

## **OUR DYNAMIC MID-CENTURY RANCH**

The 1952 house was cookie-cutter and tired. Now it show-cases the best of MCM design. By Christy Eugenis

Just after we got engaged, my husband, Stan Amy, and I found this house ... later we were married here. I think you could say that we are deeply tied to our home. It's a big, classic Ranch with a view, built in 1952 on Alameda Ridge in Portland, Oregon. We'd been looking for a house in MCM style as it's a passion of ours. We re-imagined a Palm Springs motel and created the Orbit In and Hideaway hotels in Palm Springs. I was on the founding Board of Modernism Week. We were co-

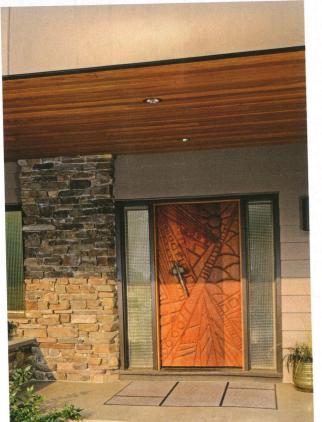
founders of New Seasons Markets and sold our stake in 2020. Our current project is building a housing community designed to help working professionals become homeowners.

When we bought this 3,100 square foot house in 1994, it was very dated, filled with shag carpeting and disco wallpaper. There was no footing under the south end of the house. For the first phase, we worked with Richard Brown Architects. Then, in 2014, we consulted with Anne De Wolf of the Portland design firm Arciform [arciform.com]. She helped us take a leap of faith and make many more changes than we'd initially planned, including replacing the gabled roof with a single-pitch shed roof. That created much higher ceilings and windows along with a stylish and welcome overhang at the rear deck. The reconfigured, standing-seam metal roof is more in keeping with Mid-century Modern style. The new front door of Honduras

BEFORE

**ABOVE** Exterior renovations include a new front walk, a basalt column and planter at the front door, a corner-wrapping window screen, and a new shed roof. **INSET** Homeowners Christy Eugenis and Stan Amy. **LEFT** The house as built had a gabled roof—not very MCM.





wall finish came in 4 x 8 panels; it suggests moving air or water.

LEFT The handle at the front door (carved by artist Tom Cramer) was once the hood ornament of a 1954 Chevy Bel Air.

mahogany is by artist Tom Cramer (who was inspired by the late Portland woodcarver Leroy Setziol). Its shapes and lines are meant to evoke the Northwest landscape.

We expanded the deck to incorporate an additional sitting area with a view of downtown but were able to keep the steel railings with wood ledges designed by Richard Brown. We have such spectacular city views; plus, we wanted to play up the indoor-outdoor aspect of the house. The larger deck includes an outdoor dining area shaded by the new roof overhang, paneled in fir, which provides shelter from changing weather and afternoon sun.

The main floor has its original layout. We removed the drafty fireplace and installed a textured turquoise south wall; it suggests air or water. Anne designed a curved mahogany mantelshelf that holds wood sculptures; a mahogany "hearth"





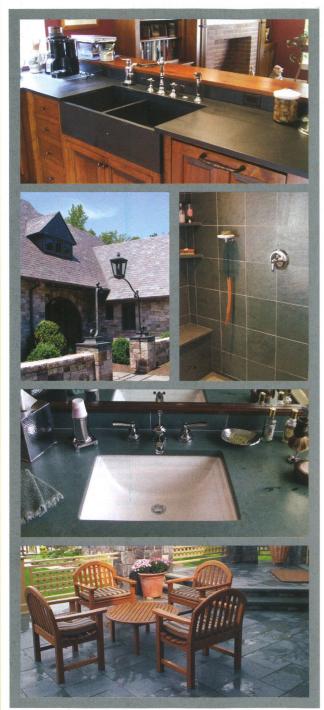


TOP LEFT Between the primary bedroom and the library, a hanging screen of plywood panels bring privacy and mid-century styling.

ABOVE The expanded deck offers lounging and entertaining space; the new roof provides shade. BEFORE The space was simply a balcony off the primary bedroom before the first deck was added. BOTTOM LEFT The primary bathroom features the yellows and blues favored by the homeowners. Radiant heat provides comfort; a tree-shaped window screen adds privacy. BELOW The lower level has been converted into a living room and guest bedroom, which the homeowners say will become home when they need one-level living.



