COMFORT BY DESIGN
MAKING THE MOST OF HOME.

WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE?
For the architects and landscape designers in these pages, sustainability invokes a lifestyle brimming over with possibility. To them, it’s not only about consuming and wasting less, but also making meaningful decisions that enable people to more fully appreciate all that they have. In home and landscape design, the ability to reclaim more livable outdoor space is key.

Each of the residential design projects featured began with a thoughtful consideration of climate, geography, solar and wind patterns, to maximize natural light, ventilation, views and the use of outdoor spaces, and orient a home to create a refuge that fully engages with its surroundings.

INVITING PEOPLE OUTSIDE
For decades, Infratech heating systems have been amenities of choice among leading architects, designers and builders because they integrate with the materials, fixtures and finishes that make outdoor spaces more welcoming. With sleek design and versatile color and mounting options, Infratech heaters seamlessly blend into the surrounding décor. Energy-efficient, low-maintenance and emission-free performance creates an inviting backdrop of ambient warmth, encouraging year-round use of an outdoor living space. Each residential project reinvents the idea of home for the people who live there. With Infratech, they can expand the possibilities.

PARK SLOPE DESIGN
Santa Monica, CA and Santa Fe, NM

With every project, Joan Grabel collaborates with clients to develop landscapes that reflect their interests, lifestyles, tastes and goals, while balancing considerations like geography, climate, the home’s architecture and client’s budget. Much of her work is concentrated in Southern California and the regions surrounding Santa Fe, New Mexico, where water conservation is a critical concern. Her work is grounded in an eco-conscious foundation; she emphasizes the use of low-water plants, efficient irrigation and hardscape materials that are sustainably sourced. This environmentally-friendly philosophy guides her development of beautiful, livable and durable landscapes that create visual appeal that exists in harmony with nature.

SOUTH BAY TRANSITIONAL
For the South Bay Transitional landscape design, Grabel drew important cues from the name she and her client selected for the project,
SL-Series heaters mounted to side beams of the pergola provide year-round comfort in the outdoor dining area.

choosing to incorporate a transitional to modern style characterized by sleek lines and lots of open space. This design was developed to maximize use of the landscape for clients who enjoyed cooking and entertaining outside. Prior to the redesign, the homeowners did not use their outdoor space as often as they desired, due to the windy, foggy conditions associated with living near the beach. With an eye toward providing an enduring solution, Grabel specified materials like Trex® composite decking, LED lights, Greenform® planters crafted from recyclable materials and genuine basalt for the water feature. She selected Infratech heaters for the outdoor kitchen and dining area because they align with the design aesthetic and performance criteria required to make the outdoor kitchen, pergola and deck more useful and comfortable. Not only do the heaters’ sleek design complement the space, infrared radiant heat transfers directly to tables and chairs and does not blow away in the frequently drafty conditions. This enables Grabel’s clients to cook, dine and entertain outdoors, day or night, all year round.

Award-winning landscape designer, fine artist and Park Slope founder Joan Grabel is an exhibiting painter who brings her background and sensibility as a fine artist to each landscape design project she undertakes. As one of the featured landscape designers on the HGTV network, Grabel has won accolades from top industry publications and made regular appearances on popular series such as Professional Grade and Landscapers’ Challenge. Grabel approaches each project with a love of color and form, uniting beauty and function, and describes her personal aesthetic as ‘minimalist, but open to interpretation’. She strives to design outdoor spaces that combine aesthetic appeal with an eco-conscious ethos, and a functionality that complements and enriches her clients’ lifestyles.

Grabel created a tranquil, meditative outdoor gathering space by surrounding a water feature with seating, hardscape and landscape elements.
As founder and principal of ANX, architect Aaron Neubert leads an award-winning team in developing residential, commercial and cultural projects in countries around the world. Neubert’s work has received awards from the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the National Academy of Design, Build Magazine and the Van Alen Prize in Public Architecture, to name a few, and he currently serves as an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Southern California. ANX’s approach to residential design revolves around the notion of merging architecture with the surrounding landscape. The firm strives to achieve an environmental modernism informed by the geography, climate and lifestyles of its clients. In Southern California, this aesthetic is shaped by steep hillsides, sweeping vistas and mild weather throughout the year. For Neubert and his team, this manifests in a sustainable approach to building. They advocate for homes that occupy a more compact, intimate footprint, site homes to maximize passive energy consumption, and develop designs that maximize usable square footage by incorporating outdoor areas into a client’s living space.

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Outdoor dining and lounging areas enable homeowners to maximize their use and enjoyment of exterior spaces.

