



STEVE LAZAR

design+build by SOUTH SWELL

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DESCRIBE THE FEATURED PROJECT.

This 4,725-square-foot, four-bedroom, 4½-bath home sits on a sunny, west-facing lot in Hermosa Beach. It was designed to drink in the environmental atmosphere of beach living with natural sunlight, indoor/outdoor living areas and sweeping ocean views, all while reaffirming a tranquil, comfortable home that feels very private. Integrating premium materials and state-of-the-art amenities including a four-stop elevator and three-zone sound system with touch pad controls in each room, we created a home that is as memorable and transcendent as it is warm and inviting.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR FIRM.

As a full-service firm, design+build by SOUTH SWELL is responsible for each project in its entirety, from conceptual design through completion of construction. We begin with an understanding of our clients' individual needs, style and preferences. We develop the building plans, shepherd them through the city permitting process and oversee every aspect of home construction. The benefit of the design+build approach is an efficient, seamlessly expedited process with sole accountability for cost, timing and quality. In addition to new construction, we also remodel homes. With low market inventory, this is often a great alternative. One needn't necessarily expand their property in order to deliver greater functionality and comfort.

WHEN DID YOU START YOUR FIRM?

I've been designing and building homes for over 30 years in the South Bay. My early years working as a construction crew member

gave me critical hands-on experience that has informed my design choices and philosophy, making for a smarter, more streamlined translation of ideas into the realization of a beautiful home. I intuitively grasp not only what it means to live here but also the complexity of our local building codes.

DESCRIBE THE VERNACULAR OF YOUR PRACTICE.

I believe in "Thoughtful Design," which means that every element of home design and construction—from the most nuanced to the more obvious features of a home—is conceived to maximize living comfort and intelligent use of space. This is particularly cogent here in the South Bay, where many lots invite the challenge of creating spaciousness, versatility and privacy within a narrow lot with close proximity to neighbors. My aesthetic spans many architectural styles—from more traditional New England styles to West Coast beach chic. Creating a home that is timeless, visually impactful and responds to its owner's individual needs is paramount.

DESCRIBE SOME RECENT PROJECTS.

We recently completed a home in Hermosa Beach that synthesized decades of experience and brought my design+build philosophy to a new level. Striking in its presence, this home is magically simple in its ensemble of color and texture. It is washed with light and openness, yet surprisingly private. It is replete with modern-day innovations, and the floor plan yields tremendous versatility that can evolve through the years.



PHOTOGRAPHED BY JOEL SILVA PHOTOGRAPHY