

Elegance *(redefined)*

When seasoned builder **John Schultz** takes on the leading role in the production of a new home, you can bet that every detail, both inside and out, will be held under magnification and to the highest standards of his watchful eye.

A solid cornerstone of the industry, **Schultz Development** is responsible for creating some of the most magnificent estates in the Valley, making its elite placement as a leading home builder well earned.

From romantic, Spanish haciendas and expansive, Mediterranean-style villas to authentic, French Country, manor-style homes - this contractor's work has become very identifiable through its high level of intricacy and its practiced artistry of time-honored construction techniques.

Thus, it came with no surprise that when a prominent Chicago couple decided to custom-build a grand-scale, Mediterranean-style home for seasonal residence in Horseshoe Canyon, they set their sights on interviewing John Schultz to undertake the project.

After reviewing another residence in the Silverleaf community that Schultz had recently completed, they were more than confident that their instincts in taking a closer look would prove worthwhile.

As with most Schultz Development projects, the home itself stands strong on its own merits, allowing the interior design to beautifully frost the cake, so to speak. Here, the homeowners were extremely involved with their selections, and much of the furnishings and art-work reflect their travels throughout the world.

Written by Michele Perillo
Photographed by Werner Segarra

In traditional Italianate style, this showcase residence is graciously proportioned with soaring, coffered and groin vaulted ceilings; gilded domes; expansive loggias; and grand-scale corridors.

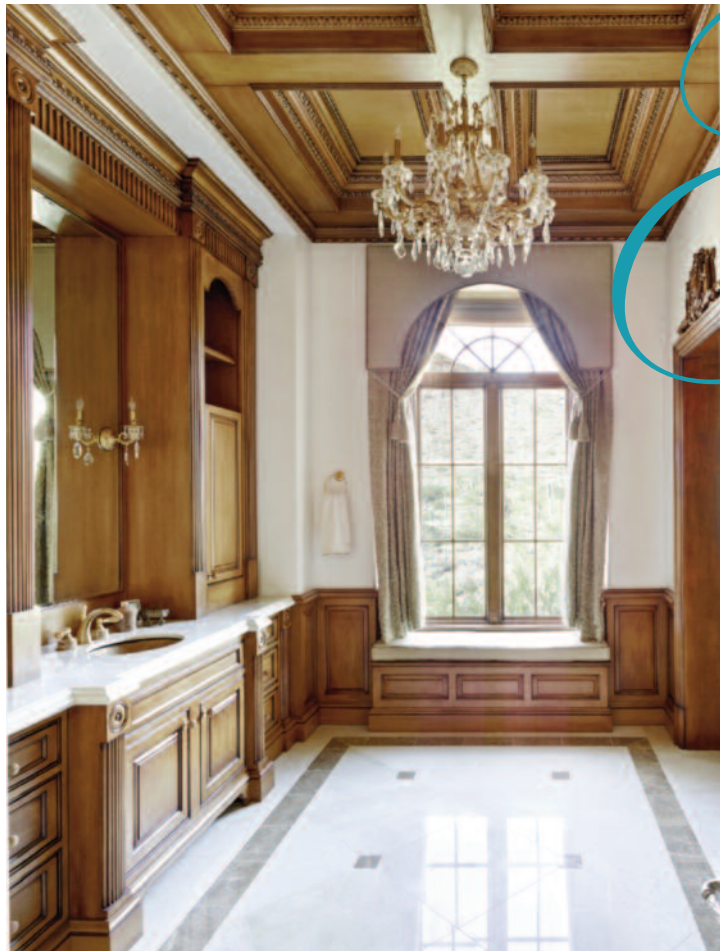


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lthough the couple appreciated the fine craftsmanship evident in all of Schultz's work, they were nonetheless deliberate, wanting to entrust their dreams to the right team. Hence, there still remained a very stringent interview process. Not surprisingly, many other prominent builders were vying for this particular project, but the undertaking of such an elaborate commission would certainly challenge the best of them.

Because the clients had a very clear vision of what they wanted and would be hands-on during the process, they sought a builder who could listen, understand, and interpret. As it turned out, their first choice was a good one. Through all the stages of planning, Schultz says, his firm matched their consideration in selecting each artisan and service company who would take part in the finished product. "I set extremely high standards within my organization," Schultz says, "with the expectation of excellence for every home we build. Our watchwords are unwavering commitment and precise attention to detail. **We have been building fine custom homes in the area for well over two decades,** and with the completion of this home, I can unequivocally say that we have exceeded even our own expectations."





Elaborately appointed with opulent textiles, 17th- and 18th-century furnishings, and lighting from fabulous crystal chandeliers, the master suite is truly a decadent hide-away situated all on its own quadrant within this magnificent estate.

"Both the husband and wife are avid readers," says Schultz, "so among the most charming personal aspects of this home are the surprising alcoves and niches we designed throughout, where one can comfortably settle in with a blanket and a book. They also are tea connoisseurs, so rather than the more typical coffee bar, we positioned tea stations throughout the



The master suite, along with the adjoining his-and-hers bath areas, are all positioned to take advantage of the stunning vistas and views of the city lights.





Beyond the exterior loggias and resort-like pool and spa area resides a carefully-designed and executed moat that surrounds the western end of the property — allowing man and nature to coexist without ever disturbing each other's peace and tranquility.

Because the couple entertains often, the home they envisioned had to accommodate large gatherings and overnight guests. They wanted substantial outdoor living spaces to enjoy the exquisite climate that had initially led them to choose Scottsdale as their winter home. In addition, they needed living quarters for the resident staff. And this all had to be accomplished on one level.

Meeting the challenge of a 21,000 square foot home (15,000 under air) on a single level required one of the largest lots available in Horseshoe Canyon. Now completed, the home measures 315 linear feet. With the length of the negative edge pool, fire pit area, and guest house included, the entire footprint exceeds the length of a football field.

Magnificent marble carvings and the lavish use of statuary throughout the residence were an inspired collaboration of the homeowners' vision, the interior designer's expertise and eye for symmetry and grandeur, and the master stoneworkers Schultz commissioned in Italy to create the original works. The intricate carvings are showcased on the limestone fireplaces, fountains, and other architectural elements. Breathtaking crystal chandeliers, priceless Italian antiques, and the owners' fine art collection warm the space and underscore the timeless elegance of the home.

From inception to completion, while following a strict schedule, it took three years to build this dream home in Horseshoe Canyon. To the unpracticed eye, it would appear to have been standing there for centuries.

CREDITS: Builder: Schultz Development; Architecture: Candelaria Design; Interior Design: Kimberly Colletti; Hardwood flooring: Premiere Wood Floors, Inc.; Millwork and cabinetry: Architectural Designworks Inc., Pierre Lang, Rysso-Peters Handcrafted Cabinetry, and Finely Designed; Doors and windows: Sienna Custom Window & Door, LLC., Paul Noble, (Hope Steel Windows & Doors); Shade systems: AZ Custom Designs Inc.; Pool and moat: Mossman Brothers Pools; Home automation and lighting: Cybersound (now VIA); Metal and ironwork: Creative Metals; Venetian plaster: Saguaro Fine Finishes; Landscape: Berghoff Design Group.





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