

# Robert P. Senn

Santa Barbara Architecture, Inc.

Robert Senn, Architect, is one of the lucky ones. He has been committed to architecture since he first saw Palladio's 'Villa Rotunda' on a family vacation to Italy at the age of age 12. His formal education culminated in a Master of Architecture at the University of Washington in Seattle after which he returned home to Santa Barbara, California where, for 26 years, he has designed luxury homes, estates, and gardens. As a native of the area Robert has an innate understanding of the history, lifestyle, and architectural nuances that make the area special. In the last decade Robert has completed custom estates and major renovations to fine properties in Santa Barbara, Montecito, Hope Ranch, Brentwood and Pacific Palisades. He continues to study both traditional architecture and emerging technologies as they relate to fine residential architecture.

#### ABOVE:

Designed in the Spanish Colonial Revival vernacular, this Montecito Valley Ranch home features a Monterey-style balcony off the master suite, a circular stair tower, traditional courtyard and handmade two-piece barrel-tile roof.

Photograph by B&K Photography

### FACING PAGE:

Located in a Montecito oak woodland, this multigabled French Country home has authentic detailing, heavy timber framing and a slate roof.

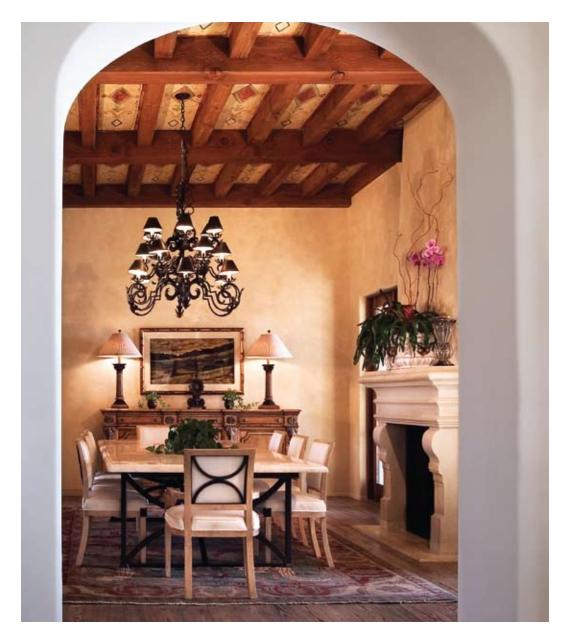
Photograph by Waldo Winters, Perrin Mutchnick





With the goal of impeccable, authentic design his firm, Santa Barbara Architecture, Inc., specializes in traditional architecture including Tuscan, Spanish Colonial Revival, French and English Country, as well as American Vernacular styles, such as Craftsman and Cape Cod. His firm also draws from classic estates of the 20's and 30's which gave birth to the most exquisite residential architecture in Southern California. These estates looked to Europe for historical roots and a sense of poetry and romance. It is this sense of poetry and romance for which Robert has an extraordinary passion and talent.

Robert believes traditional architecture is timeless. He honors the look and feel of traditional European homes by incorporating courtyards, loggias, thick walls, arches, beamed and vaulted ceilings, old world hardware, and antique finishes. His desire is to create authentic homes and gardens that, when finished, have the look and feel of an historic property. Robert feels it is critical for his homes to be faithful to their historical style. At the same time they emphasize modern, open floor plans and natural light with the use of multiple French doors, large traditional windows and extensive outdoor entertaining areas.



Robert's clients are more impressed with simple elegance rather than ostentatious designs. They have traveled the world and appreciate old world authenticity. Robert provides that authenticity while accommodating their modern lifestyles. The tagline for Robert's firm is: 'Making history one dream at a time'; it is a statement that conveys his commitment to fulfilling his client's dreams, as well as honoring architectural traditions of the past.



#### ABOVE LEET:

The Roman-style dining room of a White Stallion Ranch, Thousand Oaks residence is replete with a hand carved mantel, beamed and stenciled ceiling and antique wash walls.

Photograph by Deco Group

## ABOVE RIGHT:

In this groin-vaulted hall, travertine columns and slab stair treads are accented by the elliptical wrought iron railing. *Photograph by Deco Group* 

## FACING PAGE TOP:

This Tuscan-style home boasts a hand-carved Italian Renaissance stone entry surround. The proportions of the Birnam Wood Country Club residence's entry and Roman arched doors and windows were inspired by Palladio's I Quattro Libri dell' Architettura.

Photograph by Group 4 Photography

#### FACING PAGE BOTTOM

A copper dome stair tower and eyebrow windows inform the architectural character of this Cape Cod, Shingle-style oceanfront home in Carpinteria. Enchanting views of the Pacific are showcased by the living room's 30-foot-wide lift and sliding door opening.

Photograph by Jim Bartsch