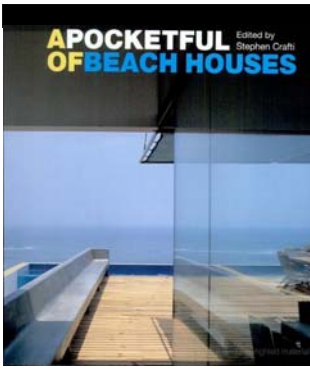


# **A**POCKETFUL **OF** **BEACH HOUSES**

Edited by  
Stephen Crafti





## On a Rugged Canvas

### GEORGE EL KHOURI ARCHITECTS

Photography by Gregory Haremza, Max Dupain & Associates, George El Khouri

This house is located in an area rich in natural beauty. Rolling waves meet a rock cliff face against a backdrop of step-forested slopes of an escarpment that is at times covered in mist and fog. The sky forms an arc that binds these layers together.

The magnificent setting and scale led to a house that reflects its layered landscape. The layering concept influenced the conceptual decisions and then the planning and choice of materials and colours of the residence. The rendered proportions, stone feature walls, tiled blade entry plane, horizontal timber boarding and the strong linear flat roof tiles of the external façade mirror the unique layers of the landscape setting.

The planning theme of the house is carried through to the interior. The changing moods of light, reflection, shade and wind movement are captured in each room of the house, making each individual in the way it captures these characteristics. The simplicity in detailing and choice of materials provide a strong connection to the natural environment.

The interior room arrangement has been streamlined and altered to reflect the conceptual planning theme. Glass doors fold away to completely unite adjoining spaces; blinds are concealed above the windows; glass curtain walls open the living area to the surrounding environment to pull the views into the living space; unwanted glimpses are screened with floating blade walls and white obscure glass. Perception of spaces in the home change as one wanders through the house and glimpses different slices of the views outdoors. The entire house is clutter-free to maximize views.

The residence has been designed as two separate living quarters, with the upper level as the main residence. The ground floor can be separated for guest use but can also be used as an overflow of the main living area.

Consultant interior designer: RLD.

