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Laura & Homer Oatman, *Architects*

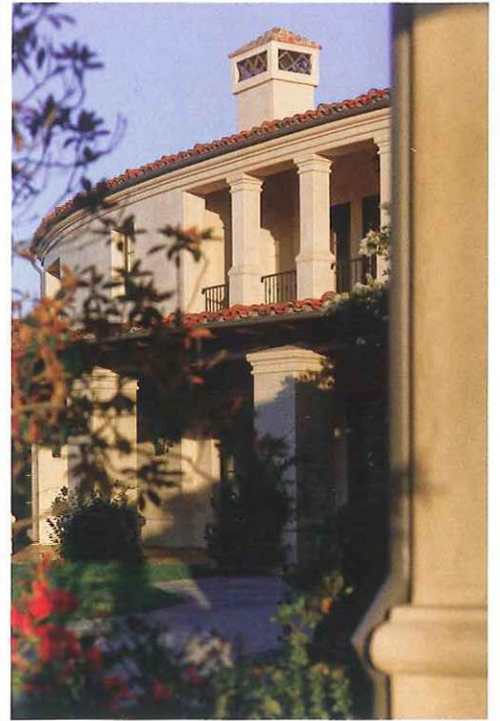
Now Practicing Together,
This Accomplished
Husband And Wife Team
Have Created Residential
And Luxury Projects
Around The World—
And Continue To Do So



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN CONNELL



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PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN CONNELL

Laura and Homer Oatman first met as graduate students at the UCLA School of Architecture in the early 1980s. They shared the dream of careers that would allow them to indulge their mutual passion for world travel and exciting international projects. Her vision was to design unique, environmentally sensitive resorts around the world. His was to design fabulous custom homes.

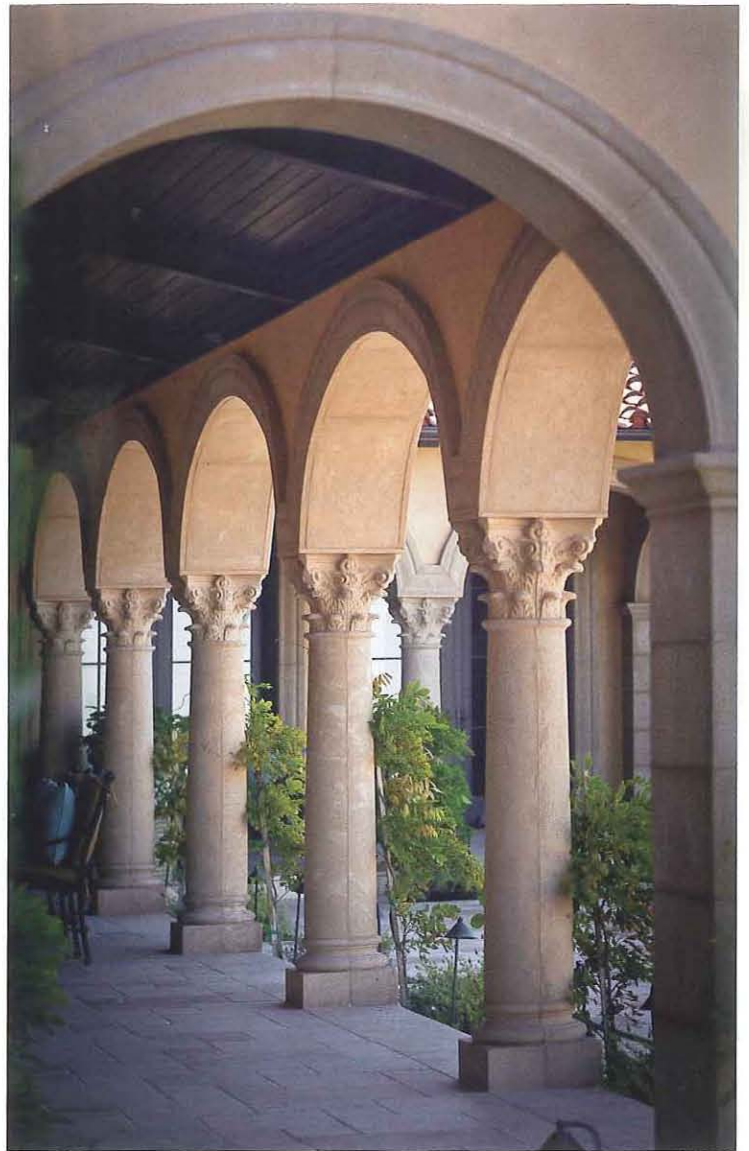


Twenty five years later after successful individual careers with world class firms and significant projects in Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, North Africa and the Middle East (as well as raising five children along the way) they are building an international reputation pursuing their architectural dreams under their own banner: Oatman Architects, headquartered in Newport Beach.

