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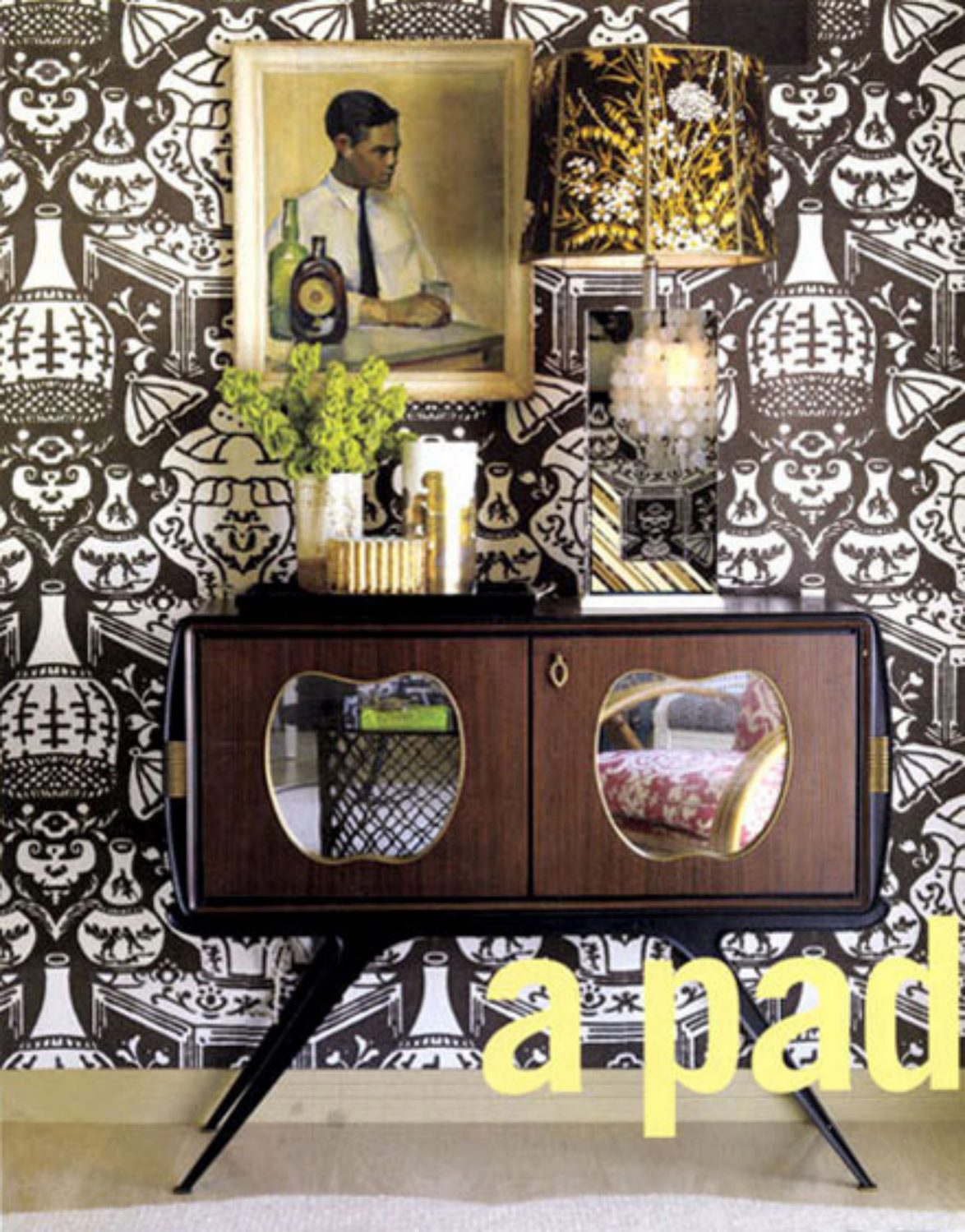
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a pad



Reese and Shawn Forbes in their driveway-cum-skate park. OPPOSITE The foyer's chinoiserie wallpaper is a David Hicks-inspired design from Clarence House. A mirrored Pierre Cardin lamp complements the apple-shaped panels on the midcentury bar.

that's rad

Living in a groovy sixties Sherman Oaks, Calif., re-do is anything but a grind for professional skateboarder Reese Forbes and his fashionable wife, Shawn



ABOVE The Forbesees relax on their living room sofa, by A. Rudin Upholstery; the lambwool pillow is from Krimsa, a shop in San Francisco. **BELOW** Reese's office, a converted bedroom, includes chrome-and-leather chairs by Ralph Lauren Home; decorator Jay Jeffers designed the ottoman. **OPPOSITE** The vintage lacquered-rattan upholstered chairs in the foyer are from Lawson Fenning, an L.A. dealer; the Moroccan iron table is a flea-market find.



Resee Forbes may not be a household name, but in skateboarding circles the man is royalty. A founding member of the cutting-edge Nike Skateboarding team, Forbes is the undisputed king of the ollie, a gravity-defying aerial trick that he has taken to record-setting heights. On the home front his ambitions are equally lofty—though not at all loftlike. One might expect a 30-year-old sports star to live in a spare industrial space stocked with little more than a practice ramp and cases of Cristal (think MTV's *Cribs*). Yet Forbes and his wife, Shawn, the director of fashion for Macy's West, are more sophisticated nesters than skate-punk slackers. Indeed, he has the clean-cut good looks of a Kennedy-era college jock; she's a guileless glamour girl who knows how to rock a Pucci print.

