

Farm *to* Stable

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Designers
Brooke
and Steve
Giannetti
build their *dream*
house in *Ojai*
and archive the
process in their
new coffee table
book, *Patina*
Farm



**ANTIQUE PARISIAN
DOORS and
LIMESTONE FLOORS**

in the home office.

Opposite: **STEVE AND
BROOKE GIANNETTI**
stand in their glass and
steel doorway.





The **LIMITED PALETTE**
on the home's exterior
and interior brings
SERENITY and **CALM**,
which extends from
the front gate to the
GRAVEL PATHS
and the **ROSE-**
COVERED BARN.





The sunlit **DRESSING ROOM** with glass doors and tufted furniture **BECKONS RELAXATION**.
Opposite: In the neutral **LIVING ROOM**, **FLORAL WALLPAPER SCREENS** add a focal point and conceal the TV.



In daughter Lella's
BATHROOM, an antique
SWEDISH TABLE is
transformed into a sink
base. A **LINEN SKIRT**
hides storage stylishly.





The tub rests in the **GARDEN** thanks to the glass walls and ceiling, which "blur the line between indoor and outdoor space." **LARGE HEDGES** provide privacy.



**BOOK-LINED
SHELVES** made
from **REPURPOSED
SCAFFOLDING
BOARDS** give
son Nick's room a
"COZY LIBRARY
AESTHETIC."



► After years of living in the suburbs of Santa Monica, Brooke and Steve Giannetti—a decorator and architect respectively whose client roster includes Jennifer Garner, Goldie Hawn, and Halle Berry—decided to fulfill their lifelong dream of building a farm. They wanted to create their idyllic, rural retreat, write about it, and show their kids that it was possible to achieve lofty ambitions. Setting off in search of land in the right kind of town, yet close enough to Los Angeles, Steve said it felt like “all roads were pointing to Ojai.” With Ojai’s natural palette of peaceful pastels to draw from and plenty of room to house their 24 animals, Patina Farm was born.

Having already coauthored *Patina Style* five years back, the Giannettis had no trouble dubbing their new home and book *Patina Farm* (both published by Gibbs Smith). Early on, the couple started hitting swap meets and flea markets and would put all their treasures on the table to find out what they had in common. “It was very she likes/he likes,” Steve says, recalling everything from old leather books to industrial antiques. “One thing we shared was patina—that worn, aged, real quality.”

“Natural materials age and get more beautiful,” adds Brooke. “Like worn leather jackets and boots, there’s a history of the item, something to it, and we like to build houses with that same appeal.”

Patina Farm is full of aged-looking details, many of which are inspired by Ojai’s old farm buildings. The reclaimed red roof tiles are from France, and old stone and indoor/outdoor plaster looks like the new home has been there for a century. Raw wooden doors were left natural and all the cabinetry is bleached white oak. What imagery that wasn’t culled from Ojai’s surroundings was inspired by a trip to Belgium a few years ago, and the couple wanted to recreate what they saw there: clean plaster walls, antique doors, and a mix of ancient and contemporary elements.

“When you put modern and old together, suddenly you have a new thing,” says Steve. To juxtapose the Old World look, they chose glass and steel doors to bring pull in that modern element along with plenty of natural light. Metal roofs were used on the farmhouse structures, giving an interesting edge and opposition to the red tiled roofs.

Inside, very little paint was used, keeping the “modeled looking” drywall compound’s texture raw and exposed. With neutral tones throughout, there wasn’t a lot of room for pattern play; however, they paneled a tri-fold screen in watercolor-esque Gracie floral wallpaper both to act as a focal



point in the living room and to hide the TV.

The farm kitchen’s warm accents range from an indoor fireplace to hanging copper pots, creating the spot everyone wants to connect in. The master bedroom has an enclosed garden off the bathroom and a large, relaxing dressing area, which the couple admits is necessary for catching up while getting ready before running off to their busy schedules.

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But their favorite rooms in the house? Their own offices. “I have the best view of the valley in the house, plus I can look down at the donkeys,” Steve says. “And I’m close to the animals in my office,” Brooke adds. “The goats sleep on the porch, and I can see the chicken coop and the rose garden.”

Their book takes readers through each space—from the exquisite powder rooms and kitchen corners to the romantic fire pit with faux bois chairs. Between the trellises, vines, roses, and roaming farm animals, the Giannettis’ oasis is easy to fall in love with. And each pink Ojai sunset reminds them how happy they are to fulfill their dream and be in a house inspired by the town’s magical hues. ●

FRENCH LAVENDER-LINED PATHS lead down to a **DREAMY POND** with ducks, frogs, and picnic-ready **BOAT RIDES**. Opposite, top to bottom: An antique lantern is turned into a **TABLE LAMP**; old French doors lead into the **MASTER BEDROOM**.

