a view to a thrill

From nearly every angle, a modern Pueblo Revival–style home captures Santa Fe’s breathtaking scenery.

THE SIMPLEST OF MOMENTS CAN change a life. In the case of Houston residents Marcia and Jeff, one casual conversation caused all of their plans to neatly but decisively pivot.

While visiting Santa Fe for Jeff’s parents’ 65th anniversary celebration, the couple went for a hike to take in the natural beauty of the area. At one point, they shared the trail with a group of strangers, residents of Las Campanas who waxed happily about how much they loved living there. Intrigued, Marcia and Jeff enlisted a realtor to show them some homes in Las Campanas. But none were quite right. The realtor tracked, and showed them an undeveloped lot which, as is often the case in Santa Fe, offered captivating views.

“It was the most spectacular vista we could have ever imagined,” says Marcia. Suddenly they were serious buyers.

Fortuitously, the lot happened to belong to husband-and-wife custom homebuilder luminaries Will Prull and Jodi Vevoda of Prull Custom Builders. The two couples hit it off immediately, and everything fell into place very rapidly. “By the end of the week we had become fast friends,” says Marcia. “We bought the lot that Friday over breakfast at Café Pasqual’s.” How Santa Fe is that?

In the midst of this process, Marcia and Jeff toured some of Prull’s work, and just as quickly, hired them to build their home. Prull and Vevoda were only too happy for the honor of building on a lot they already loved. “We wanted to see somebody appreciate it as much as we did,” says Prull. “It was that much more meaningful,” his wife agrees.

Oversized windows and sliding glass doors brilliantly draw the mountain views into Marcia and Jeff’s Las Campanas home. Prull Custom Builders won the Grand Hacienda in the 2019 Parade of Homes for this spectacular 2½-home, which is tied onto an Alignment in the owners. The homeowners even consider the mustard yellow Roche Bobois dining set, which informed much of the palette of the living and dining areas, a “major piece of art.”

This is a home that artfully encourages long-distance gazing in every direction, ample glass making the outdoor a staple element of the interior experience.

by Jessa Cast
photographs by Katie Johnson
Prull exclusively builds architect-designed homes, so their clients vetted a few architects before being roundly won over by Lorn Tryk of Lorn Tryk Architects PC. Tryk’s process, including visiting the property with a ladder to observe the views as they’d be seen from inside the home, demonstrated an in-depth understanding of both his clients’ tastes and the home site.

While Tryk was at the drawing board, Marcia partnered with local interior designer Chandler Prewitt, owner of Chandler Prewitt Design. Instantly synergized, the dynamic duo commenced shopping for elements to anchor the interior design of the home. One of the first furnishings they purchased was a glass dining table and sunny yellow dining chairs, both by Roche Bobois. “That table was chosen in the ideation phase,” says Prewitt. “It was a key part of the design, a special thing that Marcia wanted.”

Above: A framed kimono from Jeff’s grandparents’ large collection of Asian art and artifacts is presented in a large niche in the entryway. Marcia and Jeff were adamant about the kimono’s placement, and design decisions were made to accommodate it. Ultra-contemporary sconces flank the vintage piece for an interesting juxtaposition of old and new.

Above: A Brief Mention of Sanctuary in America, a mixed media piece by Lien Truong, is a strong focal point in the living room. Interior designer Chandler Prewitt worked closely with Marcia and Jeff to tie the painting’s blues, golds, and even blacks to the living room’s furniture, rug, and accent pieces.

Above: The guest wing features two bedrooms, each with its own bath. A media room/den situated between them gives guests a common area to relax and mingle, and Marcia and Jeff a place to wind down when it’s just the two of them.

Above: Pauline Ziegen’s When a Whisper Becomes a Song provides the lone color point in the hallway leading to the master wing. Gold leaf in the painting reflects the subtle uplighting of the arched ceilings and the warm white plaster.

Below: Although some elements of the home’s design are more traditional, the glass and steel storefront-style entry is strictly contemporary. It offers a dramatic peek at two- and three-dimensional art from both inside and outside the home.
An exquisite piece of art from Turner Carroll Gallery perfectly reflected their intended ambiance and immediately became a design anchor. A Brief Mention of Sanctuary in America, a multimedia piece by Lien Truong, has bright pieces of silk that flutter in a breeze, lending an extra dimensionality. “It’s a statement piece that holds its weight,” says Prewitt. “It was made for that house.” Indeed, in its place of honor above the living room fireplace, it’s simply arresting, with flecks of gold picking up the hues of the dining room chairs.

The house is a brilliant dichotomy: a modernized Pueblo Revival exterior with a thoroughly contemporary interior. The 4,600-square-foot, four-bedroom home artfully encourages long-distance gazing in every direction, ample glass making the outdoor a staple element of the interior experience which, as Prull notes, “blurs the barrier between interior and exterior spaces.”
Outsized rooms, with smooth, silky plastered walls and topped with coffered ceilings, translate to spaciousness without ostentation. “We wanted openness,” says Jeff. “We had 160 people in the house one evening and it was still comfortable.” Designed to host visiting family with comfort and ease, there’s even an attached, two-bedroom, two-bath guest wing with its own living/media room and stunning views.

Hot-rolled steel features by metal fabricator Gabe Rippel carry a theme throughout. From the counter-to-ceiling kitchen backsplash, to the island skirting, to the three-dimensional front gate designed by Prewitt, the raw steel lends a surprising sense of warmth. One aspect that’s proven a favorite among visitors is the use of reglets at the base of the walls. Thin metal strips that join the wall to the floor, reglets serve dual purposes: to prevent wall damage from mops and vacuums, and to give the walls a sense that they’re floating, or subtly underlined. Everyone comments on them.

Astutely crafted to reflect modern times in historic Santa Fe, the home blends contemporary and Pueblo Revival styles for a unique City Different feel.

When seen from the outside, fits that Pueblo Revival look. It nestles into the landscape and is very identifiable as a Pueblo Revival–style home.” Very much a product of its contemporary technology, green features include floor-radiated heating and cooling, an ERV (energy recovery ventilator) system, and humidification for comfort in the dry desert. There are smart home features as well, including security cameras, Wi-Fi broadcast points, and recessed roller shades.

Landscape architect Solange Serquis of Serquis + Associates, a frequent partner on Prull projects, worked her magic on the landscape plan. Her signature skill—maintaining a fine line between celebrating Mother Nature’s randomness and corralling it for a subtle sense of order—perfectly suits this home, which so prominently captures views of the outdoors.

With so much working in concert, and such an accomplished team on the job, it’s no wonder the home earned awards for Prull Custom Builders in the 2019 Haciendas—A Parade of Homes, including the newly created Most Innovative award and, even more notably, the coveted Grand Hacienda. In fact, it was Prull’s second Grand Hacienda in as many years, the top honor for the house considered best in show.

For their part, homeowners Marcia and Jeff are enamored with their new digs and pleased that it appealed to so many visitors on the Parade. They look forward to the day Jeff retires—when they can be in their glorious new abode year-round and call Santa Fe their forever home.