

BRECKENRIDGE

Magazine

Winter 2003

MUSH... UN-MUSH!!!

One man's life-long
obsession with dog sledding

HIGH COUNTRY CUISINE

Its origins and variety
may surprise you

OUR TOWN

A photographer captures the
quiet side of Breckenridge

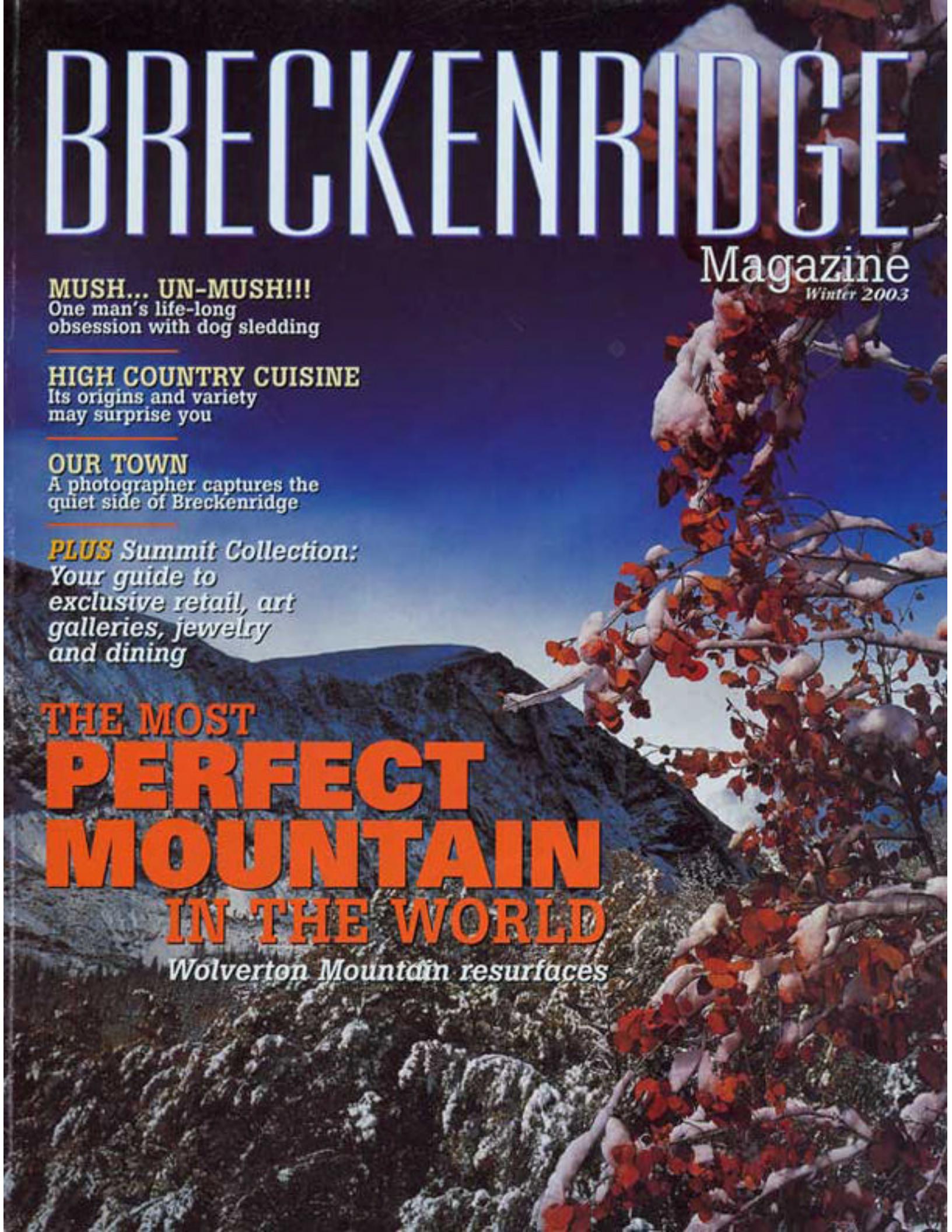
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exclusive retail, art
galleries, jewelry
and dining*

