

ARE YOUR SUNGLASSES REALLY PROTECTING YOUR EYES?

Proving Ground:
NEW ROSES TO TRY

PHOENIX HOME & GARDEN

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8 Exciting Designs Are The

**ARIZONA
HOMES
OF THE YEAR**





Above: The firm of Christensen Cassidy Billington & Candelaria created a contemporary expression of a Pueblo theme for the home of Rosalie and Louis Rosati in Mesa. The adobe-colored block wall defines the entry sequence and serves to organize the interior. **Opposite page:** The kitchen is the heart of the home and has easy access to a small office and studio loft. Photography by Neil Koppes.

**HONORABLE
MENTION**
SINGLE-FAMILY HOME

• **Christensen Cassidy
Billington & Candelaria,
Inc., Phoenix** •

The challenge was to interpret the Pueblo form of architecture in a contemporary manner and to provide easy, workable living space for a practicing physician and his artist wife.

George Christensen, FAIA, principal of Christensen Cassidy Billington & Candelaria, met the challenge with grace and style. For clients Louis and Rosalie Rosati, Christensen, working with Jim Van Compennolle as project architect, created a clean, contemporary home with colors, massing and lines that suggest adobe antecedents.

The home's design takes advantage of the east Mesa desert site. On the northern perimeter of the lot, there is an active arroyo; in the distance, Red Mountain can be seen. On the south, east and west, the home seems strong protective, with the planes of its rake-finished stucco walls broken only by a few small windows for solar control. To the north, however, the home in effect disintegrates, with large expanses of glass replacing the protective walls, providing the interior with natural illumination and views.

The plan of the house is simple. A rustic, adobe-colored block wall intersects the house and provides an organizing element. On the exterior, the wall discloses the entry; inside it provides a gallery for Rosalie's art and leads the way into the dining and living area, as well as the family room. On one side of the wall, there is an open, cheerful kitchen, carefully planned as cooking is a family

activity. Nearby, there is an office for Rosalie as well as a loft studio. The other side of the home contains the library, master suite and bedroom, used by the couple's grown children when they visit. Most of the rooms have access to an elevated patio, which overlooks the wash. A spiral staircase leads to a small roof deck.

Tile flooring, neutral colors and simple window

treatments keep the interior focus on the views of the surrounding desert as well as the homeowner's art.

The contractor on the project was Desert Star Construction, Scottsdale.

JURORS' COMMENTS

"The architect seems to have been listening very carefully to the clients."

"A wonderful sense of light within the home."