In their residential work, ANX strives to invent a world where clients can create the lives they want to lead. They view architecture as the vehicle to construct those stories of domestic life. Outdoor living spaces are an essential component of this approach because they provide a sustainable medium by which to recapture usable space at a site. Neubert and his team seek to integrate each home they design into its landscape both by identifying the benefits of the location and making the outdoor living areas as comfortable and welcoming as possible, so that they feel like natural extensions of the home.

**HOLLYWOOD HILLS HOME**

ANX’s Hollywood Hills home brings the firm’s indoor-outdoor lifestyle philosophy to life. Initially constructed in 1992, the home originally featured dark interior spaces that offered limited access to its spectacular views – from Runyon Canyon and the downtown Los Angeles skyline all the way to Palos Verdes. Neubert and his team were inspired by the potential to create a seamless engagement between the home’s interiors and the surrounding panorama, in order to immerse residents in the sweeping vistas outside. By demolishing much of the interior and adding floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that opened onto terraces, they were able to create an open layout that connected interior spaces and terraces with the landscape. They selected an Infratech heating system for this project in part because the fixtures’ sleek design complemented the home’s minimalist style. Heat output was also a concern, due to the height at which the heaters were installed. Infratech’s ambient, energy-efficient and low-maintenance performance translated into comfort for the clients, who now enjoy the view from their interior rooms and terraces throughout the year.
The Minarc team brings utility and simplicity to each project, devising solutions that reflect client lifestyles and values while adding efficiency and comfort, in an effort to give homeowners more space and time to spend with family and friends. Whether the Minarc team is reusing materials or exploring optimal ways to configure every square foot of a lot, they seek to help people appreciate the best that climate and location have to offer. Coming from Iceland, Erla and Tryggvi are inspired by the ways in which milder climates encourage outdoor living. The team’s inside-out, outside-in ethos guides them to create homes that feel immersed in their surroundings. To achieve this, Minarc incorporates features like floor-to-ceiling sliding doors and windows, and floor and ceiling treatments that extend seamlessly from inside out, to create a sense of visual and physical expansiveness. They also bring nature inside with the use of moss or rock walls, nature-inspired textures on doors and finishes, or by flooding a wall with natural imagery.

Infratech WD-Series heaters bring year-round comfort to this indoor-outdoor dining space.
Flush-mounted W-Series heaters seamlessly complement the clean lines of the home’s design.

Based in Santa Monica, Minarc was founded by native Icelanders Erla Dögg and Tryggvi. Their work is distinguished by an outside-in, inside-out ethos that is grounded in a deep appreciation of nature. The award-winning firm has been recognized with numerous accolades from the International Interior Design Association (IIDA), including a Calibre Award. Eco-conscious practices are holistically incorporated into every project, from siting to achieve passive energy consumption and maximize natural light, to designs that encourage transparency and flow between indoor and outdoor spaces. Their creative minimalist aesthetic invokes the presence of nature as it flexes to achieve the needs for each project. Minarc strives to make the most of a site’s size, climate and geography while minimizing waste. This is reflected not only in the way the team creatively reuses materials like the artificial turf, scrap lumber and rubber in Minarc’s branded line of home products, but also in the efficient way they utilize space in the homes they design.

“We are always taking not just the inside out, but also taking the outside in, to even further blur the lines between inside and out.”

APPLETON LIVING

Minarc’s Appleton Living project offers clients the benefits of simplicity, sustainability and utility, in a home that promotes a healthy family environment. The structure incorporates sustainably sourced materials, natural light and ventilation, and passive solar design to reduce energy consumption. The home was designed around an outdoor living area that includes a pool, grilling and dining space and play court, with an open layout that enables a sense of flow from the inside out. Fixtures like a fireplace and patio warmed by an Infratech heating system encourage time spent outdoors by making the exterior living room as comfortable and accessible as the rooms within. The Minarc team selected Infratech heaters for the patio because they worked well with the home’s streamlined aesthetic. In addition, Infratech’s energy-efficient, emission-free performance aligned with the firm’s eco-friendly design philosophy.
Today, Infratech heating systems are specified by the architects, home and landscape designers, engineers and builders who are changing the paradigm when it comes to sustainability, comfort and style. Our products are featured in premium residential and commercial projects across the United States because they offer advantages in design and performance that support our customers' visions. If you’d like to be featured as part of our Infratech Visionaries series, we invite you to contact us.

**EXPANDING THE POSSIBILITIES FOR OUTDOOR LIVING.**

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