

Fine Interiors



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FINE INTERIORS SPECIAL FOCUS SECTION

A VINTNER'S

Designer Richard Bohonsky
brings new life and purpose
to a 1970s Napa Valley rambler



VILLA



Writer James Conaway called Napa Valley "America's Eden," and the home of Franco Casanova and Francesca Burr shows why.

THE HOUSE SITS TRANQUILLY above the most celebrated region for Napa Valley's signature wines—the Oakville appellation—where a view of the valley's carpeted, oak-studded floor is like a shimmering painting all year long.

Below and next door to the Casanova/Burr property are the vineyards of renowned wineries

By Thom Elkjer
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN THOMAS JONES

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LEFT: Rustic and refined meet in Richard Bohonsky's interior for a vintner's hillside home. Silk drapes and lighting by Fortuny of Venice complement wood beams and stone columns in the dining room.

ABOVE: In the master bedroom, bedding and drapes by F. Schumacher grace a headboard crafted from the door of a Mission-era church.

Screaming Eagle and Dalla Valle, as well as Plumpjack, Rudd, and others. They're here because the beauty of the land, combined with perfect growing

conditions, produces exceptional wines and lovely homesites. That's what brought Casanova to this location 18 years ago; it was his Italian heritage that led him to turn a 1971 one-story, two-bedroom contemporary home into a pre-Renaissance Italian villa.

When his Bay Area endodontic practice reached the point that he was ready to live in Oakville full-time, Casanova asked designer Richard Bohonsky of

with Pasha Silk damask drapes from F. Schumacher in the master bedroom.

Bohonsky found other, more subtle ways to convey the contrast of indoors and out, positioning a giant rustic wooden screw from an antique wine press near an opulent, velvet-upholstered arm chair and stately marble table.

The next adventure for Casanova and Burr is the launch of a commercial label for Cabernet Sauvignon, called Enzo, to go along with their private-label Sassi Zinfandel, which Casanova has made for 17 years.

"When I'm in the winery cursing the barrels," he says with a smile, "I remember how many people would love to be in my shoes."

Martin Richards in San Francisco to give the villa an interior to match its extraordinary surroundings. Bohonsky responded by converting the main windows and doorways into variations on nature's painting. He accented the interior with oversized pieces that make the large rooms more intimate while echoing the majestic features of the surrounding landscape.

The two-tone Kravet velvet drapes over the arched living room window, for example, create a regal air in the high-ceilinged room—while providing a supple frame for a stunning view of the valley floor. This effect is repeated with Silk Trading Company drapes in the dining room and