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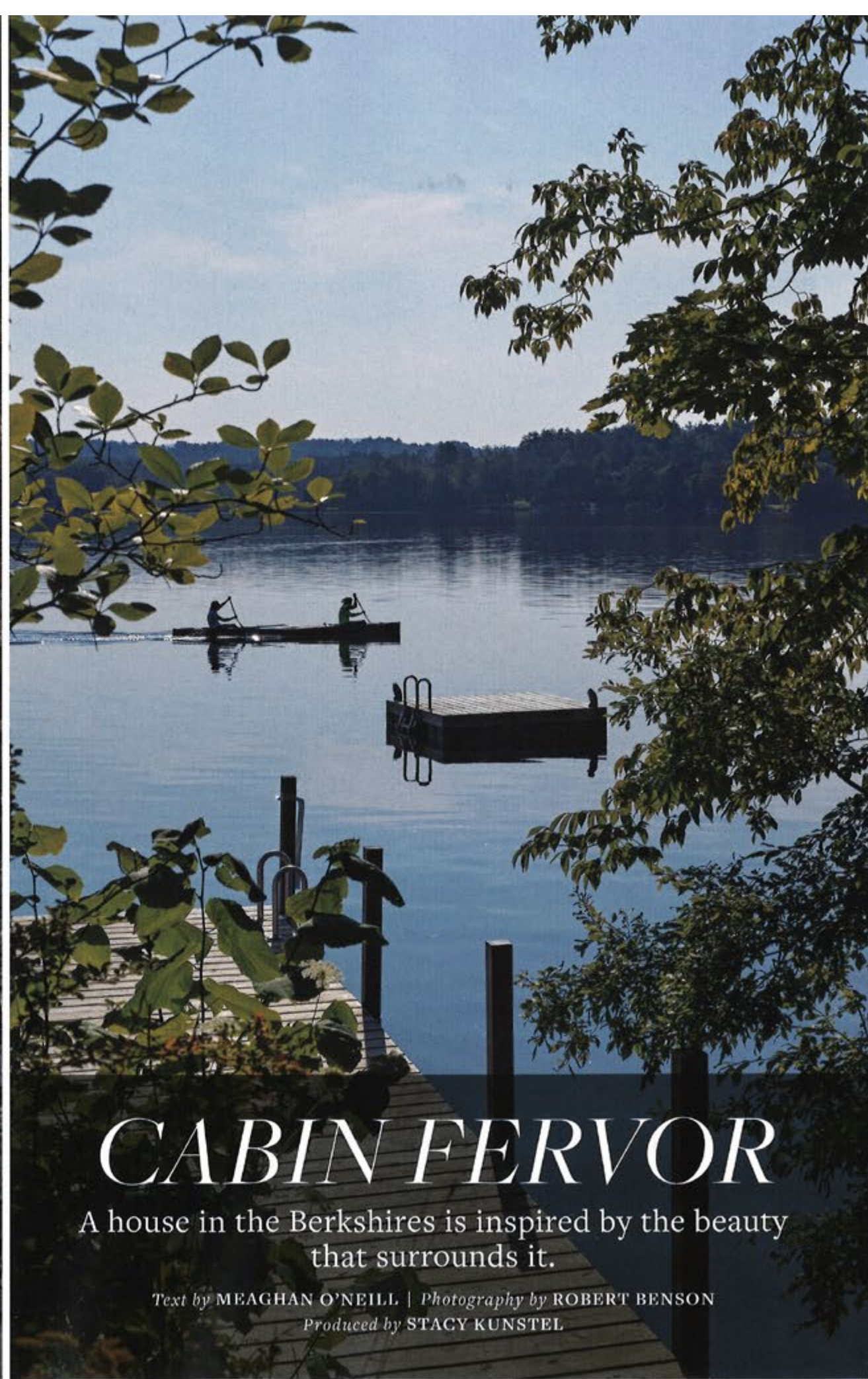
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The living area's vaulted ceiling permits ample natural light. Interior designer Claudia Kalur chose custom Kravet sofas for their clean, modern look. **FACING PAGE:** The ten-acre lakefront property takes full advantage of its prime location. Landscape architect Todd Richardson replaced most existing plantings with native species in an effort he describes as "beautification as naturalization."



CABIN FERVOR

A house in the Berkshires is inspired by the beauty that surrounds it.

