GRAND DESIGN
INSIDE THE HOMES OF TOP ARCHITECTS
BOSTON'S ETSY ENTREPRENEURS

IN THE SPOTLIGHT
Rising Star
TAYLOR SCHILLING
They say the cobbler’s kids are the last to be shod, we wondered if the same might be true of architects and their homes. Are they too busy designing spaces for others to lavish much attention on their own surroundings? The answer is a resounding no—as you’ll see from the homes of local architects Jeffrey and Cheryl Katz of C&J Katz Studio and Juan Guillermo Uribe Rubio of Pauli & Uribe Architects LLC.
CHERYL AND JEFFREY KATZ
WERE INDUCTED INTO THE
NEW ENGLAND DESIGN
HALL OF FAME IN 2009.

They've created spaces as varied as
RENOWNED DECK HOUSES AND NAVY JACKET
SUMMER HOMES; RESTAURANTS; ART GALLERIES;
AND ALL THE BARROOMS IN SHARP SHOPS.
REPAIR SPACES LIKE CARBONE & SEVERY AND
WALTERS UPHOLSTERY, AND NUMEROUS SPACES.
Jeffrey earned his masters in archi-
tecture from Harvard, while Cheryl
came to design via design, from
the world of fashion and retailing.
They formed their company, C & J
Katz Studio, several decades ago,
and made their home on Beacon
Hill, entertaining a vast and
fascinating roster of friends. Their
home reflects a shared aesthetic:
Filled with art, it's warm, personal
and fun. "Our favorite houses are
those that give visitors a strong
sense of the inhabitant, even when
they're not home," says Cheryl.
She cites New York Times photog-
grapher Bill Cunningham's quote—
"Those who seek beauty will find
it"—in describing their approach
to their space. They find beauty in
imperfection—cracks, crevices and
creases. Honesty and intimacy are
paramount. They derive tremen-
dous pleasure from transforming
the ordinary into the extraordi-
nary. Unafraid to use color boldly,
make mistakes and break the
rules, the Katzes are unencumbered
with the provenance and pedigree
of objects, instead judging them
on their own merits. Despite
such a hyper-selective sensibility,
there's a deep, unfurled simplicity
at work; everything seems to be-
long where it is in an organic way.
"We've tried to create a house that
speaks of the things that matter
most to us: our family, friends,
art, music and good food."
THE BLANK CANVAS OF THE SPACE ALLOWED HIM TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES.

In 2006, Juan Guillemin and he founded an architecture firm specializing in residential design. Since then, they’ve tackled projects from a downtown square home to the proposed BDN flagship program center. Despite having a deep hand with traditional homes, Urlich Hauskoo has always been fascinated by loft living, so he chose an airy East Boston space in a building constructed by General Electric (and which later housed a bug factory). "I had always wanted to experience living in a recycled structure in an up-and-coming neighborhood with industrial and Latin flair," he says. "More no since I'm from Bogota." He took full advantage of the 14' ceilings and concrete columns, not to mention a sweeping panorama of the Boston skyline, and added personal flourishes. "The International Book of Lofts became my guide," he says, and the blank canvas of the open space allowed him to explore the aesthetic possibilities. To amplify natural light he painted the concrete columns and ceiling white to draw light to the front of the left, while his love of technology led him to create a cherrywood media cabinet containing a state-of-the-art sound system. Walls are crystal blue, and the judicious use of color makes the space feel cozier and warmer. The furniture, which he considers "the most fun on any project," had to be appropriate to the area and the space, so he chose primarily mid-20th-century contemporary pieces by the likes of Le Corbusier, Eero Saarinen and Marcel van der Rohe. For a personal connection, he incorporated his grandparents’ early-1900s table lamp and wall sconces. A dramatic staircase was the most daunting addition, and he created it to be both functional and sculptural. Finally, his appreciation for classic cars and open-wheel racing is reflected in a selection of vintage books, magazines and a print of the flamboyant Argentinean Formula One driver Juan Manuel Fangio. Like the architect, the space is modern and sleek, yet classic.