

the men's book

LOS ANGELES MODERN LUXURY™

INSIDE:

LUXE REDUX!

BILLY BOB HITS ON HOLLYWOOD

AROUSING COFFEE TABLE TOMES

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AND MUCH, MUCH MORE

urbane cowboys

THE MEN'S BOOK 3455 WILSHIRE BLVD. SUITE 3032 LOS ANGELES, CA 90010

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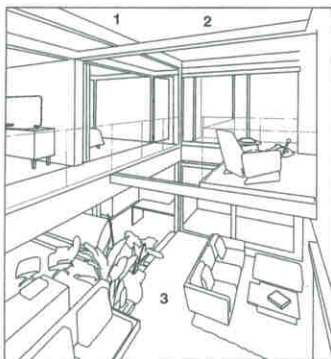


green house

A fab prefab stylishly embraces its environment

by michael herren photography by cj berg/sunshine divis

Who would believe the building blocks for the House of Tomorrow are... Legos? Steve Glenn for one. In 2005, the 42-year-old erstwhile tech entrepreneur realized his childhood, Lego-loving dream of building bold by founding LivingHomes, a developer and builder of pre-fabricated houses that manage to be green as Kermit the Frog while also packing major architectural pedigree. LivingHomes' first four designs come from iconic California modernist Ray Kappe, and boldfaced names on board for future



living areas

1. Photovoltaic cells on the roof convert the California sun to energy for the house.

2. A "living" roof reduces storm runoff and "heat-island effect" (urban areas' average temperatures measure as much as 10 degrees hotter than the surrounding countryside) while providing insulation, space for a small garden and a gas fire-pit for R & R.

3. A radiant heating system embedded in the floor is more efficient, healthier and cheaper than forced-air heat.

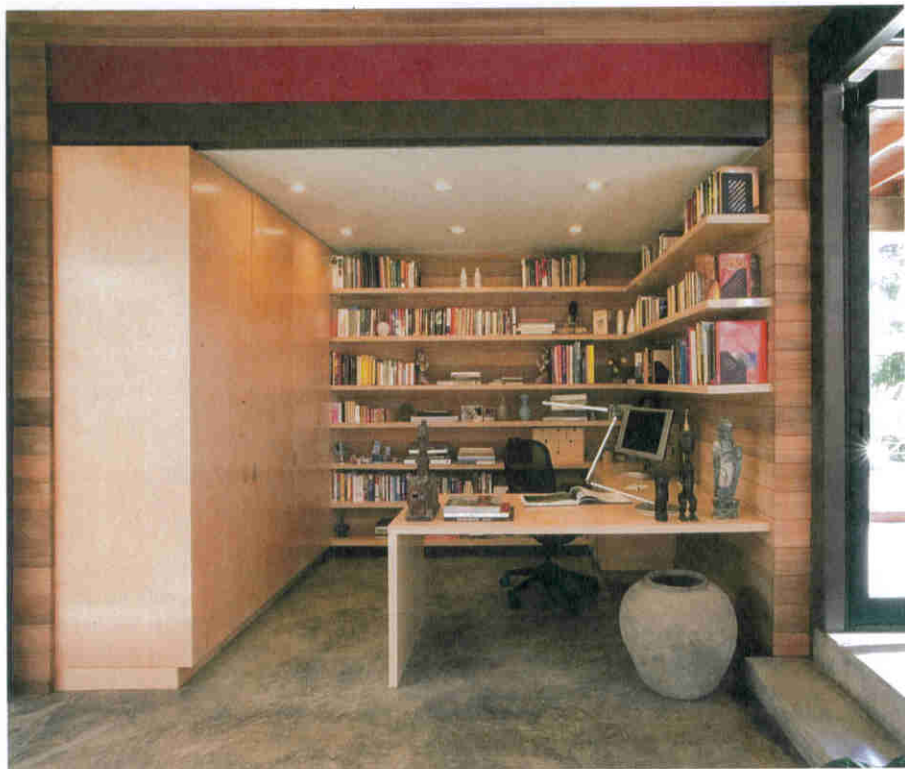


forms include David Hertz, an innovator of environmentally sound building materials and systems, and Stephen Kieran and James Timberlake, whose firm Kieran Timberlake has practiced sustainability for decades.

This first model house in Santa Monica, which does double duty as Glenn's own home, was installed in April of last year. At 2,500 square feet, it's composed entirely of natural, non-toxic materials and systems: It's "zero energy" (meaning it can produce all the power it consumes),

"zero emissions" (no formaldehyde or urea and no or low-VOC paint) and "zero water" for irrigation (all collected or recycled). It's also the first home in the United States to be rated "platinum," the highest level of certified sustainability, by the U.S. Green Building Council.

With plans to break ground on a LivingHomes community in Joshua Tree later this year at about \$250-\$300 per square foot, green might be not only the company's ethos, but soon its bottom line as well. ■



master bedroom

4. All wood is reclaimed or Forest Stewardship Council certified.

5. The bed, by Design Within Reach, is outfitted with a mattress that's filled with organic cotton and high thread count, organic cotton bedding by Matteo.

6. Moveable walls, changeable millwork and an accommodating structural system allow for maximum flexibility, taking both individual client taste and the climate of the building site into consideration.

study

7. The FSC-certified EuroPly storage units are a very low VOC ply and feature a maple veneer.

8. The down lights use one-tenth of the power consumed by incandescent lights and last 30,000 hours.

9. The high-performance insulation is made of 100 percent recycled denim.

LivingHomes
2911 6th St., Santa Monica,
310.581.8500. www.livinghomes.us

