



Desert Oasis

When designer Sheldon Harte received a commission to create the interiors for a 16,000-square-foot family compound in Indian Wells, Calif., the owner had a very clear directive when it came to the home cinema: absolutely no theater seating. "She said it turns her off," Harte recalls. The request was not a problem for the designer—in fact, it was a revelation. "I happily brought in a 10-foot-long A. Rudin sofa and covered it in mohair from Kirk Brummel through Brunshwig & Fils," he says. He also used plush mohair from Gretchen Bellinger, interwoven with silver Lurex, to cover the walls and muffle sound. The fabric bounces light, giving the room "a hint of Hollywood sparkle." Using a palette of terra-cotta and anthracite, Harte created a heavily geometric, rectilinear space punctuated by interlocking steel grids veneered in Pacific

laurel that run the length of both side walls. Draperies in a blend of wool, viscose, and cotton from Christopher Farr Cloth are connected to the room's remote-control system; a metallic-silver ceiling covered in vinyl from Innovations and alabaster-and-polished-steel sconces from Paul Ferrante add a moody illumination to the room. The result is a thoroughly contemporary, luxurious space that takes its design cues directly from Tinseltown. "I just emulated the feeling of old Hollywood," Harte says. "Today we take the experience of big-screen entertainment for granted, but the theaters of the '20s and '30s were absolute palaces—there's no reason why you can't replicate that feeling at home."

SOURCES

A. Rudin, 310.659.2388,

www.arudin.com

Christopher Farr, 310.967.0064,

www.christopherfarr.com

Paul Ferrante, 323.653.4142,

www.paulferrante.com

Harte, Brownlee & Associates,

949.494.8343, www.hartebrownlee.com