



MODERN LUXURY
RIVIERA
ORANGE COUNTY



Photography by Karyn Millett

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California Cool!

by By Andrew Myers | [Riviera Orange](#) magazine | March 3, 2011

and instant rapport. “We all grew up together,” says Heidi Bonesteel c Hall, explaining that she and Hall met when they were 14 and she anc design school together. That points to the passion the three women sl professional pursuit of which has made them not only BFFs but busine Orange County- and L.A.-based design firm Bonesteel Trout Hall. Although all three have 20 years’ experience in the textured world of i been working as a trio since 2002, their signature style was not articu and on their website—until last year. In 2010, the triptych descended Leadership Summit, an annual powwow of design bigwigs held in Veni the power of design firms really branding themselves,” says Bonestee Their imaginations had always been flooded with waves of inspiration ever-optimistic, ever-jolly and sun-drenched coastal colors—the many throughout the day and under different weather conditions; the spect: magentas and oranges at sunset; the tan of sand and skin; and the iv bleached woods and shells. Not to forget “the vibrant pinks and green Bonesteel adds. What had before been assumed was now made explic with keywords California coastal casual chic, easy and familial. A primo product of their approach and process is the Emerald Bay hor Peykoff and their three little girls (very little: ages 4, 2 and less than c Bonesteel explains, had learned of her and her partners through an ar and a plant maintenance person. “All the stars were in alignment,” Bo Jill and I all have some age on us [they’re early 40-somethings, born another], all with kids and dogs, all living minutes from the water, so Peykoffs were perfect clients for us.”

Not so perfect was the house. Bonesteel estimates it was built well over 50 years ago and emphasizes that "it was in dire need of renovation." The prime appeal of the house is the ocean view from every room, and the proximity to the Pacific. The mission was to translate ocean and motion to the interiors.

Shades of white swept through the house—walls, ceiling, baseboards, bathroom tile, built-in cabinetry and windowsills. It's the perfect backdrop for the colors, such as the sea-foam blue of the master bedroom's upholstered chair, the master bath's ceiling, and the deeper blues of the media room's sofa and Saarinen chairs in the breakfast area. The range of light greens (celadon) is used in the kitchen backsplash and in bathrooms and on bolsters, the stripes indoors and out) and the pops of orange in the playroom help balance the palette throughout.

Bonesteel, Trout and Hall use the neutral whites to provide a platform (but comfortable, Bonesteel stresses) for examples of midcentury modern furniture, including the aforementioned Saarinen Tulip chairs and table, the Bertoia Bird chair and a lounge. It also supplies a neutral backdrop for the contemporary art by consultant Anne Mennealy. These pieces, such as the acrylic ink and wash by Marcy Freedman in the stairwell and the oil on panel by MaryBeth This fireplace in the free-flowing central room, also sport coastal colors. "It's a balance of architecture, landscape and design are all considered at the start of a project," says Bonesteel, whose favorite area of the house is the enormous open-plan containing kitchen, dining, breakfasting and living areas. Her happiest place is the downstairs media room, which started as a "man cave but became, with the addition of wine storage, a great mecca for design," she says. It was a late-in-the-game addition that evidenced the Peykoffs' enthusiasm and trust.

"Confidence can be casual," declares Bonesteel, adding that the firm's success translates well beyond the Golden State, even circumnavigating the globe to Saudi Arabia. "For so many years design was focused just on New York City. But no matter what people say, California is really cool."

