



The lush hidden entry of the house's main entrance is the living room's entrance with a wooden door, a wooden bench, a wooden chair, a wooden table and a pair of Jean de Merry club chairs.

HOUSE OF ROCK

THE COOL KID GETS A MALIBU RETREAT PERFECT FOR JAM SESSIONS, RECORDING HIT SONGS AND JUST CHILLING OUT

BY ANNIE KELLY PHOTOGRAPHED BY TIM STREET-PORTER



always say I'm one of the luckiest bastards on the planet," says five-time Grammy Award-nominee Kid Rock. And after countless hit records, the Michigan-based musician had everything a star could want—except a Malibu crash pad.

It wasn't until he met actress and *Playboy* Playmate Pamela Anderson, who needed a place in L.A. because of her television career, that Rock joined the celebrity-filled enclave. Anderson, a longtime friend of Martyr Lawrence-Bullard, brought the British decorator in to outfit their new house by the beach. Even after the couple split mid-project, Rock asked Lawrence-Bullard to continue on with the house.

The designer knew just how to provide the right amount of California rock 'n' roll cool. His client list reads like a Greatest Hits playlist: Cher, Elton John, Sharon and Ozzy Osbourne, Christina Aguilera. "I realized quite quickly that Rock needed a sanctuary where he could write music," explains the designer. "I brought in deep sofas for easy living and added great outdoor areas where he could relax and smoke cigars."

The decorator pulled out all the stops to give Rock a home that lived and breathed rock 'n' roll, along with the ethnic-modern touches that make Lawrence-Bullard one of the city's most sought-after interior makers. The house took about six months to finish, but he says, "I shopped for him for another six months all over the world—in Paris, London, New York, and, of course, Los Angeles."

The three-level home is completely hidden from the street and surrounded by palm trees. Its entryway meanders through a wooden gate and into a plant-filled courtyard. In contrast to the cold, snowy winters at Rock's other residence in Detroit, MI, the influence here is tropical (think the Bahamas or Indonesia). And for good reason: This is Rock's West Coast hideout, where bands like the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Motley Crue join him in late-night jam sessions. It's a place to catch up with his son, Robert Junior. Plus, the upstairs recording studio is the perfect spot for Rock, who writes and produces most of his work himself, to prepare his next album.

"I created a master bedroom centered by a large four-poster bed draped in white muslin, hung from a high, wood-paneled ceiling," says Lawrence-Bullard. "He is a sexy, single rock star, after all," he adds. The room adjoins a large, electrically furnished living space where a black grand piano—formerly Elton John's—sits in the corner. Embellished with the words "American Badass," taken from one of Rock's tat-



toos, the piece fully depicts the mood of the house.

The living space continues to the open kitchen and dining area with a double fireplace for chilly coastal evenings. Stainless steel appliances and counters are juxtaposed with the natural oak ceiling, floors and cupboards. Under a lofty pitched roof, the long dining table has plenty of space for big meals with lots of band members.

"The antique-style floors have been stained black, while I kept the walls white to reflect the bright California beach sun that streams into the rooms," explains Lawrence-Bullard. "I added a global portfolio of architectural elements and furnishings and drew on Rock's influences and enthusiasms." On the living room walls hang black-and-white photos of Rock's musical heroes: Marvin Gaye, Iggy Pop, Skynyrd, Louis Armstrong and Willie Nelson. They're flanked by antique staves above a long white sofa filled with comfortable cushions. Also filling the house with an eclectic mix of texture and color are Moroccan textiles.

Lawrence-Bullard was asked to add a screening room, gym and game room downstairs, as well as furnish four guest bedrooms for visiting family and friends. He kept to the same gypsy style, with beds dressed in a collection of fabrics from India, Guatemala and Turkey or Lawrence-Bullard's own Indonesian-inspired designs.

Rock, who can often be spotted paddleboarding in the local waters, enjoys his off-stage life in his private palace: "I love this house. It feels like nothing had ever happened here." ■



The lofty dining room features an antique French wine table from Dos. On display, a Cuban street scene by Michael Eastman.



The master bed, draped in white muslin, is a custom Harbour Island piece by Martyn Lawrence-Bullard Home. The rug is a tribal Kilim from Uzbekistan. OPPOSITE A vintage Bison head above a carved teak Buddha from Tara Home in the entrance hall.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP In the kitchen, a light fixture by Urban Archaeology hangs above four antique jeweler stools and Poliform cabinets. Robert Junior's bedroom features artwork by Man Ray and a pair of Ebonized Burma beds by Martyn Lawrence-Bullard. French limestone and green marble detail in the master bathroom.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Rock's guitar collection rests next to the living room's black soapstone fireplace with Indonesian mantle from Oplum Imports. A black Yamaha piano with Rock's "tattoo" on it. A view from the guest house overlooking the plantation-style retreat.



