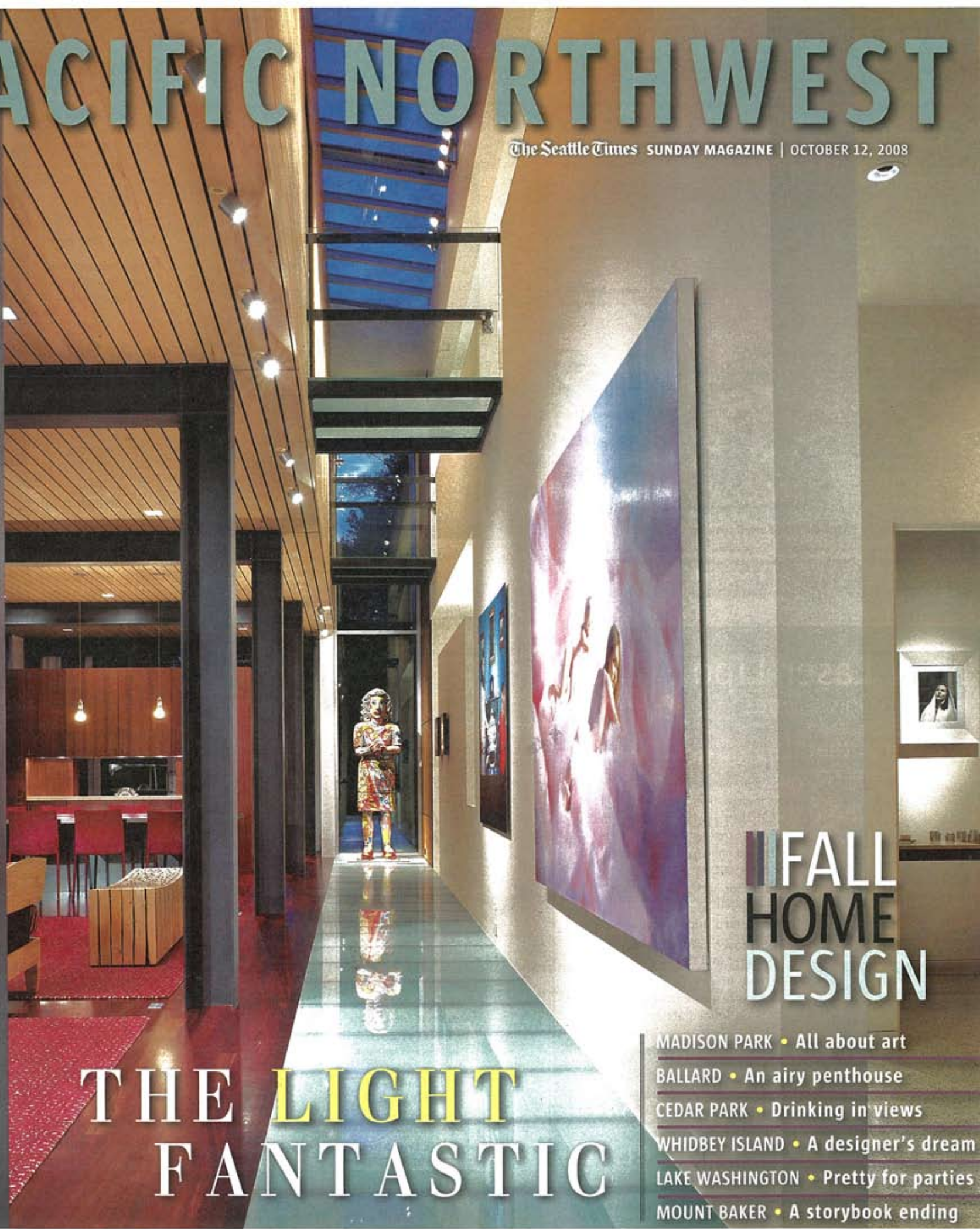


PACIFIC NORTHWEST

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FALL HOME DESIGN

THE LIGHT FANTASTIC

MADISON PARK • All about art

BALLARD • An airy penthouse

CEDAR PARK • Drinking in views

WHIDBEY ISLAND • A designer's dream

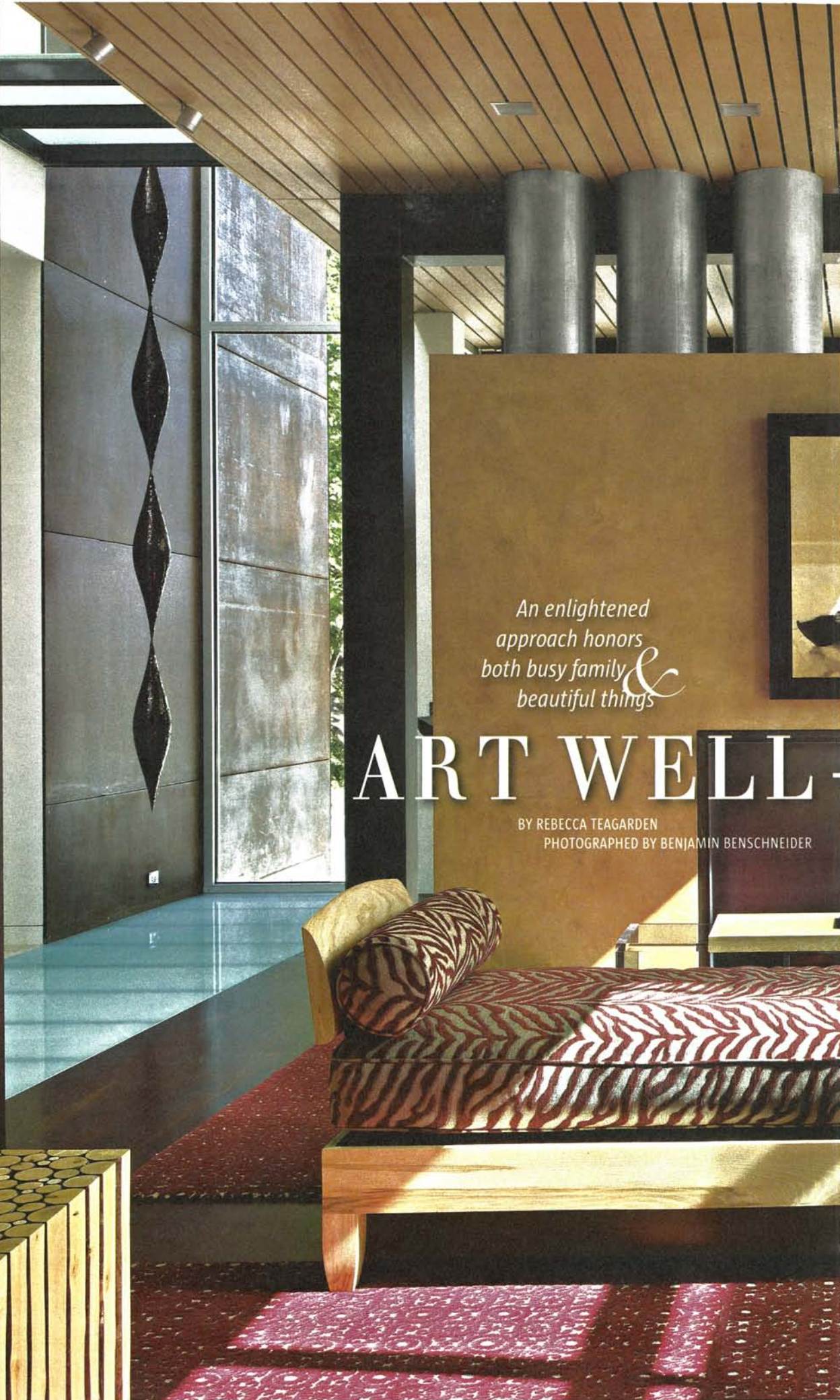
LAKE WASHINGTON • Pretty for parties

MOUNT BAKER • A storybook ending

FALL HOME DESIGN



Linda loves to mix contemporary and traditional. She turned to Michael Skelton of MJS Interiors in Los Angeles to furnish the living room. Deena Rauen of dStudio helped with the rest of the interiors. Ann Gardner's sculpture of bronze glass tiles hangs in the entrance. Will Cotton's two nudes floating on cotton candy hangs in the gallery, and Eric Fischl's "Maria's Corner" is over the fireplace.



*An enlightened
approach honors
both busy family &
beautiful things*

ART WELL

BY REBECCA TEAGARDEN
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BENJAMIN BENSCHNEIDER



SERVED

*T*HE FIRST THING you notice inside the Madison Park contemporary — even from way outside at the end of the driveway — is the art. The glass entrance makes sure of it. Front and center is Hung Liu's oil, "Yellow River." Ann Gardner's hanging glass-tile sculpture sparkles bronze at the front end of the hall; Viola Frey's 7-foot-tall ceramic woman stands waiting at the back. A narrow window to the left reveals Robin Lowe's "Mad Putti Tub," a large, practically neon baby afloat.

And then you notice the most stunning frame for it all: the house.

Continued on next page >



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The glass pathways

between served and service keep the interruption of the skylight to a minimum. On the left are the family's bedrooms. To the right are the bathrooms.



