

GLOBAL THOUGHT

WRITTEN BY **NANCY CLARK**

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **CHRISTOPHER MARONA**

TUCKED INTO TELLURIDE'S RUGGED PEAKS STANDS A SOARING HOME ON TWO PIERS SUPPORTING THE STEEL, log and timber framing hanging between them and extending beyond them. Built as if an avatar of new thought has been released on the historic western town, the structure breaks free of the mindset that homes at this altitude must reflect the expected—miners' legacies and the cowboy spirit. Instead, this Japanese-influenced home is an organic tribute to, of all things, Buddha.

The owners, who reside in California, envisioned a calming getaway configured to nourish and sustain them while they're on retreat from their hectic schedules. They insisted that their team of architect, contractor and designer accompany them to the top of East Gros Ventre Butte in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, to see the ultradeluxe Amangani Resort, says home builder Tim Hild of Tandem, Inc. Immediately everyone on the project caught the vision. "This is," says Hild, "one of the most unique homes in the mountain region."

The structure is a thinking man's (and woman's) home. Telluric masses of concrete and stone rise up out of the earth trumpeting the design, one that offers thoughtful, reflective space for meditation. From the vantage point of the southwest-facing glass wall, the panorama of surrounding peaks and mountain ranges inspire expanded views on the world at large.

Monumental timber pillars are in fact a hallmark of traditional Japanese construction and architect Tommy Hein, known for his strong geometries in all of his plans, applied his best to this particular home. Using purposeful Japanese tradition underscored by two architectural influences—Frank Lloyd Wright and the National Parks style—the result is a livable architectural sculpture.

ARCHITECT Tommy Hein	HOME BUILDER Tim Hild
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INTERIOR DESIGNER Stephen Farish

BEDROOMS 5	BATHROOMS 7	SQUARE FEET 6,000
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THE OVERALL DESIGN PLAYS ON PRIMAL INSTINCT,
RISING UP OUT OF THE EARTH
 AS A SAFE HAVEN

STYLE SELECTION

Constructed from sustainable wood, this simple yet comfortable slipcovered round chair draws inspiration from the comforts of nature. *Scoop Armchair, \$5,152; rochebobois.com*



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The application starts by using Japanese feng shui positioning for the entire house and the rooms therein. The center of the home represents the ancient Torii gate, a fundamental Japanese feature. “The simplest way to put it is to compare the home’s design to an armchair,” explains Hein. Entering the home from the front or downhill side, the arms of the chair rise up on the sides, offering refuge while not sacrificing the home’s orientation with a vantage point overlooking the distant town of Telluride. The overall design plays on primal instinct, rising up out of the earth as a safe haven, fueled by water features. “In feng shui, water represents wealth,” explains Hein. A barrel vault ceiling in the master suite—the most optimum shape for sleep patterns because it allows energy to flow seamlessly—is another centuries-old practice that reinforces the sense of peacefulness around the clock.

SACRED SPACE
 Designer Stephen Farish used a clean, modern look influenced by Japanese traditions.



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The prescient finishes of the home are as complex and yet as simple as origami, with dark, medium and light mahogany. Ancestral Pueblean stone cut locally has its own pattern like none other in the world. Efficiency of space is another pure Japanese influence, and the bunk room, a nook-like space adjacent to the children's bedrooms, affords a convenience for overnight guests as well as a sense of privacy.

The furnishings are anything but traditional mountain furnishings, explains interior designer Stephen Farish, who has offices in both Telluride and Houston. The clients desired a clean, modern look—one that transitions their beachfront California lifestyle to this nearly sacred mountain escape. To that end, Farish infused the home with an imperial aesthetic. A contemporary built-in banquette in the breakfast area is comfortable enough to sit in for an hour and fits the space to an eighth of an inch. "The challenge," Farish says, "was to achieve the precise measurements for the seating that was manufactured states away in Texas and then installed on site."

