



# HOUSE OF GETTY

*A rare, century-old Spanish-style hacienda above Los Angeles is what the designer Rosetta Getty and her husband, Balthazar, call home*

Photographs **Annabel Mehran** Words **Olivia Lidbury**



**Main picture, opposite**  
The midcentury furniture in the library includes a leather chair by the Danish designer Illum Wikkelsø and a daybed by Jean Prouvé and Charlotte Perriand

In Los Angeles, a house that's 100 years old is considered a relic, so you could say the fashion designer Rosetta Getty's home is already exceptional. Inspired by Spanish colonial architecture, the house in Sunset Plaza, which she shares with her husband, the oil heir, DJ and actor Balthazar Getty, and their four children, aged between 10 and 17, has many original features. These include the arched windows in the living room, with views of the sprawling city, and an intricately carved wood-panelled ceiling in the master bedroom. "A great ceiling is so important to a room, it really makes it," says Getty, 49, of the view she wakes up to daily from the brass bed that was a gift from Balthazar's aunt.

Meanwhile, one of the statement pieces of the house is the hammam, which features tiles imported from Morocco and 10 shower heads, reclaimed from salvage yards. They are positioned at different angles so water sprays in all directions. A drought in California has put paid to such indulgences, however, so these days Getty only turns one on.

The dining room is where the family gathers every evening to catch up. "That's one rule I make sure is abided by — that dinner is at 6.30pm every night," she says. "So we're all in there, unless there's a test or a good reason why we can't be together."

The place to unwind is the serene green library. "I



**Top** Rosetta Getty in the library, her favourite room.  
**Above left** Rosetta's vanity area. 'I collect things that make me feel happy.'  
**Above** The arched windows in the living room offer views over Los Angeles.  
**Left** A sheepskin chair by the Danish architect Philip Arctander and a taxidermy bird in the master bedroom





**Left** A collection of skateboards in the bedroom of their son, Cassius, 17. **Top** The light in the library is by Noguchi. **Above** The marble-clad bathroom. **Below** The coffee table is bespoke



A painting by the British artist James Nares hangs above the fireplace in the seating area in the master bedroom. The Khmer limestone female bust dates from the 10th-12th centuries

spend a lot of time in there,” Getty says. “It has a beautiful view of LA and it’s just so special.” Among the stacks of art books and the contemporary photography, a striking geometric sculpture by Mark Hagen steals the show.

## I WANT TO GO INTO A ROOM AND FEEL INSPIRED AND COMFORTED

Getty is at once a self-confessed treasure-hunter and a minimalist, much like her designs. Stocked by Net-a-porter and Farfetch, they have been worn by Claire Foy and Dakota Johnson. She has filled the family home with midcentury furniture by leading names such as Illum Wikkelse and Charlotte Perriand and Jean Prouvé. “I love the contrast — sometimes it really works and sometimes it doesn’t, but when you find that balance, it’s the best.”

Elsewhere, finds from local flea markets, including vintage china, for which she has developed a fondness, have resulted in curated displays of trinkets that make her happy.

“It’s more of a feeling,” she says of her approach to decorating the space. “I want to go into a room and feel inspired and comforted.”

Mission accomplished. ■



**Above** The geometric sculpture in the library is by Mark Hagen. **Left** The brass bed in the master bedroom was a gift from Balthazar’s aunt. The wood-paneled ceiling is an original feature of the house