ART WELL-SERVED

Continued from previous page

"I built this house to show my art. And the house is a piece of art," says homeowner Linda.

"This house is a perfect expression of Tim's genius and our desire for a light-filled and an art-filled house," she says, speaking of architect Tim Carlander of Vandeventer + Carlander Architects. Linda does not say this lightly, having finally moved into their new home in May 2007 after a 10-year ordeal that began with a failed remodel and shuffling her family into and out of five rental houses.

"Craig and I pinch each other every day that we live here," she says.

Linda describes herself as a homemaker, what with four kids and all. But that's not quite right. She is really a home curator, molding kids and art collection, both growing. And the three things she holds most dear, her family, her art and all things logical, combined to create a particular challenge for her architect.

"I was a computer programmer," Linda says. "I think in very linear terms. And this house does that."

Linda is originally from Illinois, and even after 17 years here there is no getting used to the Northwest's dark days. "It still drives me nuts," she says.

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The family room sits at the back of the house. It opens out to the private yard on the west side. A big, lush lawn and multiple water features make for a park-like setting in the backyard, designed by Samuel H. Williamson of Portland.

IPRACTICAL MATTERS

YOU WON'T FIND any dark, empty media rooms here.

No precious wine cellar. With Linda, it's use it or lose it:

"All the kids have their own bedroom. That was important. But there is no guest room. Why waste that space? We just shove the kids out and do it that way, like we did in the Midwest."

"My friends say to me, 'You don't have an island in the kitchen?' Yeah, I don't have to walk around an island. My folks had a galley kitchen, and it was just fine."

"Basically, our bedrooms have beds. People say to me, 'Where's the master suite? Why did you put the bathrooms across the hall? You'd never be able to sell this house.' My husband gets up at 5:30 every day, even when he doesn't work. He goes over there, and I don't hear him."

"I'm not going to design around our kids; they're going to be out of here. And at this rate they'll be taking us out of here in a pine box. It's our dream house."

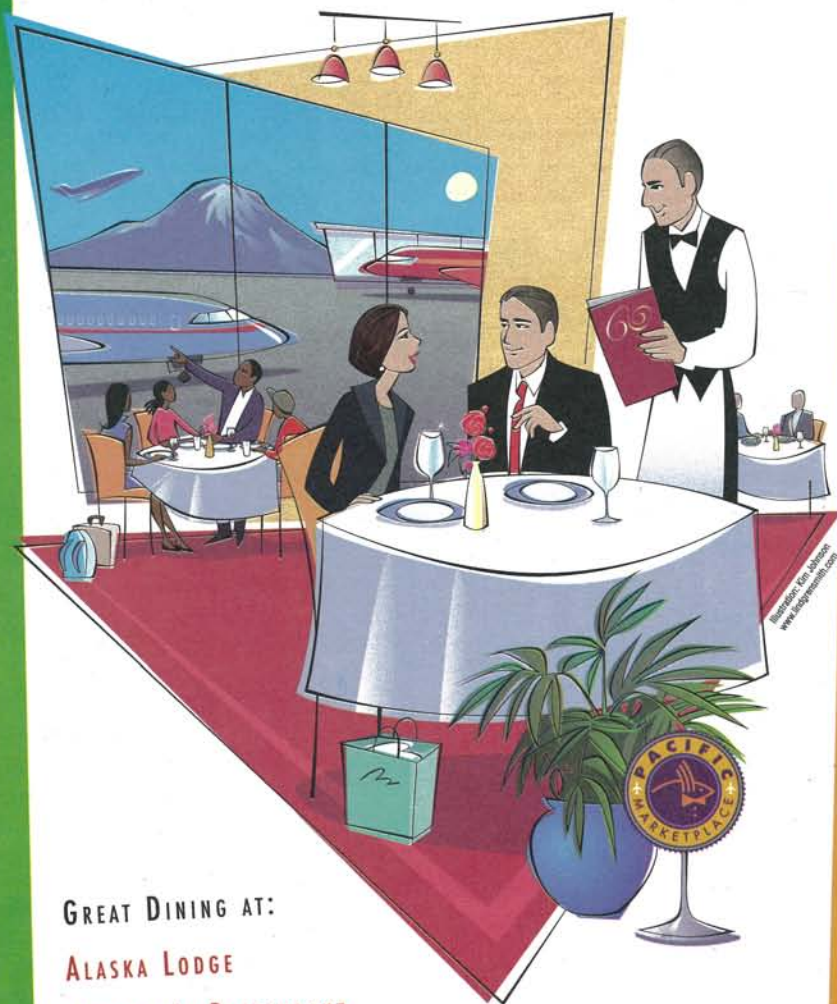
www.vc-arch.com



The Gulassa & Co. dining-room table, ebonized walnut, is accompanied by chairs covered in cowhide dyed red. The ceiling is Alaskan yellow cedar. The floor and cabinetry are African padauk. "We tried to find natural materials that were intense colorwise because Linda likes color," says architect Tim Carlander.

