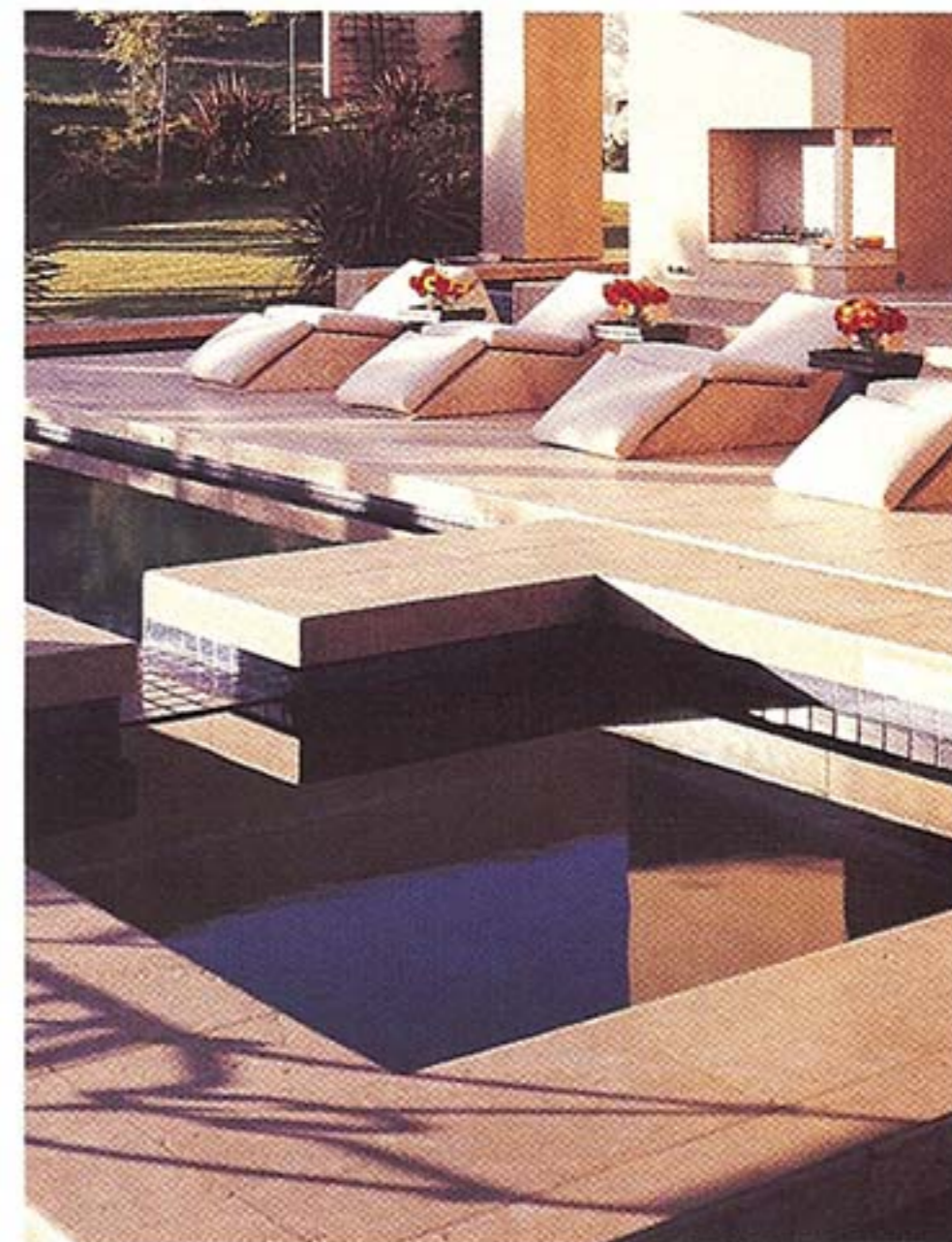
