

# CALIFORNIA HOMES

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THE ARTS & DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

## *At Home*

HEALDSBURG  
OJAI  
SANTA MONICA

**FOOD & WINE ISSUE**



# Healdsburg Hideaway

DESIGNER MAREA  
CLARK BALANCES  
TRADITIONAL  
& MODERN THEMES  
TO CREATE THE  
QUINTESSENTIAL WINE  
COUNTRY RETREAT

TEXT **ROGER GRODY**  
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**S**INCE FOUNDING her eponymous firm in 2016, interior designer Marea Clark has earned a loyal following throughout the Bay Area and California wine country. At Marea Clark Interiors (MCI), the designer balances her Southern roots with the cosmopolitan qualities of her adopted San Francisco, resulting in timeless aesthetics that honor tradition while accommodating 21st century lifestyles. “Clients appreciate the Southern, traditional flair that appears in many of my designs, but my work is also informed by 15 years of living on the West Coast,” reports Clark, who quips, “It’s kind of a South-meets-California vibe.”

For a home in Healdsburg, the heart of Sonoma Valley, Clark’s firm was commissioned to create a family-oriented weekend retreat possessing the same level of comfort and sophistication as her clients’ primary residence in San Francisco, also designed by MCI (and featured in *California Homes*). The Healdsburg residence, originally built in 1981, was extremely dated and Clark collaborated with Brooks McDonald Architecture and Eric Friedman of Arrow Builders to completely reimagine the home from the foundation up.

Clark leveraged the living room’s greatest asset, a tremendous sense of volume created by a vaulted ceiling, which her team modernized with clean-lined soaring windows that now flood the space with light. She complemented those qualities with a soothing neutral palette, anchoring the room with an inviting sofa and pair of Lawson-Fenning side chairs. A dated stone-faced fireplace was transformed by the project team, resulting in a minimalist design with a floating oak mantel and contemporary art, as well as a recessed wet bar for entertaining.

In the kitchen, white custom cabinetry with contrasting hardware echoes white quartz countertops, while a pair of Urban Electric Co. pendants with generous zinc shades hang over an island with pastel blue beadboard siding and



**BELOW** Clark enhances the family/media room with a Maiden Home sectional and Art Deco lighting by Selamat.

**OPPOSITE TOP** Clark introduces subtle colors into a kitchen illuminated by zinc-shaded Urban Electric Co. pendants.

**OPPOSITE BOTTOM** Soaring windows flood the living room with light, where Lawson-Fenning chairs contribute to an inviting space.







leather-topped stools. “We tried to bring in some color, so it wouldn’t appear too white or sterile from the adjoining rooms,” reports Clark, who selected nuanced, hand-glazed tiles from Waterworks for the backsplash. In the dining room, a rustic yet refined tree branch-inspired chandelier from Paul Ferrante is suspended over a handcrafted walnut dining table by Jacob May paired with ladder-back chairs from Redford House.

A balance of informality and sophistication is struck in the light-filled family/media room, where a Maiden Home sectional

surrounds a modern, circular coffee table. The space is illuminated by an Art Deco ceiling fixture by Selamat whose natural grass-fiber shade ties in with the oak flooring. The spacious master bedroom is a retreat within a retreat, featuring a contemporary four-post bed, whitewashed branch chandelier from Currey & Company and two swivel chairs from Serena & Lily. In the master bathroom, Clark introduced varying textures while adding a pop of color to the quiet palette through a watercolor by artist Jen Garrido.

“We try to create spaces that feel warm and inviting so you’ll want to spend time enjoying them, rather than spaces that are just for show.” - MAREA CLARK



**ABOVE** A custom vanity provides a welcome injection of color in a guest bathroom.

**LEFT** The view from the master bedroom can be enjoyed from a Serena & Lily swivel chair.

**OPPOSITE** A guest bedroom features a Serena & Lily bed, nightstands from Redford House and Palecek mirror.



This Healdsburg residence is consistent with MCI's approachable design philosophy, one in which elegance and wine country informality can coexist. "A beautiful home can also be really livable and durable." - MAREA CLARK

**BELOW LEFT** The tranquil master bath is a study in textures.

**BELOW RIGHT** A pop of color is provided by artwork from Jen Garrido.

**OPPOSITE** The master bedroom offers a contemporary four-post bed and branch-inspired chandelier from Currey & Company.







**LEFT** A rope-framed mirror from Serena & Lily and Schoolhouse sconce enhance a guest bath.

**BELOW** Fabric from Raoul Textiles provides a splash of color in one of the guest bedrooms.

**OPPOSITE** The recreation-centric year yard features swimming and two tiers of outdoor living with Janus et Cie furniture.

The rear of the home reinforces the indoor-outdoor theme so essential to the wine country lifestyle, with Janus et Cie furniture accommodating two tiers of outdoor living space overlooking a pool and the golden Sonoma Valley hills beyond. This Healdsburg residence is consistent with MCI's approachable design philosophy, one in which elegance and wine country informality can coexist. "A beautiful home can also be really livable and durable," explains Clark, who adds, "We try to create spaces that feel warm and inviting so you'll want to spend time enjoying them, rather than spaces that are just for show." CH

