



Honor Award for Modern Interpretation of Traditional Architecture

Morin House

Beverley Spears Architects, architect

The Morin House, designed by Beverley Spears Architects, is a fascinating paradox: it expresses both antiquity and modernism within the context of the traditional New Mexican village of Galisteo. The modest compound of four small structures, incorporating residence, studios, and storage, is entirely faithful to the New Mexican residential compound heritage with subtle references to external influences. The egg-like finish and purity of the living room evoke Barragán in the “floating” presence of the picture window, while the nearby fireplace seems European in its tapered chimney. The Morin House compound is a poetic ensemble of square, rectangle, and pyramid resting effortlessly on the landscape of Galisteo. The compound seems ageless and vernacular, yet its monumentality is the product of Spears’ deep appreciation of site, tradition, and landscape.

Above: Morin House, photograph by Beverley Spears.
Below: Thomas House, photograph by Robert Reck.

Merit Award for Modern Interpretation of Traditional Architecture

Watts–Russell House

Beverley Spears Architects, architect

A pair of barrel vaults of equal radius organizes the streamlined interiors of the Watts–Russell house. Sculptural and masculine in the primal geometry of form, the vaults are tempered by the warm tones of hemlock planking. The living room, in its generous proportions, radically updates the traditional sala of New Mexico. The precise finishing of the kitchen is complemented by the elegant materials palette of black granite countertops, stainless steel, natural gypsum walls and concrete floors. The barrel vaulted room blocks evoke the memory of Louis Kahn within the pristine New Mexican landscape.

Merit Award for Interior Design

Thomas House

Beverley Spears Architects, architect

The Thomas house near Santa Fe tweaks the Spanish Colonial design vocabulary ever so slightly in some places and quite radically in others (i.e., the plan). A sprawling sala incorporates an understated kitchen in one corner beneath whitewashed vigas. Bedrooms and bathrooms angle off of the central living room, skewing here and there, creating intriguing hallway perspectives. The neutral palette of colors and finishes offers sublime effects of day lighting. The exterior elevations refer to a sparse aesthetic of surface, color, and form interpreted by Georgia O’Keeffe in her home and art. In the Thomas House, featured in the Winter 2005 issue of *Su Casa*, Beverley Spears updates the romanticism of the classic New Mexican hacienda.





Watts-Russell House,
photography by Alan Stoker.