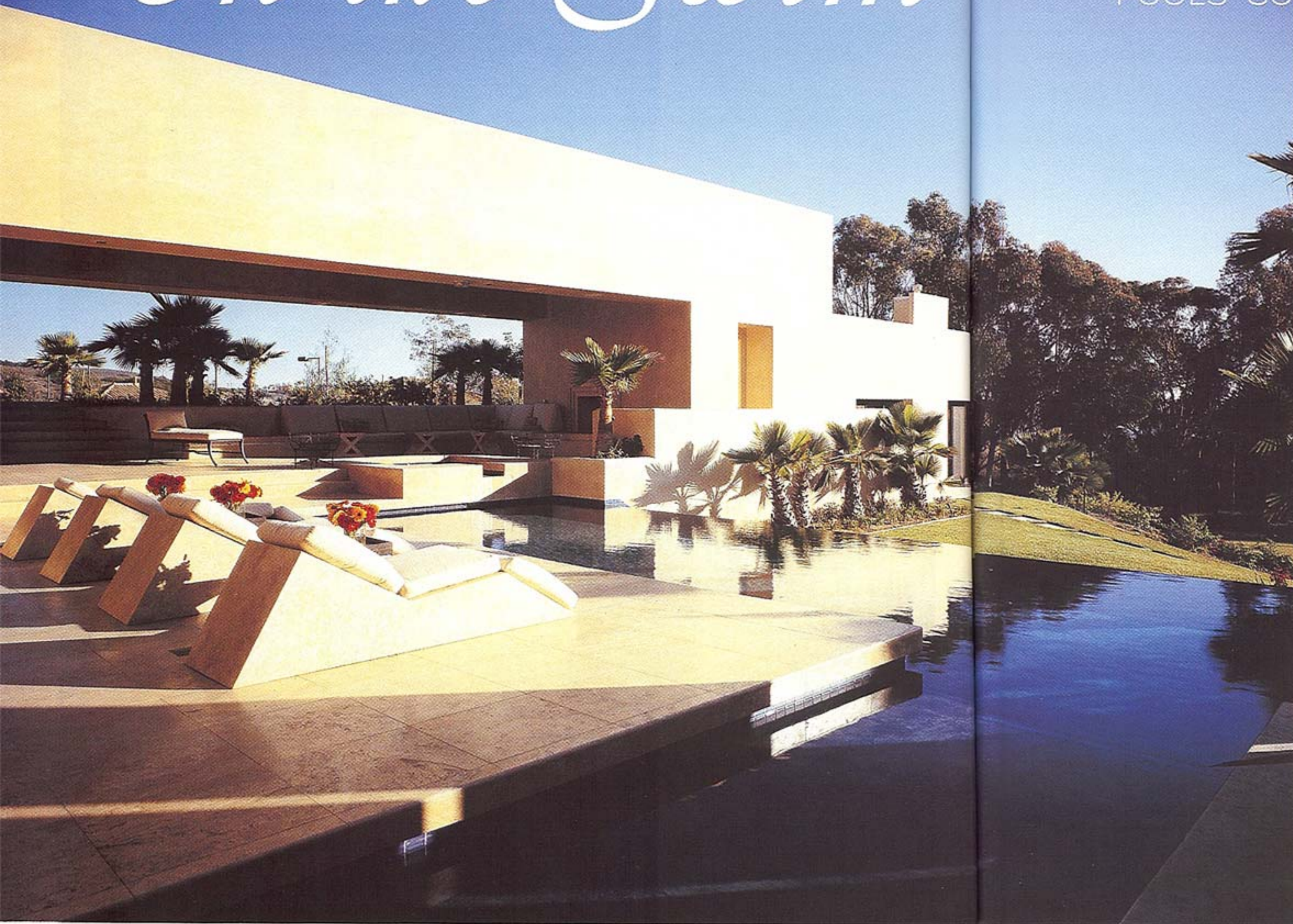


