

# RUE

YOUR PATHWAY TO STYLISH LIVING



## The **Best Ideas** for Next-Level Homes

SIZZLING  
SUMMER  
+ COOL  
DESIGNS

**Tracy  
Anderson's  
Bucks  
County  
Farmhouse**

REVAMP  
YOUR  
ROOMS!



SUMMER 2021 • ruemag.com

\$9.95US \$10.95CAN 12)



DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

RUE® SUMMER 2021

PHOTO: J. USA

# VEGAS. *Yes, really.*



**For this Las Vegas home, it's all about resort-style living for a social and adventurous multigenerational family.**

ARCHITECTURE BY KAA DESIGN  
INTERIOR DESIGN BY TAYLOR BORSARI  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KARYN MILLET

87 | RUE | SUMMER 2021

**L**as Vegas is known for the clanging of slot machines and the blaze of neon lights. But travel a few miles away from the strip and you'll discover an entirely different lifestyle indeed. This desert home is a multigenerational family compound and, on first glance, a bit like a mirage. Shimmering water features and comfortable outdoor living areas link three structures seamlessly, each one serving a unique function.

Duan Tran, Partner and Principal at KAA Design, was tasked with "reimagining and reprogramming each distinct property as an integral component of an interdependent village, with a communal landscape beltway," he explains. "Our clients live a social, adventurous, and active lifestyle. We wanted to design a home and property that would serve as home base, a safe place for them to come together as well as entertain friends and family within the dynamics of their lifestyle." There's a main house, featuring the primary living spaces and a series of sliding doors that allows a clear connection to the outdoors. The game house includes an indoor basketball court, arcade area, and even an adult-size trampoline. The gym was designed not only for a good workout, but to promote all levels of wellness. There's a Pilates studio, a spa, and access to the lap pool.

For interiors, the homeowners turned to Taylor Borsari, their sixth project with her. "As a family of five with now-teenage kids, this project was planned with the future and evolving family needs in mind," Borsari explains. "It's incredibly rewarding to get multiple opportunities to create new spaces and design experiences for the same family." The space is outfitted in pieces by Christian Liaigre, Apparatus Studio, Knoll, John Pomp, BDDW, Maxalto, B&B Italia—and art from well-known artists like Damian Hirst, Salvador Dalí, Ugo Rondinone, Andy Warhol, and Will Boone. Read on for details from the design team.



#### COHESION IS KEY

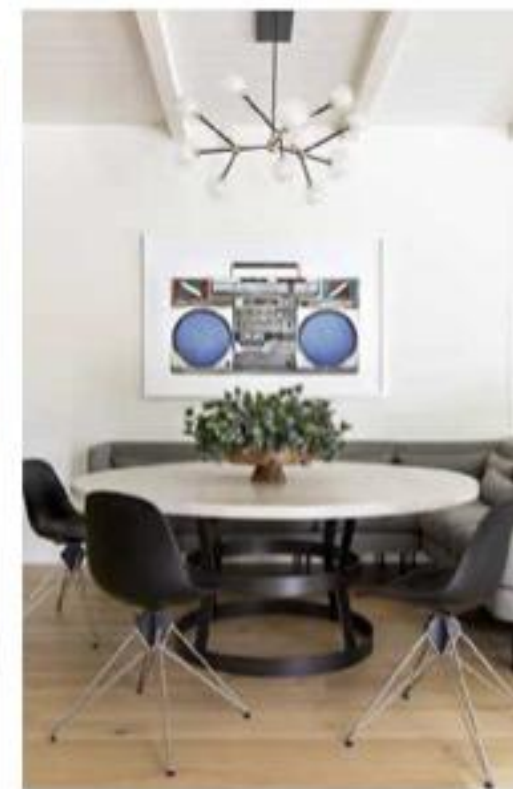
"The biggest challenge in reimagining the multiple properties was how to thoughtfully reconcile each structure's unique architectural character in a way that would allow for them to be aesthetically unified," Tran says. Their approach was to boil down the existing forms to their basic essence, then craft a consistent palette and level of architectural detail to unify each structure as one. Low maintenance exterior materials, including stone, painted metal, and integral color plaster are good contenders for the desert's unforgiving wind and heat.



#### MODERN FAMILY

"The main house started as an early '90s Vegas story with bizarre soffits everywhere, strangely laid out spaces, a tiny kitchen, and generally uninteresting, dark volumes of space and evolved into simplified, light-filled spaces great for modern-day family living," Borsari says. "We had a tight two-year construction schedule aimed at completion before their oldest son's senior year in high school, which dictated the approach we could take with the big design and architectural moves."

"Two things are paramount in our approach to multigenerational living," Tran says. "Flexibility, in terms of function... allowing for spaces to possibly evolve with the family and its needs. Second, timeliness in architectural integrity. In this, the design and material choices bring meaning and reinforce joy for our clients... ensuring that the home is uniquely theirs and will have a humanistic quality."



#### ROOM FOR ALL

With family gatherings as such a huge part of the homeowner's lives, it was important to create spaces where everyone could congregate comfortably. "Spaces connect and flow together, indoors and out, allowing multiple seating options in the main living space to accommodate everyone comfortably, while still feeling part of the mix," Borsari explains.



### EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

Taylor Borsari (pictured above) says the interiors centered around a good foundation for the family's art collection. "While we had a rough idea of what we wanted to use in some areas, the truth is where something ultimately landed was a moving target until it was actually installed. It's these final steps and last-minute tweaks that sometimes surprise you and really bring spaces to life. You have to remain open to the unexpected in design—some of those Eureka moments are the best!" Bold, sculptural lighting is part of the art scene here."



### DESERT OASIS

KAA's Senior Landscape Architect Michael McGowan says that though the outdoor spaces were the passage between each building, they needed to be flexible enough to allow for unintended uses and beautiful enough to entice folks to linger. "My favorite features are the pools, each with unique functions (exercise, party/play/gathering, relaxation, water shows), but each an enticing respite from the desert heat."

