

WEST HAWAII TODAY | HAWAII TRIBUNE-HERALD | FEBRUARY 2017

at home

LIVING WITH STYLE ON HAWAII ISLAND



LOCAL TALENT

New Home at Hualalai Resort Designed
by Kealakehe HS Alumnus

at home

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FEBRUARY 2017

MANAGING EDITOR
KAREN ANDERSON
KANDERSON@WESTHAWAII.TODAY.COM

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
KELLY BOLYARD
KBOLYARD@WESTHAWAII.TODAY.COM

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
GINA LAMBERT

ART DIRECTOR
JEFF SANNER

PHOTOGRAPHER
KAREN ANDERSON

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
KRISTINA ANDERSON
KAREN ANDERSON

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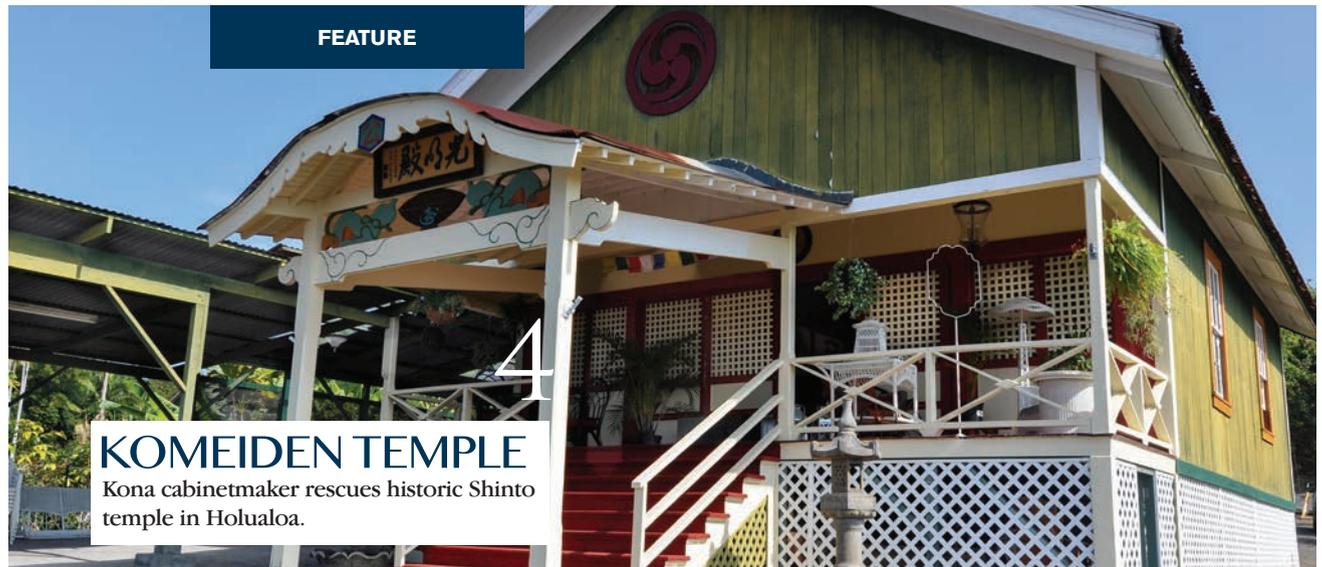


On the Cover: The newly completed residence in Hualalai Resort showcases the local talents of residential designer Erik Tremain and the interior design firm of Henderson Design Group.

PHOTO: HANS KLETT

PHOTO: KAREN ANDERSON

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COVER STORY

Kona native Erik Tremain earned his Master of Architecture degree at Washington State University, and returned to his hometown of Kailua-Kona in 2014 to continue his career in architecture. Working under the guidance of Gregg Todd, Erik became lead designer on the 7,600-square-foot residence at Hualalai Resort.

LOCAL TALENT

Kealakehe alumnus completes first major project in Kona at Hualalai Resort

PHOTO: KAREN ANDERSON

At 32 years old, residential designer Erik Tremain, of Kona, is already making his mark in the world of high-end resort architecture in West Hawai'i. And if the newly completed, impressive residence in Hualalai Resort is any indication, Erik's talents will be a contributing factor in the local architectural community for years to come.

Raised in Kona and a graduate of Kealakehe High

School, Erik earned his Master of Architecture degree from Washington State University, and started working at an architectural firm in Seattle in 2009. He moved back to Kona in 2014 to work at de Reus Architects in Waimea, and then joined Gregg Todd, owner of GT Design and GM Construction, in Kailua-Kona, who presented Erik the opportunity to become the lead designer of a beautiful, 7,600-square-foot home in Hualalai Resort he defines as "Refined Tropical Architecture."

