

Architect Daniel Monti and designer Jamie Bush help a couple transform their tired MALIBU beach cottage into a MODERNIST sand castle

# New WAVE

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A modern Phasmida chandelier by **CHRISTOPHER BOOTS** contrasts a free-form, custom acacia-wood dining table designed by **JAMIE BUSH + CO.** and structural **MINOTTI** Mills dining chairs. An antique mirror creates the illusion of another window. Opposite: In the dining room, a special-edition "Star Trek" chair by **CECCOTTI COLLEZIONI** sits beside a **KELLY WEARSTLER** marble table and stone sculpture from **DAO**.





Bush layers the living room with natural textures, such as cased gray oak on the wall and ceiling. A custom linen textured sofa sits beside a custom STEFAN BISHOP ring table and taupe linen ottomans with sheep-fur tassels from V RUGS & HOME.





> Set on the bluffs of Malibu, against a backdrop of craggy coastline and sandy beach beneath, Russell Kern's 3,400-square-foot 1979 beach house was in need of a fresh look when he met his now-wife Meryl in March 2011.

Russell, founder and president of KERN, an Omnicom Agency, and his wife enlisted architect Daniel Monti from Modal Design to transform the unremarkable structure into an airy and open contemporary home; Monti tapped designer Jamie Bush to define the aesthetic. "So much contemporary architecture is almost antiseptic," Bush says. "We tried to take the natural beauty of the sand and the rocky hillside—those irregularities and imperfections—and juxtapose the rough and rustic textures with clean lines and a handmade touch."

Bush layered natural and industrial materials throughout—cerused gray oak; marble; bronze and silver—to create a subtle fusion of simplicity and warmth.

The ripples and reflections from hand-blown glass fixtures reference the ocean, while Athens Silver travertine planks that extend from the ground-floor living area to the deck outside blur the lines between interior and exterior spaces. "There's a rhythm and consistent palette that's reinterpreted throughout the house," Bush says. "It's really variations on a theme. Materials and textures are repeated, but in different ways."

Furnishings strike a balance between clean, geometric lines and more organic pieces such as a free-form, acacia-wood dining table or a marble bench with irregular veining; a 7-foot-long coffee table in whitewashed Douglas fir commissioned from L.A. artist Stefan Bishop reveals old growth rings from reclaimed timber. "There's an irregularity and a sort of human touch to these pieces," Bush says. "Rather than having everything manufactured, there is a dialogue that takes place to create a space that's more personal." •

Above: Russell and Meryl Kern. Below: In the master bedroom, a flag hayard chair by HANS WEGNER flanks a JOHN DICKINSON African table to create a quiet reading corner. Opposite: White cork wallpaper by HARTMANN & FORBES adorns the powder-room walls. Hanging Oona pendants by LAKE + WELLS and a bronze sink add warmth to the cerused white oak floating vanity and recessed Athens Silver travertine countertop.





A trio of Mali pendants hangs above the kitchen island, which is wrapped in moonstone quartzite, and custom fiberglass barstools. Modern appliances include a stainless-steel cooktop from **BERTAZZONI**, a faucet and pot filler by **DORNBRACKT** and integrated **SUB-ZERO** refrigerator.



Weathered cast-stone garden chairs by **DESSIN FOURNIR**, reclaimed teak furniture and potted succulents are set against dramatic views of the Pacific.

