

The Green Supremacist

Sustained! Eastside eco-architect Jeremy Levine's homes court attention by raising the granola bar

| By Gary Baum | Photography by David Waldorf |

Carbon foot-prince? Known for his sapling-planted interior courtyards and wood-slatted movable panels, Jeremy Levine is quickly becoming the darling of the local environmental design realm. His down-to-the-frame renovations of existing properties in Los Feliz and Silver Lake—“It’s a waste to ever tear down a house; it makes it an unsustainable project from the start”—have been snapped up by Prius-driving industry types who want their neo-modernism tree-hugged by bamboo floors and gray-water systems. Levine, 42, grew up the son of the director of MIT’s visual arts program (“My parents’ friends—Robert Irwin, Barbara Kruger—were always over for dinner”). After graduating from SCI-Arc, he fell into a B-movie set-designing career for Roger Corman and Wes Craven. “I was involved in *zero* good movies,”

admits the fast-talking, constantly gesticulating Eagle Rock resident, who nevertheless enjoyed conjuring dungeons, Craftsman bungalows and Yakuza bars for films such as *Psycho Sushi* and *Mind Ripper*. Levine, however, has

since put his degree to use, converting below-the-line film set buddies into small-budgeted patrons before building a deeper-pocketed clientele. (“Now they all seem to ask for Viking ranges and Duravit toilets.”) Recently commissioned to envision a spa in Israel’s Negev Desert and an eco-resort along Nicaragua’s Pacific coast, he’s also busy constructing reclaimed-wood furniture pieces for some of his residential developments. Says Levine, whose wife Robin recently launched a line of eco-friendly cleaning products: “Everything I come in contact with these days is potential raw material.” ▲

Levine's Hots

Solar-powered anything; Farrah Fawcett posters; the Large Hadron Collider; Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu; electric sports cars; pawnbrokers; TED

Levine's Nots

Cryogenics; poker as a sport; lawns; vegans who wear leather; pathologically Twittering; house flipping

POST AND GLEAM

Jeremy Levine in Eagle Rock.