THE MOST

PERFECT MOUNTAIN IN THE WORLD

Wolverton Mountain resurfaces

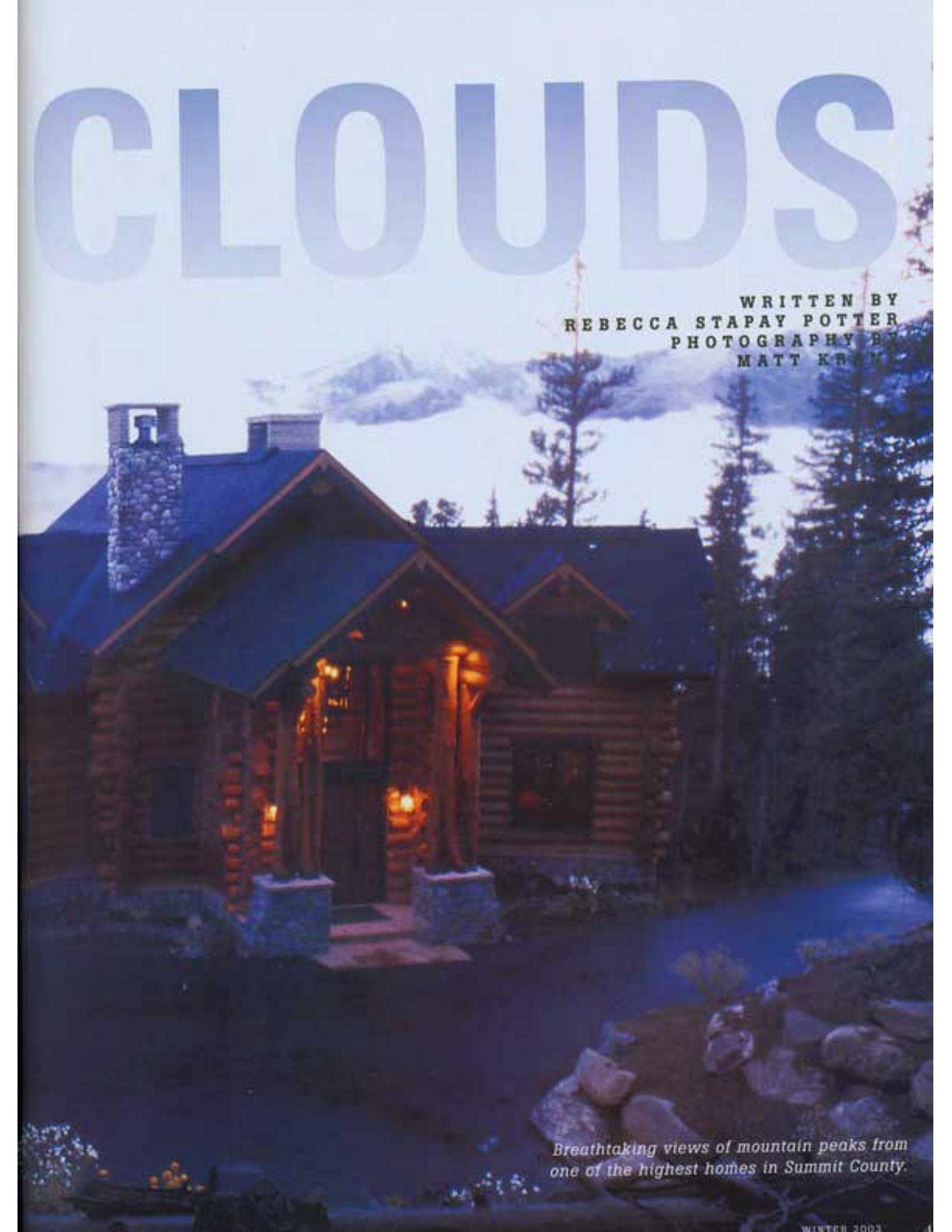


HOUSE IN THE



CLOUDS

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REBECCA STAPAY POTTER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
MATT KRAMER



Breathtaking views of mountain peaks from one of the highest homes in Summit County.



The great room with two-story stone fireplace designed to house one of the Taylors' prized sculptures.

Bobbi and Don Taylor faced a wonderful and difficult decision. Both planned on retiring from companies they each owned in Indianapolis, Indiana, both had traveled worldwide, both had experienced enticing and intriguing places. With a myriad of locales

to choose from, they decided upon Breckenridge as their new home. After shouldering the pressures of running their own companies, the Taylors packed up and moved to the mountains to "play."

Building a home with her own touches was a long-time dream of Bobbie's, and that dream was first realized as a simple design on a napkin. The Taylor's

sketched an outline of their ideal home for Breckenridge architect Suzanne Allen Guerra who specializes in full-log homes and log accent homes.

"They wanted a wing design with angles," said Allen Guerra who also included many unique angles in the interior design as well, a feature difficult to accomplish in a log home.



Top: Bobbi Taylor's office is adorned with artwork from around the world. Bottom: Don Taylor's office has a cozy, rustic ambiance.

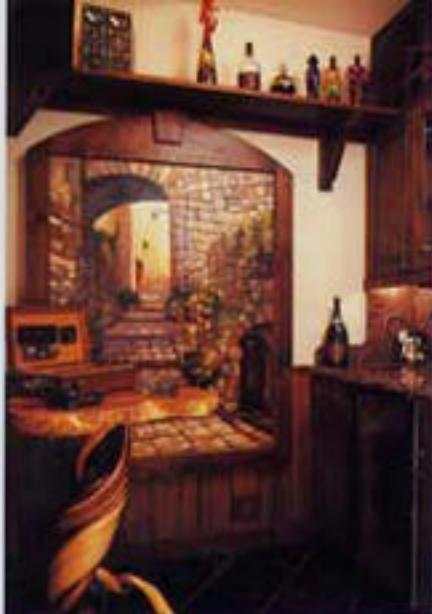
In addition to a unique design, the Taylors were interested in building a home that suited their lifestyle. "Our intent was to build our home for a couple," said Don, "and we wanted to capitalize on the views."