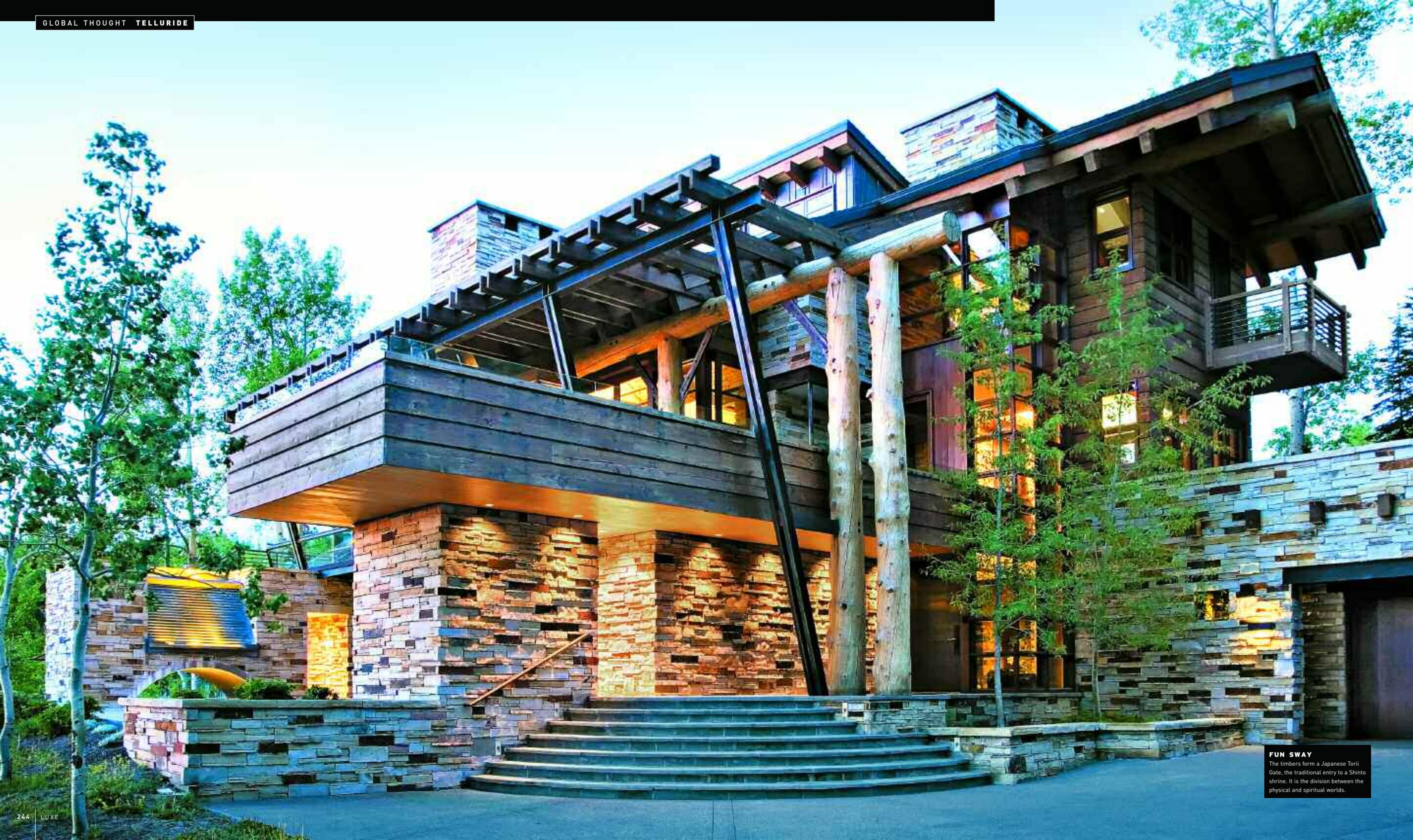
STYLE SELECTION

Inspired by René Magritte's *Les Marches de L'été*, which depicted the sky as man-made blocks, this conversation starter is fashioned to appear as if it can pivot. *ET30 End Table*, starting at \$3,600; antoineproulx.com



BOTTLED MESSAGE

The completely temperature-controlled wine cellar features a modified barrel vault ceiling and fiber optic lighting.



FUN SWAY
The timbers form a Japanese Torii Gate, the traditional entry to a Shinto shrine. It is the division between the physical and spiritual worlds.



THIS OR THAT
The customized settee designed by Farish allows either a perspective on the room or the panoramic view to the outdoors.

