ADAM BEACH
On Bringing NATIVE AUTHENTICITY To Hollywood

WILD HORSES IN WYOMING
Inspiring Home Landscapes
settings that relate to the surroundings starts with developing a set of contrasts, such as formal versus informal, natural versus manicured," Wong says.

Wong studied the home's architecture, noting the strong roofline that flows down to melt into the earth. He also found inspiration in the nearby vineyard and pond.

"We pull elements from the architecture and surrounding environment and abstractly portray them in the design," Wong says.

The primary outdoor living area is a paved and covered patio connected to the home. From there, the landscape cascades gently down into a series of soft grassy terraces edged in Corten, a type of steel that runs over time. Stone steps, which complement the geometric design, lead from the patio to the swimming terrace. Vertically separated from the patio, the pool harmonizes with the rectilinear elements. On the far side of the pool, the sunning deck takes on an amphitheater-like quality when dusk descends.

To accommodate the client's desire for an outdoor gathering and dining area, Wong created a pathway from the main patio to the side of the house. There, he installed an elongated pad of crushed rock perfectly sized for a large farm table. Rather than a table, six deciduous trees line the sides providing an organic canopy of shade.

From the outdoor dining room, a second set of stone stairs leads down to the pool. In the center, a cut-out channel of water tumbles from the top down to the pool creating ambient sound.

"Like many aspects of the design, the water is a metaphor," Wong says. "It starts from the home flowing down the channel into the pool before splashing over the infinity edge to water the valley below."