

# BATHS OF THE YEAR 2015

BY EVA DITLER

JUDGES: LISA FRANCO, HEATHER MOE AND MARK MORRIS

## CASUALLY CAPTIVATING

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GAIL OWENS

LARGE, LUXURIOUS home bathrooms with resort-hotel style can be glorious. But that's not what a Del Mar Mesa couple wanted — even though their master bathroom was large enough to accommodate such a spectacle.

"I didn't want anything too fancy," Shelley Aberle says. "We're a very casual family, and we wanted it to feel natural."

That's why designer Paul Schatz of Interior Design Imports infused their big space with intimate style. Stealing the scene is the laid-back charm of a new bath alcove that is elegantly framed with plaster arch details; has a cozy, coved ceiling; and features a freestanding, hydrotherapy tub.

"Shelley loves her garden, so we put in an iron-paned window, reminiscent of another era, to highlight the exotic hanging garden just outside the tub area," Paul says. "Theresa Clark designed the garden, which is an L-shaped trellis system with a variety of plants."

On the other side of the bath, a steam shower features slabs of honed Halila limestone, trimmed in custom stone moldings and decorative base tile.

"Prior to the remodel, our shower was larger and, without an enclosure, had a cold feeling," Shelley says. "Paul made it smaller and put the glass door on it."

He spiced up the shower's spirit with a dramatic limestone,

built-in bench that has arched details and a backsplash of hand-painted tiles. Just outside the shower, in between the bathing and shower spaces, is a vestibule for drying off.

An art-glass picture window, featuring mouth-blown glass roundels, ensures privacy while allowing for plenty of natural light. Between the vestibule and tub area, a soapstone screen, designed and hand-carved in India, visually joins the spaces.

"I like to incorporate found objects into architecture, like the soapstone screen," Paul says. "It's incredible that you can take a piece made in India, ship it out here, not have it be broken, and install it. This is not a local resource that you can just order. The screen is carved on both sides and is a work of art within itself."

Paul also transformed the flooring into a work of art. The bathroom has an elongated shape; but by creating a carpet effect with the limestone and mosaic tile floor, the space appears more balanced.

"Enhanced Jerusalem honed stone and coralina drop-set mosaic tiles with Botticino dots create distinct rug motifs across the floor," Paul says. "By using not unusually expensive material in a creative way, we had the necessary funds for other areas, like the moldings we did."

Seamless moldings, a signature of Interior Design Imports'



Above: Hand-painted tiles accent the master bathroom designed by Paul Schatz.

Facing page: "The metal-paned window provides a casual, more organic feel," says homeowner Shelley Aberle. "That big window is my favorite thing about the bathroom."

style, were incorporated in the wall, sinks, countertops and mirror backsplash areas.

"The moldings are made as extensions and are put together very tightly," Paul says. "The glass part of the mirror opens independently of the frame, and there are glass shelves inside for lots of storage. It takes artistry and great contracting skills

working together to be able to do this."

The new master bathroom triggers visions of mysterious, distant lands.

"The lighting and the pattern and color of the tiles give the bathroom a Moroccan feel," Shelley says. "I wasn't intentionally looking for that, but that's what comes to mind. It spoke to me. I really liked it."

"This is a bright, clean, interesting take on the Old California style.  
It's obvious that the designer thought through every detail."

— Judge Heather Moe



## WHERE TO FIND IT

**Sconces, shower fixtures, sinks:** International Bath & Tile, 858-268-3723 (Graff shower fixtures, Duravit Vero vanity sink)

**Tile:** International Bath & Tile (Avorio Moon porcelain tile, Heavy Rain Calacatta tile and Sharkskin glass mosaic tile)

### Crystal Clear

**Design:** Kelly Pfeiffer, lead designer, Cabochon Surfaces & Fixtures, 858-454-8798; Alison Dorvillier, InPlace Studio, 858-454-7397

**Architect:** Mark Lee Christopher, LEED AP, Sanctuary Architects, 619-980-1627

**Contractor:** Tony Parker General Builders, 858-391-1430

**Acrylic box:** Mobile Plastic Works, 619-469-7547

**Cabinetry:** Bob Kamoo, Precision Woodworking, 619-498-3800

**Cabinetry hardware:** San Diego Hardware, 858-576-1892

**Chandelier:** Through Cabochon Surfaces & Fixtures (Harbour Antiques)

**Glass, marble, stone:** Cabochon Surfaces & Fixtures

**Mirrors:** Lavish the Bath Gallery, 858-456-6111 (Kallista)

**Tub:** Pirch, 858-966-3600

**Wall sconces:** Through Cabochon Surfaces & Fixtures (Waterworks)

### Casually Captivating

**Design:** Paul Schatz, Interior Design Imports, 619-696-6373

**Architect:** Fabio Rigo de Righi, Domani Architecture + Planning Inc., Los Angeles, 310-208-7600

**General contractor:** David Burns, Burns General Contracting, 760-212-1776

**Cabinetry:** Lee Cabinet Manufacturing Inc., 619-427-1149 (alder); Albert & Holmes, 858-458-1181 (painting)

**Cabinetry hardware:** San Diego Hardware, 858-576-1892

**Hanging garden design:** Theresa Clark Landscape Architect, 949-248-5404

**Lighting:** Jim Gibson, Gibson & Gibson Antique Lighting, 619-422-2447 (fabrication); Revival Antiques, 626-405-0024 (sinks, sconces)

