March's profile of a well-designed living space

Take a look at a photo gallery at www.newsobserver.com, search home&garden.

An open staircase, lined with bookcases, connects the main level's three levels.

The exterior

Living in a work of art

The owners and the architect collaborate to create a light-filled, functional home.

Dr. Toril Moi and David Paletz, proud owners of a minimalist house in the Duke Forest area of Durham.

‘Ours have houses, we have a work of art,’ say Toril Moi and David Paletz, proud owners of a minimalist house in the Duke Forest area of Durham.

In fact, one of the earliest study models of the house reminded Moi of a piece by favorite sculptor Anthony Caro. What makes their house — with spaces that cannot be looked at outside — a work of art is not only its aesthetic richness but also the collaborative design process. It’s no surprise that Paletz, Duke University’s coordinator of the Fall Frame Documentary Film Festival, found inspiration about the making of Richard Meier’s Getty Museum in Los Angeles. Paletz and Moi planned a place that captured their vision for a house “Interconnected Spaces Bathed in Light.”

With their phrase in hand, Paletz and Moi looked for an architect who could make their dream home a reality.

The project —ext—film X

paletz-moi house

Location: Durham
Architect: Kenneth Hobgood Architects, 124 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh
Square footage: Not provided
Budget: Not provided
Key attributes: Interconnected spaces bathed in light

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Natives delight

Native spring wildflowers are a hit picture along with where they like to grow, and I'm still working on creating their ideal habitat. When we moved here, the yard was blessed with many full-size (75 feet to 100 feet) native trees, but all the small- or extrasize trees and shrubs native for this Piedmont environment were missing. For the past 19 years, we've been planting understory trees and shrubs, leaving the understory trees and shrubs and looking for a spot that suits them.

But that doesn’t mean the spring landscape is completely bare.

Durable

Natives delight

Interconnected spaces

Connections

Adventures

Garden tours welcome buyers and gawkers

S tory is springing, and garden tours and plant sales are happening all over the Triangle.

Two of my personal gardens, Amelia Lane and Beth Ilan, have inspired me since the very beginning of my joust as a Southside gardener. The chance to amble through Lane’s wonderful garden on Heronsage Drive, just to watch it grow, is reason enough. To include it on my must-see list.

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Architect Kenneth Hobgood’s design allows thinker lines of sight within the house and out to the views at the outside.

The house’s material palette reflects green hues from the landscape painting. As sea- sons change, so does the light in the house. Hobgood concedes that a glassed-in film viewing room, a multitude of animal that live in the woods, allows the couple to watch the animals that live in the woods, eating the couple’s camellias.

To celebrate the opening of our new community Edgemont Landing, D.R. Horton invites you to participate in our first annual Birdhouse Sale. Until April 11, bring your best effort, and we will be present to award prizes for the best birdhouse. Attend the event on Saturday, March 29th at 4:00 pm at Edgemont Landing, 120 Bermuda Drive, Council, NC. For more information, please visit us online at

*Designer – EXT • FILM X

**ADDITIONAL CREDITS

**General contractor: Spec Con

**Structural engineers: Stiul Cram & Associates

**Color material finishes: The Color Consultant

**Photography by

*PHOTOS BY PAUL WARCHOL

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**Highest Quality Turf Underfoot!

**We can’t wait to see what you create!

**Tennis Ricks is adjunct associate professor in the N.C. State School of Architecture and senior designer of "The Basics - North Carolina State University Triangle Park".