



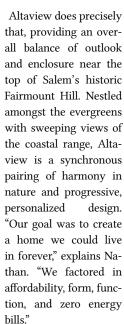




Aaron in Great Room

"There are qualities that we designed into this home, that I also try to do with the rest of my work, and it has to do with this connection to nature," Nathan explains. "There is a primal connection with our evolutionary psychology to have preferences for certain types of spaces that offer both prospect and refuge. Through prospect and refuge, one finds an affinity for

environments where you can see without being seen, where our ancestors could hunt without being hunted. We create these spaces at an early age as forts fabricated with blankets and cardboard, migrating to treehouses and eventually to rooms with views. There is something very reaffirming about meeting our practical need for location and safety by connecting our living space to nature."



Altaview is outfitted with solar panels, which reap both environmental and financial advantages. "We do not have any natural gas and had six months last year where our electricity bill was under \$12," April points out, "and that was only for service fees."

Nathan and April sought to create a home that would allow them to thrive-in-place, with flexibility to adapt to its occupants over the years. The home features wide doorways, zero entrance showers, and spaces that can be easily converted to accommodate other occupants if necessary. Also of utmost importance was creating a spacious studio for April's work, while allowing for private, accessible living space for their adult son, Aaron, also an artist.

April knew one of the intangible attributes her forever home needed was a fusion of warmth and inviting spaces with abundant light and uncluttered spaces. Most importantly, her studio needed northern light, a coveted asset for artists. Nathan, who has designed a number of award-winning and extensively published custom homes, knew their home should embody progressive, ecologically beneficial architecture. They both wanted their home to impart a sense of sanctuary while maintaining a light,

"That's one of the contradictions we worked with; reconciling warm, inviting and of nature with clean and contemporary. Those could be seen as opposites." True to his belief that a challenge is a good thing, Nathan executed on this dichotomy, resulting in a home that effortlessly pulls off these diametric ideals.

When they scouted land for their homesite, a multi-year process, they knew it would have to be special. They finally struck gold in their .24acre home-site within walking distance of Nathan's architecture office in downtown Salem. Altaview's design carefully follows the contours of the narrow, sloped lot. "The layout of the land was a challenge in a good way," explains Nathan. "There's a saving we use in our facilitation work, 'A problem well-defined is half-solved,' which applied to the land we chose and the basis for the

design of the home." He pauses for a moment, and says with a smile, "What was more interesting was having your wife as a client."

Each room in Altaview affords majestic views; the sweeping vista of the Cascade mountain range on the horizon and glimpses of the Willamette River, spilling western light into the living spaces. On the main entry level, the master-bedroom speaks to efficiency of space, embracing both warmth and brightness. The placement of the south and west-facing windows give way to views of the Minto Brown and Fairmount Parks while also cradling its occupants in the trees, as if suspended in a treehouse. "The greenspace to the south is part of Fairmont park," April says, "so we will always have this lovely view. I think being close to nature and connected to the space around us is so important."

A focal point in the main living area is the low-profile sealed woodstove that is a source of energy efficient heat without compromising indoor air quality. The home's heat recovery ventilator filters and distributes fresh air throughout the home through a series of supply and return tubes. Or, as Nathan refers to them, "The lungs of the home."

Cozy counterpoints to the spacious open floor plan exist where Nathan chose to curve the wall surfaces, softening the space while still allowing for flow, acting as the perfect backdrop to show-

case their mutual commitment to using natural a-kind spectacles. The object itself is secondary to the form; if it's beautiful and works well, Namaterials. "We both love wood and wanted a lot of it," Nathan explains. "We used many types of than is drawn to it. local woods; white oak, maple, Douglas fir, and April, an accomplished artist, needed a space redwood. Our contractor, Shan Stassens of Win-

that would accommodate the needs of her studio. "I asked my architect for a studio large enough to enable ample room for my large paintings. The studio and home are exactly the right size for us." Inside her spacious, light-filled work space, April can see the sky change out her westward-facing windows and work near her north-facing windows. Bright and airy on even the most overcast of days, visitors to April's studio might be gifted a glimpse of a large (44' x 72") landscape she is painting of the Oregon coast, or her latest "Shero" portrait of Dr. Sylvia Earle, an internationally

known marine biologist. April traveled around the United States to meet with the eight dynamic international women leaders who were the subjects of her large-scale portraits (80" by 60"). Each painting features a woman who bravely carried the torch for humanitarian and environmental justice, most of whom have made significant contributions to the equitable sharing and protection of clean water. No additional travel is on the agenda for now, allowing April and Nathan time to add landscaping to their home and enjoy the beauty of the Pacific Northwest from their refuge at Altaview.



April in Studio

some Construction, worked closely with us to

identify wood suppliers that fit our tight budget."

The front entry showcases salvaged redwood

sourced by Bruce Wadleigh of Barnwood Natu-

rals from a water tank in Silverton. "Bruce pro-

vides some amazing wood. We work with them

Barnwood Naturals supplied a striking prosce-

nium arch of salvaged hand-hewn beams repur-

posed from a century-old barn south of Salem

and reassembled on the site by Ron Parvin of

April points to the gorgeous oak floors provided

by Zena Hardwoods as a source of visual warmth

and connection to their community. "Zena is one

of the regional leaders in providing FSC certified

hardwoods, which we love to specify for our cli-

Eschewing the chaos of a busy home, April en-

visioned an environment akin to a simple canvas

for displaying art - both her own and by other

artists. Nathan, on the other hand, is an enthusi-

astic collector of unique objects and curiosities:

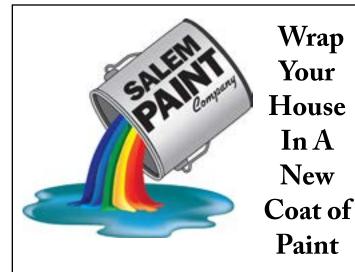
an antique egg separator formed from an unbro-

ken metal coil, a whimsical root ball, and one-of-

whenever we can."

Adagio Construction.

ents," Nathan adds.





OPEN Monday - Friday 7am-5:30pm Saturday 8am-1pm



686 Commercial St NE, Salem (503) 364-5631