Dining

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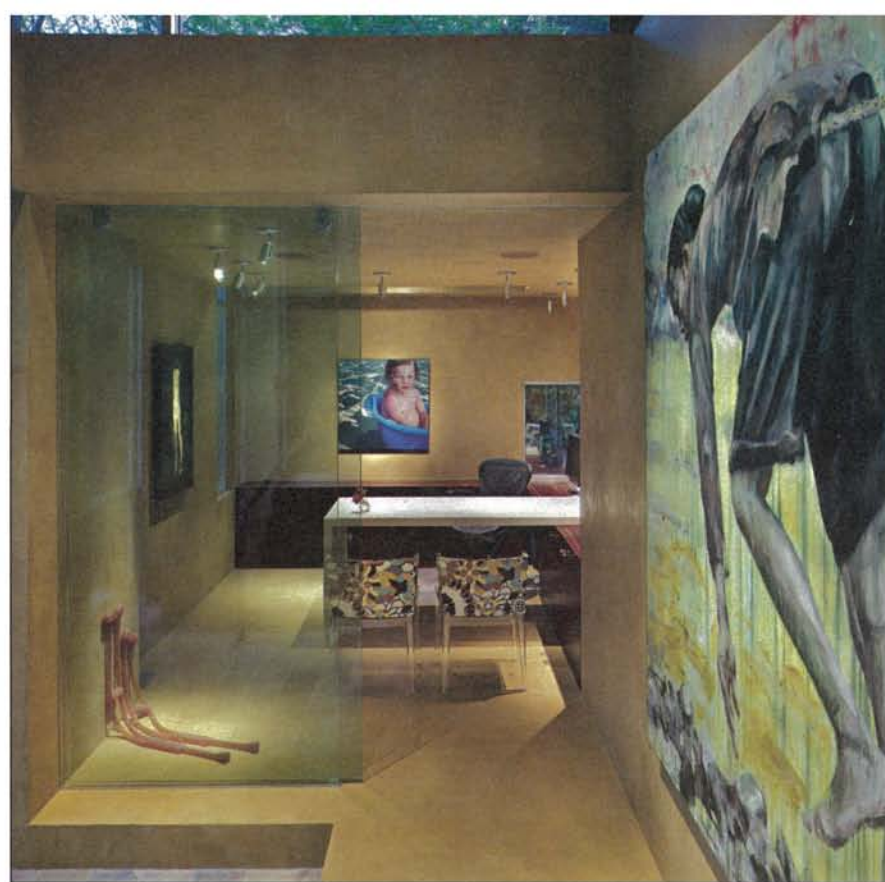
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ART WELL-SERVED

Continued from page 20

But sunlight and paintings do not mix. Another design conundrum Linda credits Carlander with meeting and beating and SBI Contracting with building. He did so with a 22-foot-tall light-well gallery that runs the length of the house. Light enters at roof level and reaches the below-ground kids' space (containing the television and foosball table) through a frosted-glass floor. Lit for evenings, it is an impressive welcome.

The gallery separates the 5,500-square-foot house of five bedrooms and 3½ baths into served and service areas. Served, on one side, defined in glass and steel — for entertainment and display. Service, on the other, behind a rusty Corten steel skin — storage room, bathrooms, closets, laundry and kitchen. Upstairs are family functions, bedrooms (served) cloaked in Alaskan yellow cedar connected to bathrooms (service) with glass bridges.

On the exterior, blocks of space, defined in Corten, Milestone and a floating volume of the cedar, insert themselves into and reach out of the home.

The private backyard was designed by Samuel H. Williamson Associates of Portland. It has an expanse of green, green lawn outside the back door, a barbecue-dining area on the side of the home and lounging pavilion atop a path of molded-steel steps, just beyond a trio of happily burbling water features involving heavy chain and large pots.

Finally, Linda, her family and their art are reunited in a home fit for all involved. Art and architecture joined.

"When we brought some of the paintings back I almost wept," she says. 

*Rebecca Teagarden is assistant editor of Pacific Northwest magazine.
Benjamin Benschneider is a magazine staff photographer.*

"The office was this one little special sculptural piece, conceived as separate, that got slid into this very rational home. It extends and caresses the entry," Carlander says. Just off from Hung Liu's painting, "Yellow River," is Linda's office. Robin Lowe's "Mad Putti Tub" hangs behind the desk. The resin crutches are by Mona Hatoum.