

A NEW MONOGRAPH SHOWCASES CCY'S GUIDING PRINCIPLE: DESIGNING HANDSOME AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES THAT CONNECT PEOPLE WITH NATURE

# Listening to Nature

STORY IRENE RAWLINGS PHOTOS DRAPER WHITE

Their family's multi-generational retreat near Morgedal, Norway, inspired this home. Vertical weathered-wood siding on the building's skin allows filtered light and gives the home a sculptural quality.







Apertures

The owners have an affinity for the photographs of Lindsay Ross, a Telluride artist, whose work will hang in the completed house. Their remote site sits at the bottom of a deep canyon.

Due to the steep, mountainous terrain, it became important to clarify the house's location by establishing a relationship with distant ridgelines. The ridgelines, site, and artwork informed a choreographed decompression sequence from the entrance to a memorable living space.

At the entry, a slice of mountain and sky, cropped like a photograph by a jutting light monitor, draws you into the house. As you approach the view, another light monitor captures a snapshot of a second ridgeline, turning you ninety degrees and pulling you toward the living spaces.

The third movement and final destination in the choreography leads to a massive boulder, a twenty-foot-high fragment of the mountain that anchors an outdoor room. The striking presence of the tangible boulder vividly contrasts with distant views, awakening the senses at journey's end.

TOP: The steep, mountainous terrain informed the design of this home. The remote site sits at the bottom of a deep canyon. The owners have an affinity for the art of Telluride photographer Lindsay Ross, whose work will hang in their finished home. BOTTOM (BACK ROW): Rich Carr, Alex Klumb, (FRONT ROW): Todd Kennedy, John Cottle. >>



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**YOUR BOOK TALKS ABOUT "INTERVIEWING THE SITE." COULD YOU DESCRIBE THIS PROCESS?**

TODD KENNEDY: It comes down to spending time on the property and really digging deep ... to see how the land changes from day to day and from season to season ... where the sun comes up in the morning [and] how it might light up a hillside in the evening.

JOHN COTTLE: Just to add a little—when we were designing the Meadow house (page 128), the architectural solution was not readily apparent. There were big views, but as we walked the land, we could hear a nearby river. It was a magical moment and helped us create a truly unique solution.

**WHAT IS CCY'S VISION FOR THE FUTURE?**

JOHN COTTLE: We will continue to raise the bar. Our firm had a focus on sustainability even back in the 1970s. Now, it is even more important to embrace smart design that is energy efficient, sustainable and generational ... enriching, durable and responsible homes that can be handed down to the children and grandchildren. ◻

The homeowners purchased an 1880s Victorian because of its proximity to the Aspen Music Festival site. The perforated aluminum siding (inspired by player-piano rolls) allows filtered light during the day. At night, the home glows like a lantern.

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