



WINTER ESCAPES

冬天 · 不只一種顏色

BLISSFUL HOMES AND FESTIVE DESIGN TIPS
TO SPARK UP THE **HOLIDAY SEASON**

CALIFORNIA DREAMIN'

BY MICHELE KOH MOROLLO PHOTOGRAPHY BAMO

Inspired by English country houses, this renovated home in Atherton, California opens up to celebrate indoor-outdoor living

這座位於加州阿瑟頓的住宅散發濃厚的英式鄉村別墅風，將大自然融入生活當中





San Francisco interior architecture and design studio BAMO teamed up with San Francisco architects Feldman Architecture to redesign an old English country house-style residence in the town of Atherton in San Mateo, California, transforming it into a bright and modern home that embraces its gorgeous locale.

Designed for a couple who run their own tech company, and who have two young children, the three-level, 929 square-foot house sits on a flat 47,916 square-foot site at the end of a small cul-de-sac in one of California's most exclusive communities.

三藩市室內建築及設計工作室BAMO與當地建築團隊Feldman Architecture合作，在加州聖馬特奧的阿瑟頓鎮將一座舊式英式鄉間別墅住宅改造成一間明亮的現代居亭。別具個性之餘，與華麗時尚的住宅區亦毫無違和感。

這座三層樓高、面積達929呎的加州房子佔地47,916呎，屋主是一對共同經營科技公司的夫婦，及其兩名孩子。





Surrounding the house are three gardens – a west garden off the living room, a south garden which defines the front entry and driveway, and a north garden with an outdoor dining area anchored by a sculptural concrete table set within an olive tree grove.

Michael Booth, BAMO's co-founder, who oversaw the project's interior design, says: "The property enjoys a private, park-like setting. A temperate climate – what I refer to as the best weather in the world – almost allows a year-round, indoor-outdoor, California lifestyle."

The couple wanted a casual and comfortable family home with direct connections to the landscape and daylight, seamless circulation between spaces, natural ventilation, and a strong sense of serenity and calm.

住宅被三個花園包圍，包括客廳外的西花園、大門入口和車道的南花園及北花園，屋主可在橄欖樹叢中的戶外餐桌上用餐。

BAMO創辦人之一Michael Booth負責監督項目的室內設計。他表示：「這座住宅擁有私人公園般的幽靜環境，加上加州四季陽光燦爛的美好天氣，讓屋主一家可以全情享受加州獨有的生活方式。」

這對夫婦想要一個與自然景觀互相融合的舒適家居。透過空間設計，創造出寧靜之感。因此Michael與團隊縮減了原本鄉村風格房屋的外部裝飾和細節，同時解決建築物怪誕的位置，以及室內不對稱的角落。唯一保留的元素是原來的面積和屋頂的線條。



Keeping these requirements in mind, Booth and his team scaled back the exterior ornamentation and detailing of the original country-style house while resolving awkward exterior and interior geometries. The only elements that were retained were the original footprint and the overall roof line.

"The original structure, with its formal arrangement of interior spaces, turned its back on the expansive landscape and beautiful natural environment unique to Northern California. Because of this, the front yard, a giant heritage oak tree outdoors, and a formal rose garden were hidden from the interior experience," says Booth, who redesigned the new space with rooms opened to each other, and the adjoining landscape.

The interior proportions were refined and simplified, all the while responding to the light and air of the newly created and enlarged windows and doorways. A refreshingly modern front façade, and newly added vertical access to the basement level, increased the entrance's inviting scale and architectural refinement.

Forming the heart of the house is a new, light-filled entrance and expanded staircase that draws in an abundance of natural light. The graceful curves of this staircase creates a sensation of floating, and eliminates the need for landings between levels.

"The three-storey shape of the stair hall is mirrored by an elliptical skylight supporting a multi-tiered custom chandelier that mimics the cascading movement of the daylight above," Booth says.