Text by MEAGHAN O'NEILL | Photography by ROBERT BENSON
Produced by STACY KUNSTEL

The dining area offers capacious views from an extension table found on Etsy and surrounded by Baccho chairs (designed by Omar De Biaggio, who named them for Bacchus, the Roman god of wine). Floors throughout are torrefied red oak. **FACING PAGE:** The quietly refined kitchen blends in with the open-plan space. Concrete countertops add modernity, while leather bar stools lend a soft touch.



It took more than a decade of searching New England from end to end for one couple to find just the right spot for their dream vacation home. Along the way they found their architect: Maine-based Will Winkelman. “Before we had a where and a how, we had a who,”



“A FORMATIVE PIECE OF THE PROJECT IS THAT THE BUILDING IS INTEGRATED INTO THE LANDSCAPE.”
—WILL WINKELMAN

driveway that now meanders through the property to the house, “creating a framed moment,” says Winkelman. “A formative piece of the project,” he says, is that “the building is integrated into the landscape.”

The couple wanted the home—where they eventually intend to retire—to accommodate their three twenty-something sons during visits,

but they didn’t want to feel alone in a big, empty house when the boys weren’t there. Winkelman found a clever answer to that challenge by dividing the living quarters. The 2,980-square-foot, two-story primary house sits closer to the water and features an open living/dining/kitchen area, a master suite, and a screened-in porch on the first level. A guest suite



says the wife. By the time they finally purchased their ten-acre lakeside parcel in the Southern Berkshires, Winkelman was on speed dial.

The couple chose the area for its “combination of natural beauty and cultural offerings,” says the husband. Their particular plot, however, was long and narrow and featured an incredibly steep driveway and a small, non-winterized fishing cabin. The building was unsalvageable, they decided, and the driveway, per the town, would have to be entirely regraded.

Working closely with landscape architect Todd Richardson, the clients and architect sited a new house close to the lake. First, however, they needed to blast out rock and transform the topography, making way for a

ABOVE: A pedestrian bridge connects the main house to three small cabins, designated for the homeowners’ sons. **LEFT:** Each cabin features a built-in queen bed and a twin daybed. **FACING PAGE, TOP:** A modern pendant chandelier hangs above the dining table. **FACING PAGE, BOTTOM:** The main house is divided into distinct, layered volumes; the top floor holds a guest suite and a kitchenette.



*DESIGNER CLAUDIA KALUR CREATED
A SPACE THAT, SHE SAYS, "DOESN'T FIGHT
THE ARCHITECTURE OR THE OUTDOORS."*

upstairs welcomes visitors.

Out back, Winkelman clustered three tiny cabins, one for each son. These sit above the garage, which is built into the hillside and also functions as a retaining wall. At 364 square feet, each cabin has two beds, a closet, and a bath. A pedestrian bridge connects the cabins to the parents' house, where Mom strategically added a second-floor kitchenette. "With three sons, it's all about the food," she says. "So, they can't stay in their cabins for too long!" It's an act of deliberate social engineering, adds Winkelman with a chuckle, that ensures family interaction.

Town regulations required that the pedestrian bridge reach fourteen feet, which drove up the height of interior spaces in the main house. Winkelman took that opportunity to create lofty ceilings and dramatic views, running walls of windows up to the roof in many places. A series of shed roofs serves to maximize sight lights and disperse the building's bulk, the architect explains.

In line with Winkelman and Richardson's efforts, designer Claudia Kalur created a space that, she says, "doesn't fight the architecture or the outdoors." The clients desired a modern cabin aesthetic. "We wanted to work with nature," the Connecticut-based designer says, "but make it sophisticated and chic."

She developed a warm, relaxed palette of rusts, mustards, and various greens inspired by the surrounding seasonal views. Details like an extra-deep window seat, leather kitchen stools, and sofas with rich, textured fabrics deliver the cozy, yet smart, lakeside decor the couple sought. Now the homeowners have their who, their how, their where—and their Wow.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For details about this home, see Resources.



ARCHITECTURE: Will Winkelman and Melissa Andrews, Winkelman Architecture
INTERIOR DESIGN: Claudia Kalur, CFK Interiors
LANDSCAPE DESIGN: Todd Richardson, Richardson & Associates



The master bedroom's pine walls continue into the bath, where they are whitewashed to add variation. **FACING PAGE:** Located on the ground floor, the master bedroom is "all about the views," says designer Kalur. With its simple furnishings and horizontally paneled pine walls, "it's their little Zen space," she adds.