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From The Land: Backen, Gillam, & Kroeger Architects



Synopsis

Elegant rusticity meets unpretentious luxury in the work of this award-winning architecture firm. Howard Backen, principal of the architecture firm Backen, Gillam & Kroeger, is at the center of a popular movement in home design that emphasizes elegant simplicity and embraces the rustic charm of natural materials. This volume, the first on his work and that of the firm, is an artful exploration of this aesthetic, featuring farmhouses in the Napa Valley, hilltop homes, seaside retreats, and lakeside hideaways. Throughout the work, a sense of intimacy, warmth, and informality pervades. Natural materials, such as wood, stone, and brick, form the foundations, walls, and ceilings of these subtly luxurious spaces, while nature itself plays a considered role that is at once complementary and also intricately conjoined with the work. Sensitive, alluring, and wonderfully resonant with the suggestion of invitation, the work of Backen, Gillam & Kroeger is both thrilling to the eye and restorative to the soul.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“From hilltop homes to seaside retreats, nature and design artfully intersect in these elegant, unpretentious spaces. The simplicity and charm of natural materials such as stone and brick provide a sense of warmth and luxury that you’ll want in your own home. At Home Magazine the sheer size and weight of the book reflects the enormity of his accomplishments and influence. But it’s a beauty filled with images of 38 properties, from wineries to seaside retreats, with images so large, you could believe you’ve stepped into

the house. Napa Valley Register "[one of] this fall's highly anticipated design titles from AD100 talent, filled with remarkable spaces and expert advice. Editor and author Daniel P. Gregory surveys the work of California firm Backen, Gillam & Kroeger whose signature rustic aesthetic emphasizes natural materials. Architectural Digest "This volume isn't overrun with text or filled with the filler of meaningless black and white snaps, as so many of these books are. Instead clients are mentioned, plans are explained, materials and layouts are discussed. And the placement of each photo is as deliberate as the projects that are highlighted within. Backen understands that powerful architecture is a successful manifestation of the dialogue between structure and surrounding. His work is brave and moving because it demands that we not only look at it, but beyond it. Nintchka.com "From the Land is an artful exploration of the architecture firm's aesthetic. Throughout the work, a sense of intimacy, warmth, and informality pervades. Editor at Large "From the Land, a new shelter book by Daniel P. Gregory from Rizzoli, showcases the stunning portfolio of Napa-based architects Backen, Gillam & Kroeger. Gentry Magazine

Daniel P. Gregory is former senior home editor of Sunset magazine, author of Cliff May and the Modern Ranch House, and editor-in-chief of Houseplans.com. Diane Keaton is an Academy Award-winning actress, director, and author whose most recent books include House and California Romantica.

Bought this for my husband for Father's Day (he is an architect who dreams of designing a home for our little ones to grow up in!) for some fun inspiration, and he was very excited when it arrived since he had mentioned loving this book after a client showed it to him. The photos are beautiful, it's nicely laid out, and it's got an impressive heft to it. It personally bugs me that the book is very large since it takes up nearly the entire coffee table and doesn't fit on our bookshelves....but the hubby likes it, so that's all that matters in the end. A great gift for design junkies and architects to add to their library!

I love this book. I have bought ten at least on as gifts. It's a beautiful coffee table book as well as a resource for some interesting places to visit in the Napa Valley. Howard Backen is a genius architect. This is well worth the read.

This book is beautiful, the architecture is wonderful, and the book actually showed some basic

plans, which made up for the writing, which wasn't all that illuminating, at least as far as architecture goes. The book is well worth the money, and will probably be something you can enjoy time after time.

My husband and son have worked for Howard Backen in previous years. Also, well laid out with great photos. Yes, I would definitely recommend to someone. Thank you.

This book is GREAT for designers and Architects. It's a nice big book with floor plans and tons of unpublished pictures, so there's something fresh to check out. The mostly wineries and winery residences pictured here make you really want to move to Napa Valley, California. I have a friend who works at this firm and is pictured in the back, and I was so happy with the book I had to email him and congratulate him on such great work. Love it.

Beautiful images and project descriptions. So happy the architects created a book for everyone to enjoy their buildings.

Always been a big fan of Howard Backen and his work. This book not only comes with some amazing photography but also site and building plans or sections to understand his design thought.

LOVE this book!!!!

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