

DESIGN

A HOME FOR ALL SEASONS

JEANNIE FRAISE DESIGNS A MODERN
SKI CHALET AT MARTIS CAMP

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In 1913 Truckee held a Winter Ice Carnival attracting tourists from San Francisco. The Sierra Nevada railroad town constructed a gigantic ice palace. Visitors enjoyed the ice rink, dance hall and intimate salons where they relaxed in front of a warm fire after frolicking in the cold snow. The carnival helped establish Truckee as a center for not only Winter sports but year-round outdoor activities.

Today, Martis Camp attracts San Franciscans wanting to experience the natural beauty of the location. Instead of an ice palace, they come for its custom mountain homes, Camp Lodge, Family Barn, and Lost Library. One Bay Area couple with two pre-teen daughters chose the gated community as a gathering place for family and friends. They commissioned Earl Wilson of BAR Architects to design a 7,500-square foot modern ski chalet. For the interiors of the cedar-shingled compound, they selected Lotus Bleu Design.







Lotus Bleu owner Jeannie Fraise's design complement the properties spectacular views of Carson Range and Northstar's Lookout Mountain. The great room showcases a 22-foot high peaked ceiling with exposed truss and tie rod elements. Sliding glass pocket doors open the living pavilion to the outdoors. For the color palette, Fraise combined bucolic shades of green, gold, and brown bringing cohesiveness to the vast space. She mixed mid-century finds and new furnishings layering graphic patterns and textures focusing on artisanal handcrafted materials.

The massive ledgerstone fireplace anchors the conversation grouping. Across from it a wood framed day bed accessorized with exotic pillows provides ample seating. Perpendicular to the day bed, the designer placed Ted Boerner's sculptural Nest Sofa and pair of leather lounge chairs from Jean de Merry. Fraise grounded the area with a zig zag patterned Tibetan wool carpet. A trio of circular glass and iron tables fabricated in San Miguel de Allende float on the rug.



For dining, an 18-foot vintage wood topped and steel based table bisects the great room. Upholstered host and hostess chairs bracket the table with BDDW's black walnut ladder chairs on the sides. John Pomp Studio's hand-blown glass crystal pendants dance above the table decorated with Lawrence McRae's lacey ceramic vases. Fraise visually separated the dining area from the open kitchen with a pair of dual-faced, mid-height teak cabinets.

At the center of the kitchen, an 8-foot square island sits with a two-and-a-half-inch thick maple butcher block top on an ebony-stained oak base. Streamlined swivel bar stools allow people to perch during meal preparation. The design team mirrored the ledgerstone and blackened steel of the fireplace by surrounding the stove and pizza oven in the same materials. Fraise juxtaposed stainless steel countertops with citrine Heath Ceramic backsplash tiles. For casual dining, the family sits at a round table with hand-hammered iron base and wood top from Oly Studio.

From the great room, a flat roof breezeway transitions to the gabled master bedroom pavilion. The peaceful suite includes the private bedroom and bath along with a hidden loft office. Fraise set the color story for the rooms with a plush golden shag carpet from the Rug Company. She created a built-in headboard wall and dressed the bed with hand embroidered chain stitch pillows. Jonathan Browning Studio's tubular Le Pentagon Chandelier softly illuminates the space. A pair of metal-framed velvet-covered chaises are positioned to enjoy expansive views of the Carson Range.