

MODERN **LUXURY**



Raili Clasen

FEATURES

Best of Design & Realty 2018

By Meg McGuire, Allison Mitchell, Michelle Pulfrey and Kristen Schott

Photo by Becca Batista

12.18.17

Best of Design & Realty

BEST INTERIOR DESIGNER

With a full-service firm that offers everything from new construction design to remodels to full-blown reinventions, [Raii Clasen](#) has become O.C.'s go-to for fresh interiors—outside of what's trending on Pinterest. "Our projects are meant to be a bit more expressive... with an out-of-the-box design direction," says Clasen, whose accolades include being named style maker of the year by *Better Homes & Gardens*. Vibrant hues, statement furnishings and custom creations are hallmarks of Clasen's imaginative aesthetic. But it's when clients want to reinvent the old that her touch truly shines. Says Clasen: "I have a special affinity for original homes built prior to 1970, whose owners are ready for a major modernization, yet want to keep true to the era." Groovy, indeed.

BEST MANSE ON THE MARKET

A 450-foot slice of oceanfront heaven is on the market at [4130 Calle Isabella](#) in San Clemente, where the breathtaking Mediterranean-style home recently landed for a cool \$44 million. Sitting on almost 3 acres of land, behind the gates of Cotton Point Estates, the 13,000-square-foot abode, which includes seven bedrooms and 10 bathrooms, features ocean and sunset views from every major room. The master suite is enviable with a sitting room, massive closets and a private terrace, and rustic elegance abounds at every turn in the form of high-pitched beamed ceilings, and intricate brick and stone walls. There's also a three-bedroom guest house, a stunning 55-foot seaside pool, event lawn, sport court and a nine-car garage. As for those neighbors of yours, we don't think you'll mind sharing the view with the next-door La Casa Pacifica—former President Richard Nixon's Western White House.

BEST UP-AND-COMING LUXURY APARTMENTS

Steps from the sand in Huntington Beach, [The Residences at Pacific City](#) offers a distinct lifestyle chock-full of amenities. Take its Breathe VIP program, which includes everything from catered beach picnics to pro surf lessons. There's also a full-service concierge team to curate a social calendar of activities like rooftop sunrise yoga, wine tastings and cooking classes. Living quarters are top-of-the-line with options such as elite penthouses (up to \$10,000 per month) and one- to three-bedroom apartments (from \$3,000 per month). But why sit inside when a sprawling pool outlined with cabanas awaits?

BEST STARCHITECT

A cruise down PCH is all you need to appreciate designs from [Robert Hidey Architects](#). From villas at The Resort at Pelican Hill to custom homes in Crystal Cove and Shady Canyon, RHA offers first-class service, orchestrating the entire building process, from the architecture to the planning. That curated approach has allowed the brand to go global. "We have [now] been catering to an international clientele, from China to India to the Middle East, for the last decade," says Robert Hidey, who custom designed the penthouse suite at the Burj Khalifa in Dubai. "We understand the culture, needs and how to serve our international clients in a way that exceeds their expectations." Now, that's movin' on up.