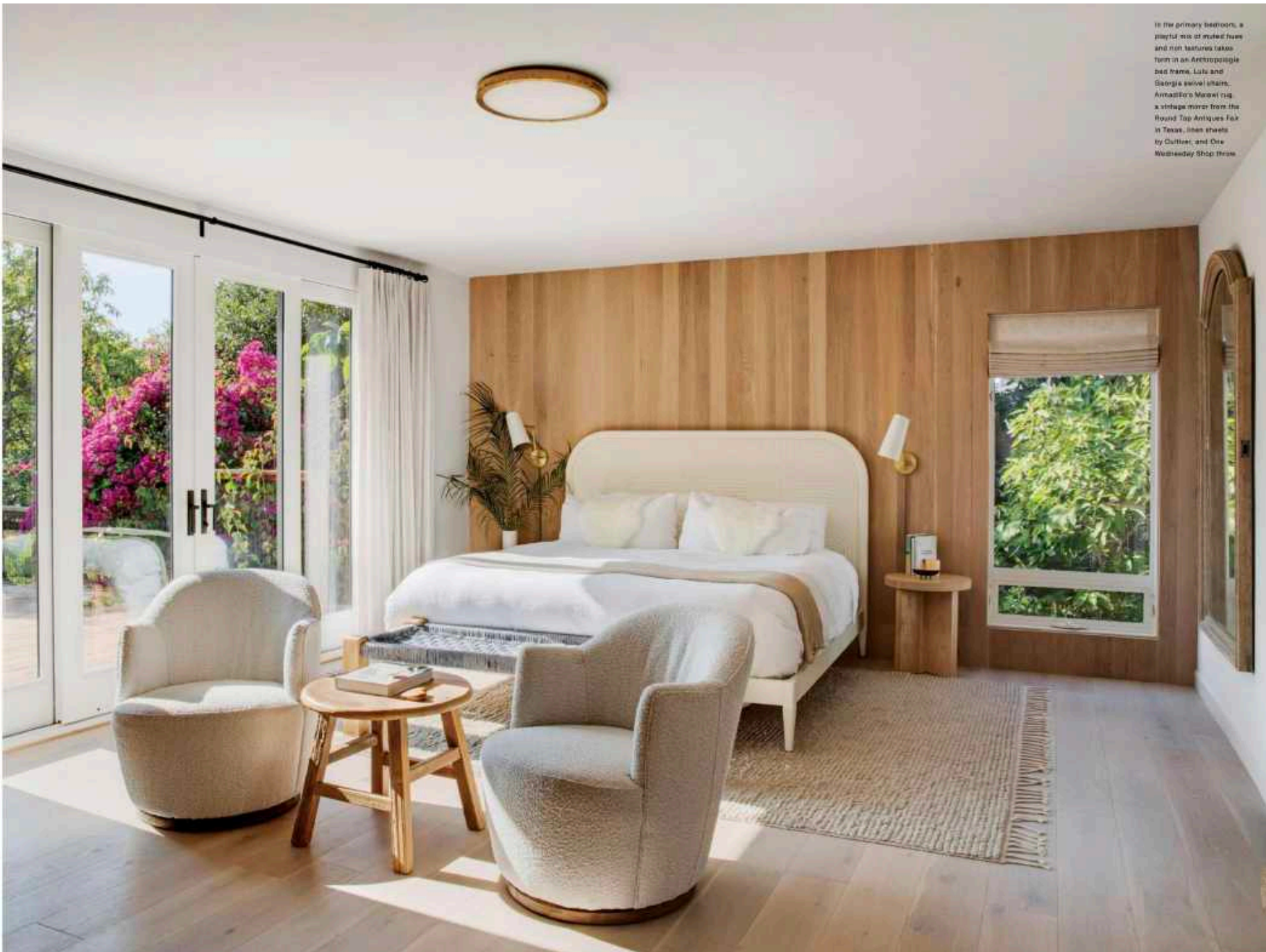
The great room leads to the bar, where Portland Paint's Coates—a muted terra-cotta color—sets the tone for a vintage wine cart. OPPOSITE, TOP TO BOTTOM: A Jenni Kayne dining table and chairs are complemented by a 22 Strand Paper Cover pendant from Global Lighting and the Coles credenza by Kelly Wearstler. "They wanted a home that had rustic sophistication and communal vibes that wasn't overly designed and loud," says Kaye Honey.



he sound of Jessie De Lowe's voice comes through the speaker of your phone as soothing as an ocean breeze. In an installment of Manifestation Monday, which she records for her many Instagram followers, she looks directly into the camera, wearing a pale green dress with her long blonde hair in braids, and shares her wisdom. Jessie, who is a "manifestation advisor" with a background in art therapy, talks about reframing and redirecting your attitude to make room for a more abundant life. She calls it "creative destruction," and to illustrate her point, she describes the four-bedroom Montecito ranch house—with ocean and canyon views—that she and her husband, Proper Hotel and The Kor Group Co-Founder Brian De Lowe, recently renovated along with Tamara Kaye-Honey of House of Honey interiors.