"The dining room is purposefully open so it can be seen from the living room and kitchen"

Michael解釋：「房屋原來的結構和內部空間的佈置均與戶外環境分隔，在室內並不能看到充滿加州北部風情的戶外景色，包前院、橡樹花園和玫瑰園。」經過設計團隊一番改造，每個房間之間互相連結，並與相鄰的景觀完美融合。

屋內佈局亦經過修整及簡化，新加設的偌大窗戶和通道為室內空間引入更多自然日光和清新空氣。Michael還翻新了房屋門面，並增設通往地下室的垂直通道，令人耳目一新。住宅的核心部份是一座全新的旋轉形樓梯，優雅地將外各個樓層連結起來，並把陽光引進室內。樓梯大廳的頂層是一面橢圓形的天窗，掛著一個特別訂造的枝形吊燈，模仿日光的自然流動。

一樓的雙層客廳設有落地玻璃門窗，可以俯瞰南北花園的迷人景觀。客廳亦可以通往寬敞的露台和以一棵歷史悠久的宏偉橡樹為特徵的西花園。

客廳設有特色拱形天花板，以淡色曲柳木制成，配合石材地板，一直延伸至露台，形成一個「花園房間」，而同樣位於北面花園的廚房空間外望花園泳池和網球場，令人心曠神怡。

On the ground floor, a split-level living room with full-height glass doors look out to the landscape to the north and south, and opens up to an expansive terrace and west-facing garden with a magnificent heritage oak tree. The lower level of the living room has a vaulted ceiling panelled in a light ash wood, and stone slab floors, that extend to the terrace to create a "garden room".

The kitchen runs parallel to the garden on the northern side of the property and looks out to a swimming pool and tennis court beyond the garden.

In the dining room, de Gournay's "La Chasse de Compiègne" scenic wallcovering draws the outdoors in, and brings a playful English country manor formality to the indoor dining space.

"The dining room is purposefully open so it can be seen from the living room and kitchen," Booth says.

Connected to the kitchen and the driveway entrance are the family room and study. Orientated towards the south garden, a piano serves as the centrepiece of the family room, while a large work desk is the focal point in the study. A contemporary wood screen visually separates the family and study zones from the kitchen.



“Each interior space opens towards an exterior marker or romantic moment”





Three en suite bedrooms and two home offices are located on the second floor, along with a small study area between the two children's rooms. All the rooms were fitted with floor-to-ceiling windows and Juliette balconies to make the best of the outdoor views.

In the basement is a home gym, and a media and game room that connects to an arts and crafts room. Both the game room and arts and crafts room enjoy daylight through new, expanded light wells cleverly concealed within the landscape.

"Collaborating with the project's landscape architect, BAMO's design team worked to visually and spatially connect the pool and gardens to the main house, thoughtfully integrating intimate outdoor living spaces into the grounds," Booth says.

"Each interior space opens towards an exterior marker or romantic moment, creating a site-sensitive renovation that celebrates its surroundings. The interior colour palette is fresh and contemporary, reinforced by crisp off-white and natural finishes that reflect natural light and envelope the many layers of subtle textures." | |



在餐廳空間，de Gournay的La Chasse de Compiègne牆紙將戶外風景引入家中，為室內用餐空間增添玩味的英式莊園風格。

Michael特意將餐廳變成開放式空間，連結客廳與廚房。與廚房和車道入口相連的是面向南花園的家庭活動室和書房，以一部鋼琴為家庭活動室的核心，而寬大的書枱則是書房的重點。設計師利用現代木屏風將家庭活動室和書房與廚房在視覺上分隔開，保持各個空間的獨立性。

三間套房和兩間書房均設於二樓，兩間兒童房以一個小型學習區分隔開來。所有房間均設落地玻璃窗和露台，戶外美景盡收眼底。地下室設有家庭健身房、藝術工作室和遊戲室。設計師巧妙地為工作室和遊戲室增設天窗，即使在地下室也能享受自然日光。

「透過與景觀設計師合作，BAMO設計團隊致力把泳池和花園與住宅在視覺上連接起來，把戶外和室內空間無縫連繫。」Michael總結。

「經過一番改造後，室內與周遭環境自然融合。室內以清新而現代的色彩作為基調，配合純白色及自然物料，讓自然光透射出更多細膩的紋理。」 | |

