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CREATING A 'Livable Piece of Art'

Jordan Iverson home connects serenity of outside nature with inside living

BY PAUL OMUNDSON • PHOTOS BY JORDAN IVERSON

EUGENE NATIVE JORDAN IVERSON, 32, is not exactly a chip off the old block. Yes, he's the son of local builder Boyd Iverson (Oaktree Builders), and still helps out there, but he's taken the traditional approach he learned so well from his dad and melded it with his own continually evolving neo-modern vision. He also learned a sense of style from his mom, who does interior design for Oaktree Builders. Eight years ago he started his own company, Jordan Iverson Signature Homes. Today, the dynamic young builder/designer creates distinctive, refreshingly new types of homes that breathe a modern look and feel into the local residential landscape.





Jordan Iverson's Signature Home is a fusion of midcentury modern and urban cosmopolitan.

“My goal is to create a livable piece of art for my clients,” he says passionately. “They’re looking for homes with style and imagination that express their own personalities and work in harmony with the surrounding landscape and environment.”

Iverson gets his ideas everywhere. He avidly seeks out new architectural styles throughout the Northwest, especially in large urban areas like Seattle, where he’s “always looking at new structures, especially hotels and restaurants, to see what they’re doing.”

A great example of his artistry is his latest project—an intriguing amalgamation of clean, grey lines and geometric surfaces that deftly connect the beauty and serenity of outside nature with inside living. The one-of-its-kind home in Eugene’s southwest hills is totally different from anything else in the neighborhood. It consists of a series of geometric cubes at varying heights, with flat roofs and parapets. The 1,978-square-foot home features three bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms, a loft area workstation, four balconies and patios, and a



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one-car detached garage. Typical of Iverson's designs is the illusion that the home is much bigger than it actually is. "I like to have efficiency of space," he explains. "This home lives bigger than it seems."

Also, everything about the home is green-certified and meets or exceeds energy efficiency standards.

"The client wanted great views and plenty of natural light with a sense of things flowing," Iverson explains. "So, I found the perfect solution: A half-

acre site on a hilltop that has a terrific view of the Lorane Valley, overlooking forest below that is non-buildable."

He describes the home as "a fusion of mid-century modern and urban cosmopolitan."

A highlight of this home that Iverson plans to incorporate again in the future is an 8-foot by 7-foot fire station-type glass and aluminum patio garage door for the great room.



The upstairs guest bathroom includes custom concrete countertops and vessel-style sink as well as porcelain linen-look tile in the shower.



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An energy-efficient glass and aluminum patio door lets in an abundance of natural light.

“A door like that dramatically opens up the living room to the outdoors,” he says. “But the biggest challenge for me was getting permission from the city to use a real garage door. They never had to deal with anything like that before and felt that it would be energy inefficient and contribute major heat loss,” Iverson recalls.

But the builder was up to the challenge, and by utilizing special glass and insulation, the door passed all energy efficient and air leakage requirements. “The best thing about it,” he says with a grin, “it cost five times less than the other options we considered. The clients love it, and have a lot of fun showing it off to visitors.”

Another striking feature is a sleek, nontraditional custom fireplace in the great room, fueled efficiently by bio-ethanol. It’s a stainless steel firebox (18 inches by 12 inches) that sits inside a custom hearth surrounded by an unusually large 12-foot concrete floating block at bench height, decorated with embedded glass beads.



This open flame, bioethanol fireplace in a custom concrete slab is viewable from each room on the first level.

Windows in the master bedroom overlook a forested conservation area.



“No venting or plumbing needed,” Iverson says, “in fact, no maintenance at all.”

There’s also a waterfall fountain at the top of the stairs that becomes a mirror encased in a stainless steel frame when not in use. It complements a three-tower fountain outside, and the soothing splashes from both fountains can be heard throughout the home.

Additional delights include a see-through backsplash along countertops that allows the surrounding forest’s charm to radiate into the kitchen; custom “barn door” sliding doors in the kitchen, master bedroom, and bath; and an elegant 90 degree edge cinder maple stairway. Among the many fun little things about the home is a strip of pebble stones in the spa-like master bath that not only looks cool “but feels really good on bare feet,” he says.

Probably the ultimate compliment to Iverson was the clients’ confession that as soon as they moved in, they made a point to have dinner in a different room each night. “They tried them all out, including the bedrooms and the bathrooms,” he laughs. “They wanted to savor the aesthetics of every space in the home.” ■

Contact Iverson at 541/579-3604,
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