Many of the rooms are cozy—perfect for two people. And their passion for art is clearly displayed in every room in the house.

"A lot of the design had to do with the artwork," said Allen Guerra, "what rugs would fit into which room and what would go on the walls." The two-story stone fireplace in the great room (one of five fireplaces in the home), for example, was built to house a large bronze sculpture titled "Tranquility Man," by well-known Santa Fe artist, Bill Worrell.

The great room, with its 25 ft. ceilings, is surprisingly cozy allowing the couple to feel comfortable rather than overwhelmed by the grandeur of the room. Additionally, the great room incorporates the Taylor's desire for striking views: large windows and a wrap around deck accessed from the room capture the magnificent panorama of mountain views.

Once the design was settled upon, the plans were handed to Sitka Log Homes based in British Columbia, Canada. Each log for the house was peeled by hand, hollowed slightly, and stuffed with a bit of insulation. Scattered throughout the home are



"character logs" hand-picked by the Taylors to add one-of-a-kind rustic accents. After the house was assembled, the Taylor's flew to Canada to view the structure and make minor changes before the logs were numbered, placed on semis and driven to Breckenridge. Once in Summit County, local builder, George Gruber of George J. Gruber Construction oversaw the home's reassembling which took five days.

When stepping into the entryway of the Taylor's home, one gets the sense of entering a mountain lodge. Yet, while the home has a wonderfully rustic feel, it also incorporates many contemporary elements. As Bobbi said, "It's not just raw cowboy style."

The kitchen, along with the bar that borders the great room, is highlighted with modern teardrop lighting. The challenge of suspending the lights over the bar was answered by implementing a peeled, knarled wood log from the property from which the lights now hang. The barstools and dining chairs are upholstered in a contemporary fabric with graphic designs, and the granite countertops are highlighted with burgundy red accents. In addition, the kitchen, designed by The Thurston Kitchen and Bath Company in Breckenridge, boasts one of Bobbi's favorite features: a pullout spice rack beside the refrigerator that runs the length of the appliance.

Much of the home displays similar unique touches born through design or



Top: Master suite with sitting area. Bottom left: Master bath. Bottom right: Master bedroom with "in-the-box-TV that raises for viewing.



from the Taylor's own passion for artwork and collecting. Each room highlights a piece, or many pieces of art, some gathered on the Taylor's travels around the world, some created by local Summit County artists. For example, both the great room and the downstairs media room feature lamps made by Chuck Conwell of Woodwalker Woodworks in Alma, Colorado. Conwell made the lamps from 500 year-old Bristlecone pine that were once used as fenceposts at the Taylor's ranch in Guffey, Colorado. Accenting several rooms are wall-mounted lamps created from the horns of native



Top: Downstairs media room with walk-out patio.

Bottom: Guest bedroom that displays some of the Taylors' favorite artwork.

African animals. Lighted art niches in several walls display Masai Indian sculptures. Glass pieces by Kelly Feldman of the Fineline Studio in Breckenridge brighten several rooms. And throughout the home, stained glass creations by Stephanie van de Weil of Chanisarian Design Studio in Frisco add colorful accents.

"We are very appreciative of the local artists' talent," said Bobbi, who explained that van de Weil's stained glass design on the wine cellar door came from a wine label. "We figured no mountain home is complete without a wine cellar, so we found a label we liked and gave it to Stephanie to work from."

In keeping with their lifestyle, Bobbi and Don decided to transform two of the home's four bedrooms into offices from which they could manage some of their local fundraising. Both offices are located on the home's lower level, and each is unique. Don's office is equipped with a stone fireplace, a bear rug and copper water fountain and is suggestive of a rustic cabin. In contrast, Bobbi's office, with a slate and marble fireplace, faux painted walls, leopard-skin fabrics and artifacts collected in Africa and Thailand, has more of an exotic feel.

When business is done for the day, the Taylors retreat to their master suite that occupies the entire second floor and overlooks the great room. Since privacy was not a primary concern for the couple, the Taylors can enjoy the openness of this second floor suite while relaxing in front of yet another fireplace in a comfortable sitting area, or step through an archway and turn in for the night in the master bedroom.

While the Taylor's home maintains a classic mountain charm, it truly reflects the styles and lifestyles of its occupants. Said Bobbi, "We are living my dream."

For information on log home design contact Suzanne Allen Guerra at Allen-Guerra Design Build, 970.453.7002. ▲