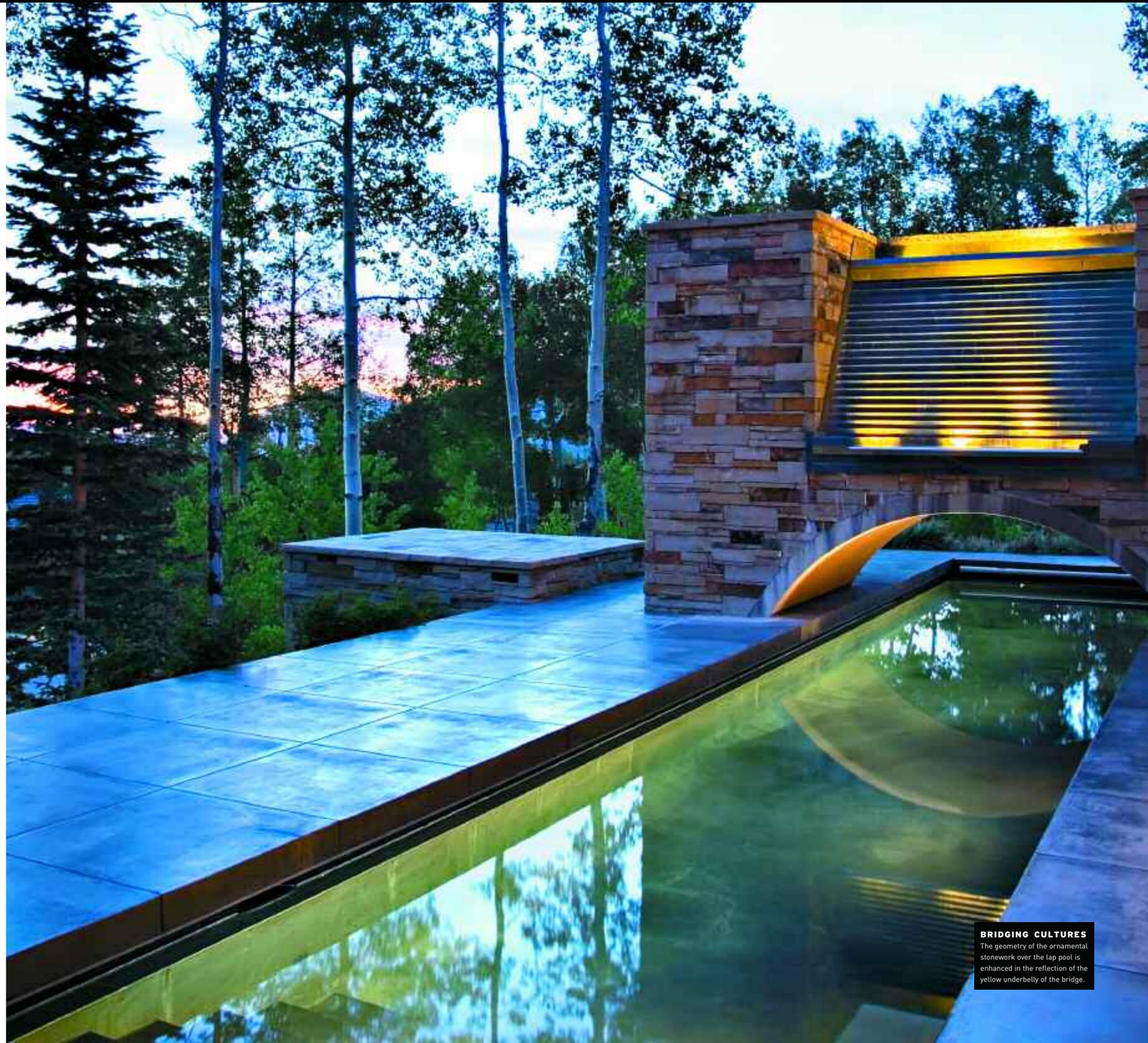


INTOXICATING
A relaxing retreat, the ritual of the Japanese bath is redefined to commune with nature in this private space.



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"People are drawn here for the views," adds Farish, explaining why the use of space is oriented toward those vistas. To protect the views from the inside-out, Farish insists upon automatic blinds that can be pulled back entirely, exposing nature to the interior. The Japanese influence of this home extends beyond its footprint by making use of "borrowed scenery," in particular, the impressive panorama. This practice of borrowing scenic beauty as a background to the garden underfoot is a purely Eastern philosophy passed down from *sensei* to apprentice. The integration of the landscape surrounding this peaceful home with the mountains beyond its boundaries couldn't be better suited than in a western place called Telluride. **L**



BRIDGING CULTURES
The geometry of the ornamental stonework over the lap pool is enhanced in the reflection of the yellow underbelly of the bridge.