**Plumbing fixtures/tub:** Pirch, 858-966-3600 (Pohl fixtures, Sunrise Specialty tub)

**Stone/tile:** Torres Stone Tile Design, 760-738-8078 (Halila limestone installation and molding fabrication); Unique Stone Imports, 858-275-8300 (honed Jerusalem, Botticino and coralina mosaic tile, hand-painted tile, Halila limestone, soapstone); L&C tile (installation)

**Windows:** Carole Mayne, 760-822-7384 (art-glass picture window fabrication); Vincent Designs, 619-233-7224 (steel-paned window)

**Window shade screen:** Conrad (to the trade)

### Catchy Combination

**Design:** Lena Brion, ASID, CID, LEED AP ID+C, Brion Design Inc., 858-755-9011

**Contractor:** Joe Conrad, Wardell Builders, 858-793-4190

**Cabinetry:** Wood supplied by Brett Hesser, Hesser Handcrafted, 619-519-1991; cabinetry made by Monroe Woodworking, 760-310-4585 (quarter-figured Khaya wood veneer)

**Countertop:** Marmol Export, 858-530-3250 (travertine in Gascogne Beige); Stoneworks, 619-447-0096 (installation)

**Flooring:** GC Thomas, 619-518-3011 (Florium porcelain Layers tile in Chalk); Star Tile, 619-390-8470 (installation)

**Lighting:** Custom by Brion Design Inc.; RK Electric, 619-972-1882 (Phillips Lightolier, Dasal and Tube lighting installation)

**Mirror:** Tyson Stone, Los Angeles, 323-630-3553 (electric mirror); Sorrento Glass Company, 858-259-5169 (other glass and mirrors); RK Electric (installation)

**Plumbing fixtures, toilet, tub:** Pirch, 858-966-3600 (Gussi Oval faucets in chrome, Aquabrace Rainhead showerhead and Aquogrande hand shower in polished chrome, Caroma Invisi Cube Series II wall-hung toilet, Victoria and Albert Edge tub in volcanic limestone)

**Wall and window coverings:** Linda Smith, Orange County, 949-244-7827 (Chilewich Basketweave in denim) Jason Taylor, Jacques Bouvet Et Cie, Orange County, 949-510-3953 (Dijon pattern and Oyster color wallcovering behind vanity mirror)

## BEFORE & AFTER

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**Designers:** Susanna Samanaiego and Elaina Myers, Design 4 Corners, 760-696-0502

**Contractor:** KZ Fine Woodworking, 858-335-2681

**Area rugs:** If Ponies Were Wishes, wishpony.com

**Bed piece/fort and built-in cabinetry/entertainment center:** Susanna Samanaiego (design); KZ Fine Woodworking (construction)

**Fabric:** Calico Corners, 858-292-1500 (Elegant Blossom window fabric and Sag Harbor Bouquet bench fabric)

**Window treatments:** The Drapery Shop, 760-727-1617

**Chalk paint (grass blades):** Annie Sloan, New Orleans, La., 504-305-5531

**Muralist:** Katie Gaines, Love Paper Paint, 760-807-5487

## KITCHENS/BATHS

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**Designer:** Karen C. Wrigg, FIFDA, Karen Cole Designs, 602-321-9154

**Contractor:** Jbran Construction, 760-805-6351

**Appliances:** Pacific Sales, 760-827-2215 (Frigidaire hood; KitchenAid cooktop, warming drawer, convection/microwave and standard wall oven; Samsung refrigerator)

**Backsplash:** The Five Elements, 858-695-2092 (frosted subway Designing in Soho glass tile and linear mosaic deco Fifth Avenue glass tile)

**Cabinetry:** Palace Cabinetry, 760-533-8088

**Cabinetry knobs and pulls:** Outwater Plastics Industries Inc., 800-631-8375 (satin nickel)

**Countertop:** Arizona Tile, 858-566-6195 (Samsung Radlantz quartz in Antigua Beige on perimeter counters and Bristol Beige on island and buffet counter)

**Dining room chandelier:** CED, 760-438-9691 (Frederick Raymond Jasper)

**Dining room bench seat upholstery:** Through design (Duralac pattern in Citrus)

**Flooring:** Rayo Wholesale, 760-721-5839 (Hallmark Hardwood, Alta Vista in Del Mar)

**Island stools:** Casual Dining & Barstools, 858-578-5881, 760-736-4691 (Amisco Industries Ltd. Oxford swivel counter stools with magnetite metal finish and pewee vinyl upholstery)

**Paint:** Dunn-Edwards, 858-847-9127 (Sky Glass on walls; Whisper White on cabinets, base molding and ceiling; Ash Gray on island and buffet)

**Pendants above sink:** Coast Lighting Inc., Redwood City, 650-364-3383 (Jamie Young Small St. Charles pendants)

**Solatube:** Solatube Home Daylight, 760-602-3223

**Under-cabinet LED light bars and receptacles:** Task Lighting Corp., 800-445-6404

## CORONADO MED

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**Landscape designer:** Cathie Dalessio, 760-504-3538

**Hardscape design:** MaryKay Pisciotto, 858-759-7953

**Landscape maintenance:** Albert Zuniga, 760-871-5103

**Baskets:** CMA Growers, 760-754-8811

**Custom tile and concrete:** Granada Tile, Los Angeles, 213-482-8070

**Plants:** Briggs Tree Co., 760-727-2727

**Pottery:** Cordova Gardens, 760-944-6984

**Moroccan tile, jars/pots:** Just Morocco, Clearwater, Fla., 727-751-4803



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