Designing the home took seven months, said Erik. Construction began in July 2015, and the home was completed one year later, in August 2016. Collaborating directly with the homeowners, as well as with the interior design firm of Henderson Design Group, Erik utilized the 3-D modeling software, Revit, for every step of the design process.

"With Revit, I can do designs in real time for the client, and also do screen-sharing with them in a

STORY BY KAREN ANDERSON | PHOTOGRAPHY BY HANS KLETT



The impressive five-bedroom residence showcases the interior design talents of The Henderson Group, whose headquarters are based at The Shops at Mauna Lani. The living area brings the outside in via automated sliding pocket doors.

collaborative fashion,” said Erik. “Henderson was always at the table collaborating on the feeling of the place, reinforcing the concept, and bringing in new ideas. We were very fortunate to work with this client because of their ambition, excitement and interest in contemporary architecture.”

Featuring three bedrooms in the main residence and two bedrooms in the detached guesthouse, the sleek and open residence is oriented along multiple axis planes, or breezeways, that run

horizontally and vertically throughout the home. In the main living room, for example, one can see unobstructed views of Hualalai Mountain to the south, and Maui to the north. Meanwhile, the east/west axis extends from the master wing all the way through the living area and down a breezeway behind the kitchen, where a hand-carved tiki peers into the house through a glass-paneled door.

The pièce de résistance of the entire home, automated sliding pocket doors open at a touch of

a button, extending the length of the living room all the way past the kitchen.

“Figuring out how to engineer these doors was like putting together an animated puzzle,” said Erik. “There are a total of 12 automated glass panels that disappear into pockets, including the perpendicular doors that disappear into a hidden pocket in the kitchen. The homeowner can open the doors remotely from anywhere in the world if they want to.”



Extending the length of the living room and kitchen, a total of 12 automated glass panels disappear into pockets, including a set of perpendicular doors that slide into a hidden pocket in the kitchen. The home is available as a vacation rental through Pinkert/Loratta.

Designed for entertaining, the gorgeous kitchen is outfitted with horizontal-grain walnut cabinets custom built by Dan Ogle Woodworking in Kailua-Kona. Topped in Cosmic Black granite, the eight-foot-square prep island features deep overhangs for comfortable barstool seating. In keeping with the concept of defined breezeways, a horizontal access point offers a direct route from the garage to a utilitarian office space where you can place your car keys and belongings before entering the kitchen.

Arguably the most inviting room in the house, the media room offers plush, European-style seating, plus finely crafted panels, shelves and entertainment center made of walnut. There's even a niche for the homeowner's record player, and a built-in cabinet for the vinyl collection.

"The design team had a lot of fun conceptualizing the media room," said Erik. "It's cozy and not too large. It's definitely a place for lounging."

A landscape designer by trade, the homeowner collaborated on ideas for the home's entry and was integral in the entire design process. The defining elements of the front entry, massive limestone blocks/stepping stones lead to a reflecting pool flanked by two fire bowls just outside the front door.

"The ideas for the entry were ambitious in terms of implementation," said Erik. "The presence of the raised blocks and water feature enhances the dramatic sense of arrival."





The home is oriented along multiple breezeways including a vertical axis plane at the entry that showcases views of Hualalai to the south and Maui to the north.



Henderson Design Group collaborated on the design of the cozy media room outfitted in walnut cabinetry crafted by Dan Ogle of Kailua-Kona.



The gorgeous master bath comes complete with a glass-enclosed steam sauna/shower and a carved-marble soaking tub. Hilo-based Josh Gaul Granite & Marble did all of the impressive stone and granite in the home.

Within the elegant master suite is an exercise/meditation room, his-and-hers water closets with two separate toilets, plus a steam/sauna shower and a carved-marble soaking tub. Hilo-based Josh Gaul Granite & Marble did all of the impressive stone and granite installation in the home.

Erik's upbringing in Kona decidedly influenced some of his decision making on the house. He cites Holualoa architect Shaun Roth as a mentor.

Although the high-end Hualalai home is his first major project in Kona, Erik looks forward to working on projects of all sizes. He is currently helping his aunt remodel her kitchen in Kona, and is working on multiple residential and commercial projects with Gregg Todd and architect Paul Bleck. The Hualalai Resort project, however, was the chance of a lifetime for the budding architect.

"It was a privilege to work with this client in creating 'moments' and continuity," said Erik. "The home is transformative and so complementary to the indoor-outdoor lifestyle of the tropics." ■