

# NIGHT GALLERY

2276 E. 16th Street, Los Angeles, California 90021

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Mayer Rus, "Inside an Eclectic Los Angeles Wonderland Home designed by AD100 Firm Charlap Hyman & Herrero," Architectural Digest, February 16, 2021

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Inside an Eclectic Los Angeles Wonderland Home designed by  
AD100 Firm Charlap Hyman & Herrero

“When people get older, they often lose their playful spirit. I want to hold on to the fun,” said the owner Yoram Heller when it came to the design of the home.

By Mayer Rus

Photography by Laure Joliet

Styled by Amy Chin

February 16, 2021



In the living room, vintage De Sede Terrazza sofas are joined by Philippe Starck gnome tables for Kartell and a Nicola L eye lamp on a Patterson Flynn Martin carpet. Curtain fabric by Gastón y Daniela. Artworks by Anne Libby (far right) and Ariana Papademetropoulos. LAURE JOLIET

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Call it a meeting of the minds—eccentric, design-obsessed, slightly demented minds. The story begins at a Los Angeles gym, where entrepreneur Yoram Heller and architect Andre Herrero struck up what can only be described as a bromance. Heller had been working on his 1907 Craftsman house in Angelino Heights, renovating it room by room, for a couple of years. Realizing he needed assistance in turning his madcap plans into reality, he invited Herrero to work, at least initially, on the primary bathroom. “I’m totally comfortable trying and failing, but I was already in construction and getting out of my depth,” recalls Heller, whose investment interests include the cannabis company Sunday Goods, Yola Mezcal, and the groovy coffee-bar chain Go Get Em Tiger.

The bathroom assignment went swimmingly, and the project began to snowball, as these things often do. Eventually Herrero was joined by Adam Charlap Hyman, the architect’s New York-based partner in the ADroo firm Charlap Hyman & Herrero, which has built a reputation for idiosyncratic, avant-garde homes, stores, products, stage sets, and exhibition designs. The last piece of the puzzle arrived in the person of Heller’s girlfriend, vintage-fashion sibyl Eleanor Wells, whose sensibility dovetailed neatly with the overall mood of aesthetic muchness. “I’m a maximalist by nature. I like to dial it up to 11 whenever possible,” Wells says.



A Mario Ceroli bed sits on a Couristan leopard-print carpet in a room wrapped in CHH wallpaper and fabric for Calico. LAURE JOLIET



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The fun begins, naturally, at the front door, which is designed as a vivid plane of stained glass in shades of electric blue, yellow, and orange. Inside, the walls and ceiling of the small seating areas that flank the entry are covered in classic Fornasetti cloud wallpaper. Even the window blinds were custom-printed in the cloud pattern to complete the enveloping effect. Just beyond, the dining room is centered on a monumental Preston Sharp boulder table—which, given its weight, required structural reinforcement of the foundation—set beneath a Mario Bellini cloud light.

Full immersion in the Heller/Wells Technicolor playground unfolds in the living room, where Ubald Klug Terrazza sofas are joined by sprightly Philippe Starck gnome and tree-stump tables, a fanciful Nicola L eye lamp, and an array of dreamy artworks. “The living room is on axis with the pool. We installed a blue carpet and completely opened up the wall to the outside to accentuate the connection between indoors and out—blue carpet becomes blue pool,” Herrero explains. Charlap Hyman adds,



A Mario Bellini Nuvola pendant for NEMO hangs above a Preston Sharp for Blackman Cruz table in the dining room. Greta Magnusson Grossman chairs are covered in a Maharam mohair velvet. Artwork by Sam Falls.

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“Each room is vaguely themed in geographic terms. The living room is the lake, the dining room is the mountain, the entry is the sky, and the primary bedroom is the forest.”

The bedroom’s woodland theme is expressed in a wall-paper and fabric pattern developed by the designers during an artists’ residency at a castle in Austria, which they applied to the walls, ceiling, and window shades. Hidden in the pattern of flowing vines is an assortment of insects variously copulating and devouring one another. The trippy vibe is underscored by an anthropomorphic bed designed by Italian sculptor Mario Ceroli, which is set on a leopard-print carpet for an extra dose of daffy chic. “In my world, animal print is a neutral,” Heller jokes. Wells puts a finer point on the subject: “I’m really Peg from *Married With Children*,” she confesses, referring to the famously vulgar Fox sitcom. “You need to throw a little trashy into the mix.”