

GLOWING review

TUCKED INTO THE NEW MEXICO
MOUNTAINS, A SANTA FE HOME IS A PERCH
FOR STYLE AND HEAD-TURNING SUNSETS

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inding fault in a sunset is hard. Fiery tones melt into the horizon for a spectacle that colors the sky in a spectrum of yellow, orange, peach, pink, and purple.

But sunsets look a little different from one location to the next, and Chicago-based designer Thomas Stringer was particularly drawn to those in Santa Fe, where the sun marries with the glow of the desert landscape. Nestled amid the mountains, the home he designed for one couple adopted that glow

Living room The homeowners are collectors and have a fondness for craftsmanship and tactile pieces, such as the multipanel screen from Indonesia that disguises the television. The living room, free of color otherwise, welcomes blue on the rug, pillow, and throw. **Exterior** The adobe-style home tucks into the Southwestern landscaping. **Previous pages** A strapping door that is riveted with iron details is a modern take on Mexican flair and opens into the sculptural foyer.



Dining room The symmetry of the dining room, established by stone posts and windows, frames the arresting view of the mountains and valley. Leather upholstery on metal-frame chairs was chosen for its unblemished finish while a cabinet with goat-skin doors is mottled with cream and brown.



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to inspire a palette that's more about the blend than the bold. "The way that the house sits back from the road, it's a bit of a secret," Stringer says. "And then you walk into the front door, and immediately there is this grand view of the valley that delights with all its layers."

Renovated during the pandemic, this hidden house showcases its owners' love for relaxed living. A roster of materials elevates it to a nature-charged sanctuary.

Completed through a Southwestern lens of warm tones, the property encapsulates Stringer's affinity for contemporary furnishings and cross-cultural connections. Stringer's years of experience designing authentic adobe-style homes stretch the



dwelling beyond inspiring transitional design to a curated escape intended for living that appreciates the land.

Take an effortless stroll into the foyer to be met with a center table selected for its cactus-riblike profile. Included with the intent that it will slowly reveal its true nature, this piece, like many others throughout the house, gently surprises the eye and nods to Santa Fe and its art scene. Nearby, a rug pattern in the adjacent living room demonstrates the impact of graphic Swedish decoration, perfect for clients who are collectors.

"I didn't want this house to look like every other house," Stringer says. "It needed its own point of difference."

Fitting for a modern interpretation of Southwestern style, the living room's restful palette soothes. Embraced by impeccable views, the space graciously welcomes photographs of desert blooms printed on aluminum. Even with their oversize scale, the black-and-white impressions blend nicely against

Kitchen To avoid a completely monotone space, the kitchen introduces white to break up the wood tones. Cabinets and the range hood wear a simple white paint balanced with quartz countertops; the hood was chosen for its understated form. Turquoise-colored tiles acknowledge the signature stones in Santa Fe jewelry. **Breakfast area** An adobe fireplace tucks into a corner, setting an inviting tone for enjoying meals.



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Primary bedroom
Furnished with a light hand, the bedroom doesn't visually overwhelm. Breezy draperies frame the view from a pair of soft chairs. Sculptural side tables deliver textural interest and a touch of black.



the warm tones of leather furniture and a stone fireplace wall. Stepping into the dining room, the view steals the show, giving guests at the table plenty to marvel at. To create a seamless blend of sky and ceiling, the chandelier sports porcelain points that resemble a sea of stars when lit.

Rooms throughout the house followed the lead of the warm scheme. The kitchen chandelier brightens the quartz-topped island that imbues a sleek finish against inherent wood grains. Creamy ivory bathes the edited master suite. Even the library, telling its own story with a darker stain saturating the wood paneling, adheres to an organic approach.

With no color barriers to interrupt nature, the adobe invites in light all day, but especially awaits the time when the sun fades to sunset beauty.

“Beautiful views provide so much to work with before I begin designing,” Stringer says. “My goal is to create spaces that honor them.”

Designer: Thomas Stringer

Primary bathroom A sturdy woven-back chair accompanies the soaking tub. **Hallway** Hefty stone serves as the architectural ribbon throughout the house. **Library** Built-in shelves are backed with suede to introduce yet another textural material to the library. **Back porch** The covered porch was set up to boast an on-top-of-the-world presence. It is highlighted with all-weather wicker that stretches over modern frames.