With the company motto "Designing homes that feel like resorts and hotels that feel like home" they specialize in sustainable "green" luxury hotel, hospitality and spa projects throughout the world as well as resort style custom residences closer to home in such distinctive Orange County communities as The Strand at Headlands, Shady Canyon and Crystal Cove. Laura's most recent hospitality projects were located in Miami Beach, Zihuatenejo Mexico, and on the island of Anguilla in the British West Indies.

With her background in contemporary hotel projects Laura approaches design from a modernist point of view while Homer tends to be more of a traditionalist. He continues to draw and design exclusively by hand. With an undergraduate degree in fine arts as a painter he takes pride in lavishing his clients with old school sketches and renderings.

The loggia and reflecting pool
at a Shady Canyon residence.
Architecture by Homer Oatman.
Photograph by John Connell.

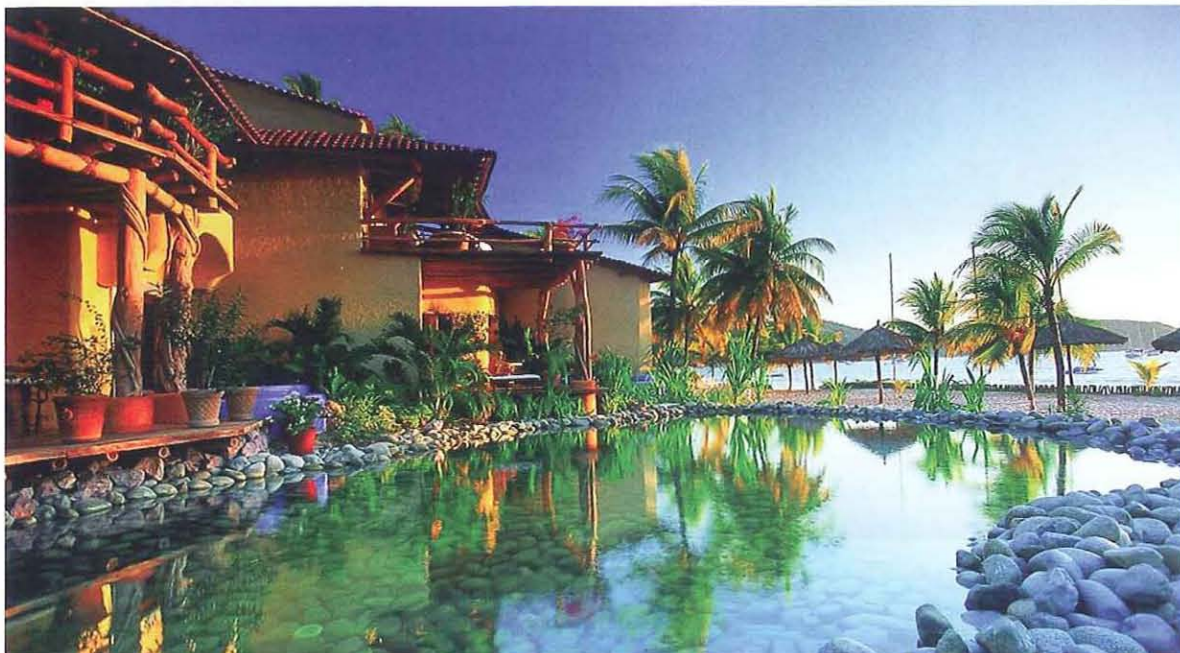
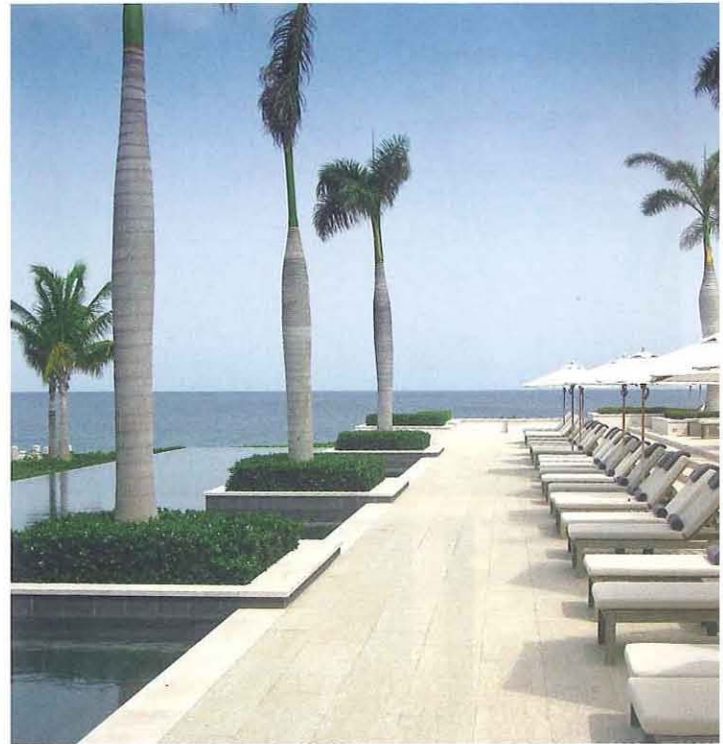