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ABOVE The French GyroFocus fireplace is one of Stan's favorite features. It was converted from burning wood to gas.

below is fitted with storage drawers and offers extra seating. To the right, next to a bank of eight-foot windows, is an orb-shaped Focus gas fireplace. It's all open to the dining area and the kitchen, good for socializing.

The primary bedroom has new mahogany woodwork with a built-in library and a mid-century screen. Arciform created the mahogany built-ins, sliding doors, windows, and platform bed. An old bedroom has become the new bath. Because its window opens to a walking trail just outside, the window is covered with a custom metal screen created by my sister, the sculptor and enamel artist Alisa Looney. The house has truly been Modernized.

We love cheerful, mid-century colors and furnished our home accordingly with blue, turquoise, and yellow, set off by warm woodwork on trim, floors, and ceilings. So few people are doing color these days, it's all greys. We live in Portland: why would you want more grey here?! We get a lighthearted feeling every time we walk through the door.

FOR RESOURCES, SEE PAGE 79.

ID-CENTURY RANCH
15 DESIGN/BUILD Anne De yolf, Arciform arciform.com **OOR CARVING Tom Cramer** mcramerart.com **IETAL ARTIST** Alisa Looney, ortland: alisalooney om • facebook.com/ om • facebook.com/ lisaLooneySculptorEnamelist/ EILINGS (soffits, LR, BR) fir ngue-and-groove 16 TEXTURED WALL Wall jécor 3D walldecor3d.com LOATING FIREPLACE French yrofocus design 1968 Focus ireplaces focus-fireplaces com replaces focus-fireplaces.com
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**NAUTICAL BATH** ARCHITECT Erik K. Evens, KAA Design Group, Los Angeles: kaadesigngroup.com INTERIOR DESIGNER Alana **Homesley Interior Design** alanahomesley.com
PLUMBING FIXTURES LeFroy Brooks usa.lefroybrooks.com **LIGHTING** Rejuvenation rejuvenation.com

**Related Resources FLAT-WEAVE & STRIPED RUGS** Woodard & Greenstein woodardweave.com

THEY STILL MAKE **ARMILLARY SPHERES AvantGarden Bronzes** avantgardenbronzes.com

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SOLAR PANELS LA Sun Partners lasunpartners.com

**Related Resource** Custom Shingles customshingles. com Cedar, teak, composite, synthetic shingles for rolled & wavy roofs; steam-bending

#### **DIY CONSTRUCTION**

**Related Resources** 

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**QUEEN ANNE VICTORIAN** EXT. COLORS historic colors Rookwood Red 2802, Secret Garden 6181 (green) **Sherwin-**Williams sherwin-williams.com • Essex Green HC-188 Benjamin Moore benjaminmoore.com WINDOWS Marvin marvin.com
BAMBOO CEILING Frank's Cane
& Rush Supply franksupply.com
CARPETS owner's collection.
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Pennsylvania: langhorne carpets

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Fredbury & Open Aposthatic

bradbury.com Aesthetic Movement papers; Persian roomset; Morris-inspired

Trustworth Studios trustworth. com Specialist in Voysey designs; digital wallpaper re-creation **VOYSEY-INSPIRED CARPET** 

The Persian Carpet persiancarpet.com
VICTORIAN MILLWORK Mad River Woodworks

madriverwoodworks.com **PERGOLAS** 

Outdoor Living Today outdoorlivingtoday.com Western red-cedar pergolas, gazebos, etc.

OLD SALTY COTTAGE ARCHITECT/INT. DESIGN

**Emerick Architects** emerick-architects.com PAINT exterior body Devine Shell (V0106W); casing trim Devine Whip (V0103W, reversed on the interior Valspar valpsar.com sash Spicy Mustard,2154-20 Benjamin Moore benjamin moore.com • front door Cargo Brown (VM79) Ralph Lauren now through PPG Paints ppgpaints.com CABINETS Alpine Woodworks
alpinewoodworks-astoria.com
LIGHT FIXTURES

(reproductions) similar from Rejuvenation rejuvenation.com • Schoolhouse schoolhouse.com

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DECORATIVE

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