In the Swim

POOLS GO FROM SPLISH SPLASH



By Pat Stein
Photography by
Gary Conaughton

TO FLASH & DASH

Swimming pools aren't just for dog-paddling anymore. They've become centerpieces for year-round outdoor rooms where homeowners dine, relax and entertain.

Pools now also serve useful purposes beyond recreation, relaxation and exercise. They have become more sophisticated in terms of style and technology.

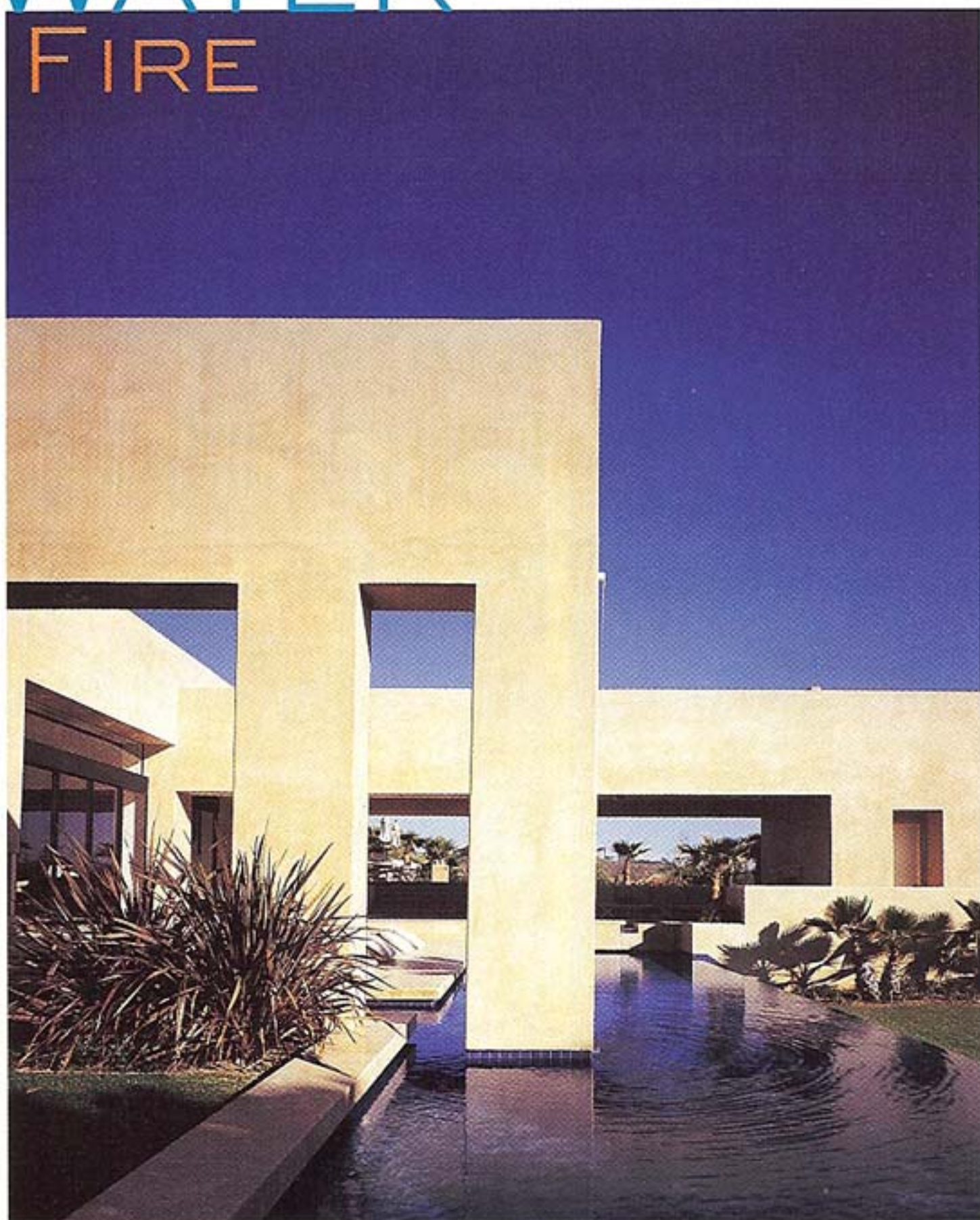
Increasingly pools are making a design statement with architecture that complements the style of the main house. Others are even being integrated into the household heating systems. Here's how several San Diego families have taken the plunge:

DECK AND BUILT-IN furniture of Italian travertine surround the stunning Rancho Santa Fe pool of furniture manufacturer Michael Kreiss.

EARTH, WATER AND FIRE



INFINITY EDGES and waterfalls add interest to the pool, which wraps around Kreiss' Moroccan-style home. Pool and residence were designed by Orange County architect Fleetwood Joiner.



Furniture manufacturer Michael Kreiss' contemporary Moroccan home in Rancho Santa Fe virtually floats on water.

In a design created by the Orange County architect Fleetwood Joiner (who also designed the house), water from a large reflecting pool in front of the house wraps around the residence through aqueducts and river-like channels, coursing alongside the living room and Kreiss' home office.

Water cascading from the 12-foot-high aqueduct creates a playful sound as it splashes into the pool behind the house. A series of waterfalls in the "river" are quieter and create what Joiner terms a Zen-like ambience.

The big 18-by-65-foot swimming pool features an infinity edge, over which water falls into a trough and then is recycled back into the pool.

The Italian travertine surrounding the pool matches the flooring of the living room, where floor-to-ceiling glass windows slide open to provide an uninterrupted view of the pool.