Loggia colonnade at Crystal Cove.
Architecture by Homer Oatman.
Photographs by John Connell.

Homer Oatman, AIA, established his design credentials as a principal designer and partner at KTG Y Group. He was also Director of Design for Custom Homes for the Irvine Company, the largest landholder and developer of luxury residential units in Orange County, as well as consulting architect to the exclusive community of Emerald Bay in Laguna Beach. In addition to his focus on residential design, Homer also has a solid background in hospitality design, having interned his first three years after graduate school at WATG along with Laura.

Laura Oatman, AIA, LEED AP entered the world of hospitality design with WATG Architects, Ltd., one of the premier world-class resort design firms. During her tenure there, Laura became a designer and project manager, working on a wide variety of hotel projects, from the luxurious Ritz Carlton Laguna Niguel and the Four Seasons Newport Beach, to the exotic Pacific Islands Clubs in Guam and Saipan. Her first "green" hotel, the Quinta Do Lorde Resort on the island of Madeira, Portugal received an AIA Design Award for Excellence.

Some of Laura Oatman's hotel projects include The Viceroy Anguilla Resort in British West Indies and the Tides Zihautanejo Resort Hotel in Mexico.





Laura's final project at WATG was the Viceroy Anguilla Resort in British West Indies, developed by the Los Angeles-based Kor Hotel Group (now known as the Viceroy Hotel Group). Brad Korzen, the President of the Kor Hotel Group, was so impressed that he hired her to be its Director of Design, managing the design and construction of several international and domestic projects including the completion of the Viceroy Anguilla Resort Hotel and Spa, the Tides South Beach Hotel, the Tides Meads Bay Hotel, and the Tides Zihuatanejo Resort Hotel.

In 2009 Laura left the Kor Group to provide design and construction management consultant services to the hotel industry. Since that time she has worked with the Related Group on the LEED Silver Viceroy Snowmass Resort in Aspen, Colorado and with the Indochina Group on the Viceroy China Beach resort in Vietnam.

With her credentials as a LEED professional and experience on two "green" hotels in Snowmass, Colorado and on Madeira, she hopes to further her journey towards developing, promoting and designing "luxury eco-tourism", so that travelers would not only experience the hotel, but also the culture, people, natural environment and ecology of the place as well.

Homer traces his fondness and appreciation for period residential architecture to growing up in one of San Diego's classic old Spanish Revival neighborhoods surrounded by houses designed by such luminaries of 1920s residential design as George Washington Smith, Richard Requa, Bertram Goodhough and Irving Gill. "I had no concept at the time that many of the houses I grew up in and around were classics that would end up on the National Registry. Many of them I know intimately, having exploring every nook and cranny from their basements to their attics just in the course of playing with my friends throughout my childhood"

Homer also credits his devotion to residential architecture to the influence of the Charles Moore, John Lautner and Frank Israel, all of whom he studied under while at UCLA.

Both Laura and Homer stress the importance of making the design experience as fun and stress free as possible for their clients. They see this as the key to successful projects, and to their successful collaboration. 41

UPPER LEFT The interior courtyard at a Crystal Cove residence. Architecture by Homer Oatman. Photograph by John Connell.

LEFT Homer and Laura Oatman with their English Bull Terrier, Bear, in front of their office in Cannery Village, Newport Beach. Photograph by Figge Photography.