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ALFRESCO LIVING

THIS TRIO OF OUTDOOR SPACES IS BURSTING WITH INSPIRATION.



FELDMAN ARCHITECTURE

In order to more fully engage with their lush, secluded backyard, a family in Atherton turned to Feldman Architecture. The firm's innovative solution: two transparent pavilions—one housing a pizza oven and grill, and the other an exercise and meditation space—discretely set in the existing landscape of redwoods and other mature trees. "We wanted the architecture to be invisible, to be subservient to the landscape," says Feldman Architecture's Isabel Verhille. Taking cues from their surroundings, the pavilions have a cabin aesthetic—rustic but refined—with a material palette designed to weather over time. feldmanarchitecture.com



ZETERRE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

What started as a project to create a trellis at a Woodside home ultimately ended with Zeterre Landscape Architecture designing both a swimming pool and outdoor entertaining areas, essentially doubling the home's living space. "We did a sleeping porch, because everything is so beautiful to look out on," says landscape architect Jarrod Baumann. Working with residential designer Natalie Hyland, Baumann tied the space closely to the design of the interiors, mirroring an indoor fireplace outside in the arbor and connecting the dining room to an outdoor dining space, complete with electric screens that drop from the eaves to keep the bugs at bay. zeterre.com



RANDY THUEME DESIGN

When a couple bought their San Francisco home, their first order of business was getting the overgrown yard into shape. To that effect, Randy Thueme Design created formal courtyards, a fireplace and outdoor kitchen, a basketball court, and kid-friendly areas. But the undertaking that really intrigued the team was the couple's request to remake an existing art studio building into a light-filled natatorium. "It was kind of a box with a clumsy access point," says landscape architect Randy Thueme. "We opened it up by adding windows and lowering the patio outside to relate to it." The enclosed pool now offers year-round swimming. randythuemedesign.com