While Reese hails from Maryland, and Shawn from Michigan, both have an affinity for the look and feel of their midcentury California dream home: a 1961 L-shaped abode tucked into a Los Angeles hillside. "Skateboarding gave me an appreciation for graphics and design," says Reese, whose off-board adventures include developing a jeans line for Quiksilver, shoes for Nike and boards for his own company, Skate Mental (he also makes his screen debut next year in a feature-length film financed by Nike). "This house reminds me of what I imagine Palm Springs was like in the fifties and sixties, but updated and a lot more casual."

The couple made some slight structural modifications to the home but mostly stayed true to its Rat Pack-era architecture. With the help of interior designer Jay Jeffers, who has offices in San Francisco and L.A., they re-imagined the rooms for 21st-century living. Although the decorator likes to borrow from the flamboyant Hollywood Regency style, he dialed down the drama for the Forbesees. After all, an elaborate pattern and a bit of rich color can go a long way.

"Reese is a true skater guy," says Jeffers, "and he and Shawn wanted something stylish but easy to live in. Architecturally the house already told a story; we simply decided to have fun with the design,





ABOVE Vintage dining chairs, covered in Zimmer + Ruhde's Metro cotton, cozy up to an antique mahogany table that previously belonged to Shawn's mother; the buffet, now painted French blue, is another family heirloom. The ceramic-bust lamps atop it are from the Los Angeles shop Rubbish. **BOTTOM, LEFT** A Curtis Jere metal wall sculpture hangs above an Aldo Tura bar cart, which holds cut-crystal tumblers from Marc Jacobs Home and a grotto ice bucket from Modern One, in L.A. **BOTTOM, RIGHT** A club chair, its back to the fireplace that divides the living and dining areas, is covered in Lulu DK's Bloomsbury cotton fabric. **OPPOSITE** A cocktail table of Lucite and burli wood anchors the living room. The vintage lamp and string chairs are flea-market purchases.







ABOVE Jeffers designed the master bedroom's headboard, covering it in Zimmer + Rohde's Fairy raffia. Chinoiserie night tables are tucked in at each side. He found the bench at a flea market and upholstered it in Emerald Cut cotton by Decorators Walk. **OPPOSITE** Vintage portraits from Last Art Salon, in San Francisco, hang above an iron-and-glass table and a French chair from Modern One.

blending old and new, sleek and ornate."

The good times begin immediately behind the pair of wooden, paneled front doors, which are painted white. The unusually large foyer "is a perfect gathering spot, so I really wanted to create impact," says Jeffers, who transformed it into a party-starting cocktail lounge that would make Dorothy Draper chartreuse with envy: A chocolate-and-white chinoiserie print covers the walls; a 1970s Pierre Cardin lamp, its floral shade from the Rose Bowl Flea Market,

tops a midcentury bar; a capiz-shell chandelier shimmers enticingly. Though the room satisfies quotidian needs as well—"We read the paper here in the morning," Reese says—it's at its best "when people come over for dinner. We like to serve drinks here, and when the wallpaper starts moving, we know it's time to eat!"

By contrast, the living and dining areas, which are divided by a central marble fireplace that's original to the house, are relatively restrained. The living room rug, for instance, is a simple gray wool bordered in white leather, while the traditional mahogany dining table is unequivocally English. Despite his best intentions, Jeffers couldn't keep his hands off the white Regency-style dining chairs, which he upholstered in orange cotton. He also dermed the buffet, a hand-me-down from Shawn's mother, nicely proportioned



but much too dark and stuffy. "When we determined that it wasn't something we would take to the Antiques Road Show and be told we'd ruined it, we painted it blue," says Jeffers.

Before the couple met their designer, Shawn says, "I was a little scared to mix too many colors and pieces of furniture together. But in fashion I am influenced by colors and pattern, and I always take risks with my clothes. So why not in the house?"

Adds Reese, "It's important for me to live in an aesthetically pleasing home, but I could never think about details in the same way Jay does." Still, the Forbesees, emboldened by Jeffers, did do their fair share of decorating. Shawn routinely surfed Ebay, where she scored a white metal faux-bamboo Chinese Chippendale-style dinette set for \$1,000, an ideal match for the couple's travertine-colored kitchen. ("If you watch *The Golden Girls*," she says, "you'll see that they have the same set!") Reese bought a pair of leather-and-chrome Breuer-esque chairs by Ralph Lauren Home for his wood-paneled office. Bookcases lined in an olive-green croc-motif paper, a boldly patterned crest of arms, and a brass bull's head finish the look. "It's the man room," Reese says.

The master bedroom's wall color momentarily threw the fearless skateboarder for a loop, however. Using a pair of yellow lamps Shawn's mother had sent from Florida as inspiration, Jeffers painted the walls a bright lemon. "Nothing really intimidates me," Reese insists, "and yellow is certainly better than a plainer color. But it did kind of freak me out at first, because I have to wake up to it. In the end, though, it's actually a really calming yellow."

Jeffers believes that "developing trust and overcoming fears" are part of the job, and points out that Reese was more than fine with the room's custom-designed raffia headboard with faux-ostrich trim (curved extensions cocoon the bed and create bays for two painted, vintage chinoiserie nightstands). The piece is a seductive balm for a man who's always on the go. "I travel a lot," says Reese, "and the biggest change in my domestic life is that when I come home, everything is so self-contained and comfortable. I feel like I never want to leave." (Want to get the look? Turn to the Sourcebook on page 155.)



The Poolmans frolic in their slate-situated pool. Above, the living and master bedroom are visible through generous windows.

