



MAKING A SPLASH

ARTISTIC SHAPES OF CARLSBAD BEACH HOUSE DRAW LOOKS

BY LILLIAN COX

The Wave House, with its distinctive sculptured contemporary style inspired by Spanish architect Antoni Gaudi, is redefining the Carlsbad oceanfront.

"The design captures the sensuality of the sea with the sculptural façade reflecting the ocean's moods and flowing movement," said Wolfram Kalber, principal of Wolf Design Build, Inc. "The curves resemble wave shapes in the sand."

Kalber was awarded a contract to design and build the house after being invited to participate in a design competition by owner Fred Kiko in 2006. Kalber attributes his design influences to a passion for world travel and architecture, particularly Gaudi (1852-1926) whose style celebrated nature as a

structural, functional, spiritual and decorative inspiration.

"I presented the 'Ultimate Beach House' concept, with a wow factor," Kalber recalled. "All the homes I design embody a seamless transition from the indoor to their natural settings."

The 6,500-square-foot, five-bedroom, eight-bathroom house, which is on the market, has glass walls on three levels opening to curved balconies that welcome the ocean air. Cast glass with wave impressions can be seen throughout the property.

The ground floor, which includes a kitchen, family room and dining room, has a grand outdoor living area with gate access to the sand and surf and an outdoor shower. The area is designed for entertaining with a fire pit to watch the sunset, heated

SEE CARLSBAD • 18



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The Wave House, designed by Wolfram Kalber, was created with an ocean theme, which can be seen in the flowing curves of the ceiling in informal sitting area and kitchen on the bottom floor (top) and the exterior design (above).

Carlsbad

CONTINUED FROM 14

amphitheater seating for watching movies and a champagne-glass-shaped spa that overflows to an Italian-glass-tile pool.

Curved, serpentine sliding wood-framed glass doors can be pulled completely open to integrate the indoors and outdoors. Inside, the wave theme continues with a foam wave ceiling that extends to the kitchen, personal gym and laundry facilities. Reclaimed teak flooring ties the space together.

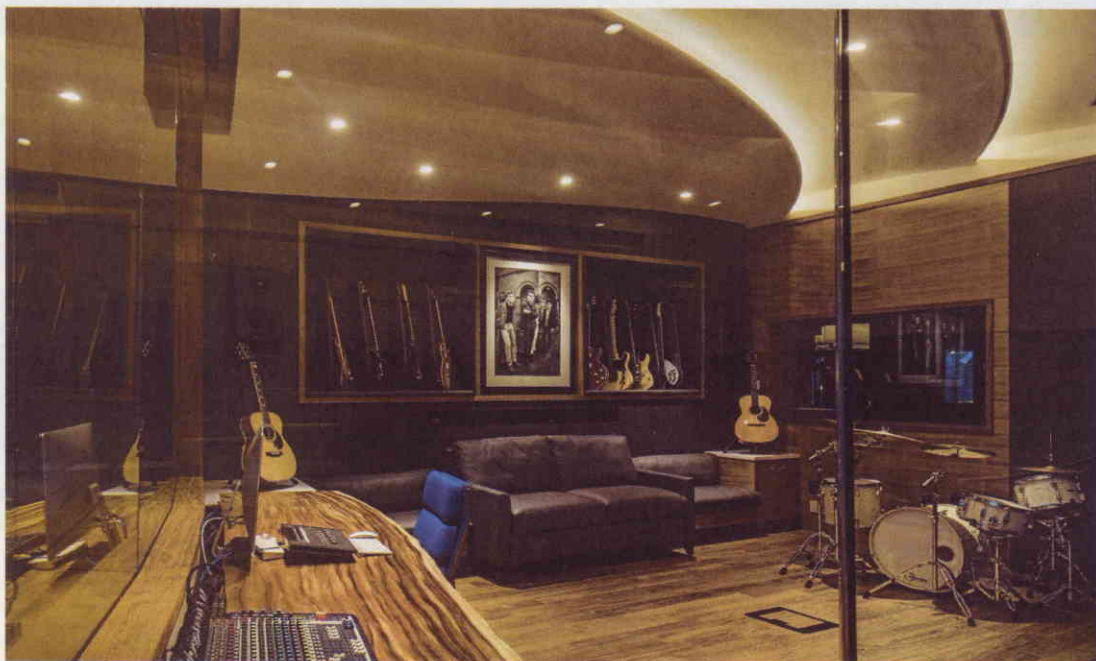
Chris and Melanie Huber, who have owned the home since 2011, embarked on a \$2 million renovation to create a state-of-the-art, sound-proof, glass music room/recording studio last year. They added the studio on what was previously an entertainment area on the ground floor that accommodated 200 guests.

"When we bought our home a few years ago, I knew exactly where the studio would live," said Huber, a businessman and musician. "Our primary aesthetic concern was to retain the panoramic ocean view through our ground floor windows. I researched studio designers and discovered Walters-Storyk Design Group-WSDG through their work on a Brazilian studio with a sweeping view into its live room through an enormous 'Cinemascope-style' control room window."

The second floor is the destination for indoor entertaining, with a dining and living room and a combination bar and kitchen that features wave-shaped curly koa cabinetry and a kitchen ceiling designed in the shape of the Hawaiian good luck symbol, the hei matau fish hook. This level also has a guest bedroom suite and African mahogany floors.

On the top level, the master bedroom suite boasts a Brazilian sandstone fireplace. The master bathroom includes a shower with an overhead waterfall fixture, a Jacuzzi tub and an Italian soaking tub. The level has three additional bedrooms and elevator and stair access to a private roof deck. All the home's levels can be accessed via a glass elevator.

Kalber is effusive in his praise



DARREN EDWARDS PHOTOS

The music studio (above), designed by John Storyk and Joshua Morris of Walters Storyk Design Group and completed last year, offers flawless acoustics with room-within-room isolation, plus a view of the Pacific. The top-floor master bedroom suite (below) features a Brazilian sandstone fireplace and retractable doors to take full advantage of oceanfront living.



of the craftsmen: Bob Osmus, metal-glass fabricator; Tom Prychun, master woodworker; Dave Brown and Mike McCoy, stonemasons; and Jeff Dunn of Mission Pools.

Kalber has had an opportunity to return to the house as a guest where he derives special pleasure from people watching

"To this day, I watch people walking the beach, stopping in their tracks, pointing and taking

time to look at the home as if it were a beautiful sculpture or work of art," he said. "I am grateful to Fred Kiko for bringing to fruition many one-of-a-kind design elements such as the champagne spa, glass pool front, triple-curving glass rails, serpentine doors and 'wave' koa wood cabinets, all blending to create a sculpture which you live in.

"We pushed the design to its limits, and executed the con-

struction with quality unsurpassed."

Despite what appears to be fragile beauty, Kalber is confident that The Wave House is here to stay.

"The structure is built like fortress, the foundation like a dam," he said.

Lillian Cox is an Encinitas-based writer who has been covering North County for the Union-Tribune since 2002.