"It can be messy. It can feel worse in the beginning," Jessie says. "In breaking down the walls and opening up the ceiling, you're taking a leap of faith that you'll make the space to create your vision. You don't know what you'll find there. It can be chaotic. But you have to trust that what you're building is better than





In the primary bedroom, a playful mix of mixed hues and rich textures takes form in an Anthropologie bed frame, Lulu and Sergio's velvet chairs, Armadillo Macael's a storage mirror from the Round Top Antiques Fair in Texas, linen sheets by Clutter, and One Wednesday Shop throw.



A fixture by Hudson Valley Lighting is mounted above a custom Kona Home oval walnut dining table, a Brothers of Industry bench, and Rejuvenation chairs. OPPOSITE: Surrounded by Brothers of Industry cabinets, Flat Zellige tiles, Sun Valley Brass and Swivel hardware, the Fire Majestic II range and hood are the focal point of the kitchen, where Jesse is whipping something up in her Our Place Always oven.

Concrete Nation's Valencia free-standing tub and Arc Sinks—all in the color nude—set the tone in the primary bathroom. Hardware is by Kohler. Tiling is by Concrete Collaborative, and mirrors are by Regeneration.

what you're leaving behind." Sometimes you've got to take a risk, she adds, and take life down to the studs in order to make your dreams come true. And you should expect some chaos before peace arrives.

Listening to Jessie and Brian, who are devoted young parents of two girls under 5, share the details of their seamless move from Santa Monica to Montecito is enough to make manifestation naysayers think twice. They believe that they willed their house—which Kaye-Honey describes as "Mallorca meets Montecito, charming, chic, welcoming, and open-minded"—into existence.

"We were pregnant with our second daughter in early 2020, and we knew we didn't want to raise our family in Los Angeles," says Jessie. "We were looking for an easier pace of life, a more community-driven place. Honestly, we were open to anywhere in the world."

While they were pondering these big life decisions, the world around them ground to a halt. The De Lowes were making regular escapes to Montecito for day trips, beach walks, and picnics to manage the anxiety of living in pandemic lockdown, absorbing as much nature as possible before their return home. "At the end of every day, we never wanted to leave," says Brian. "It was clear that our dream was closer to home than we thought."

As it happened, they began their house hunt in a rare stagnant market. "We'd drive up and reach out to brokers about some houses listed online," says Brian. "It was very clear that we were the only people looking for a house at the time. It was our dream place, the most perfect spot to raise our family, and it didn't seem like we had any competition."





The family relaxes on the deck's Bayliner patio furniture, beneath a Barba Barbara Design umbrella. OPPOSITE: Brian stands behind the marble-top bar while Jessie sits on a Saffron + Pine bar stool. A Hudson Valley Lighting pendant hangs above.

They believe that they willed their house—which Kaye-Honey describes as “Mallorca meets Montecito, charming, chic, welcoming, and open-minded”—into existence.

They moved into a rental, had a baby, settled in, and then the real estate market heated up. The De Lowes, first-time home buyers, knew they should make a move. After touring every house in the community within their budget, one property, a typical 1950s ranch, kept calling them back. And while the house itself was imperfect, the land was “magical, with a huge avocado tree that just keeps on giving,” says Jessie. “It’s kind of wild, very tropical and filled with mature fruit trees. There were chickens roaming around. It was exactly our vibe.”

“The house did not blow us away,” Brian adds. “But we thought, ‘If we did this, and this, and this, and this, and this, it *could* be our dream house.’”

The De Lowes had a vision they knew they could bring to life, but they needed guidance. They’d long been admirers of Tamara Kaye-Honey’s work and approached the Pasadena- and Montecito-based designer. “We met Tamara

for an Aperol spritz at the Miramar Club,” Brian says. “She has such an amazing vision, but she understood that we had ideas and she didn’t steer us away.”

Kaye-Honey describes the De Lowes as trusting and an “amazing, positive force.” Brian and Jessie were “open to collaborating and game to be pushed outside of their comfort zone. As a firm, we work holistically to create soulful spaces layered with color, pattern, and texture in ways that feel fresh and unexpected, all while remaining invitingly livable and timeless,” she adds. “We take it seriously—but always with a wink and a smile.” The De Lowes were ideal clients for the HOH aesthetic, which is sophisticated but playful, chic but still comfortable.

Brian acted as the project’s general contractor with a local builder, drawing on his experience developing properties for The Kor Group, building Proper **Continued on p.144**