

COLORADO

luxe.

interiors + design®

INTERIORS / ARCHITECTURE / INSPIRATION

DESTINY 2017

\$9.95 A SANDOW PUBLICATION | LUXE SOURCE®



JAN/FEB 2017 | DISPLAY UNTIL 03/06/17

GOLD
LIST
EDITION

Architects John R. Cottle and Simon Elliot designed a Vail Valley house to hold the main living and dining areas within a bridge-like form marked by expansive windows to take in the mountain views. A fireplace made of board-form concrete and hot-rolled steel anchors one side of the living area.



HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Whether inspired by the utilitarian mining shacks and agrarian ranch structures of days gone by or perfectly framing the state's place-defining mountain views, architecture in Colorado remains closely tied to the history and land on which it's built. As the practice continues to evolve, the following professionals comment on the importance of creating architecture in a way that works for today's lifestyles while still honoring and engaging with the site.

John R. Cottle: In designing this project (above), we wanted to capture the quality of the aspen forest. You can really feel the presence of the forest on the site; it's big, mature and intact. The owners liked the idea of incorporating a bridge, so the concept was to lift the living room up and put it in the bridge so the forest could flow underneath it. When you're in the bridge and look out to the big views, you feel like you're *in* the forest, and it still flows through the site.

Gavin Brooke: Land + Shelter always adapts our designs to the client and the site. My personal design inspiration is rooted in the purity of nature and landscape and the spare, refined character of Colorado's ranching and mining structures. This embodies itself as a modern architecture built from resonant materials inspired by local context.

Paul Mahony: At KGA Studio Architects, we've always prided ourselves on diversity and high-

quality design regardless of the exterior style. It goes back to our belief that the best design is one that delights the client. It's not our job to impose our taste on our clients; variety keeps my job interesting. If I had to choose a personal favorite, though, it would have to be old-world architecture. I appreciate the throwback to craftsmanship, the individuality of the style and the extra effort it takes to get it just right.

Harry Teague: For the projects we do in natural settings, the landscape and topography profoundly affect the shape and materiality of our buildings. It is impossible to ignore the mass and scale of the surrounding mountain topography, even large buildings are insignificant in comparison. The stronger, deeper projects engage in a stimulating dialogue with the landscape, and by engaging in this conversation, the structure becomes a collaborator with nature. As with most good conversations, both sides participate. Our buildings do not necessarily try to "blend in" but offset, expose and reveal the qualities of their surroundings.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: John R. Cottle, Gavin Brooke, Paul Mahony, Harry Teague