

MARC DE REUS
GREG WARNER
SETHI COUTURE
& MORE

CAPTURE

MAGAZINE
\$9.00





DESIGN

OPEN — ENDED

A HAWAII HOME
BEFITTING ITS
STUNNING
LOCATION

A CONVERSATION
WITH GREG WARNER

Walker Warner Architects
Principal: Greg Warner
Interior Design: Nicole Hollis
Landscape: Lutsko Associates
Photography: Douglas Friedman

CAPTURE: Tell us how you considered the environment in the design of this project.

Greg Warner: This house is unusual in that it is pushed back into the hill. We literally cut down into the earth, and had to break a few rules in the design to take advantage of the natural materials such as lava rock and the grasses. The siting of the structure and sliding screens open to the magnificent views. We chose a zinc roof for both aesthetics and its advantages to withstand environmental elements.

C: With lifestyles changing during the pandemic are you creating a new way of living in your projects?

GW: Many clients are working remotely and will continue to do so, which dictates a comfortable work environment to be scheduled into the project design. Livability is part of any successful project and many of our clients also view their project as a legacy project.



C: Where does color come into play with you?

GW: I think about color all the time. For example, I may pick up a rock and after careful study notice the graphite gray tones, or notice the various colors in the trunk of a coconut tree.

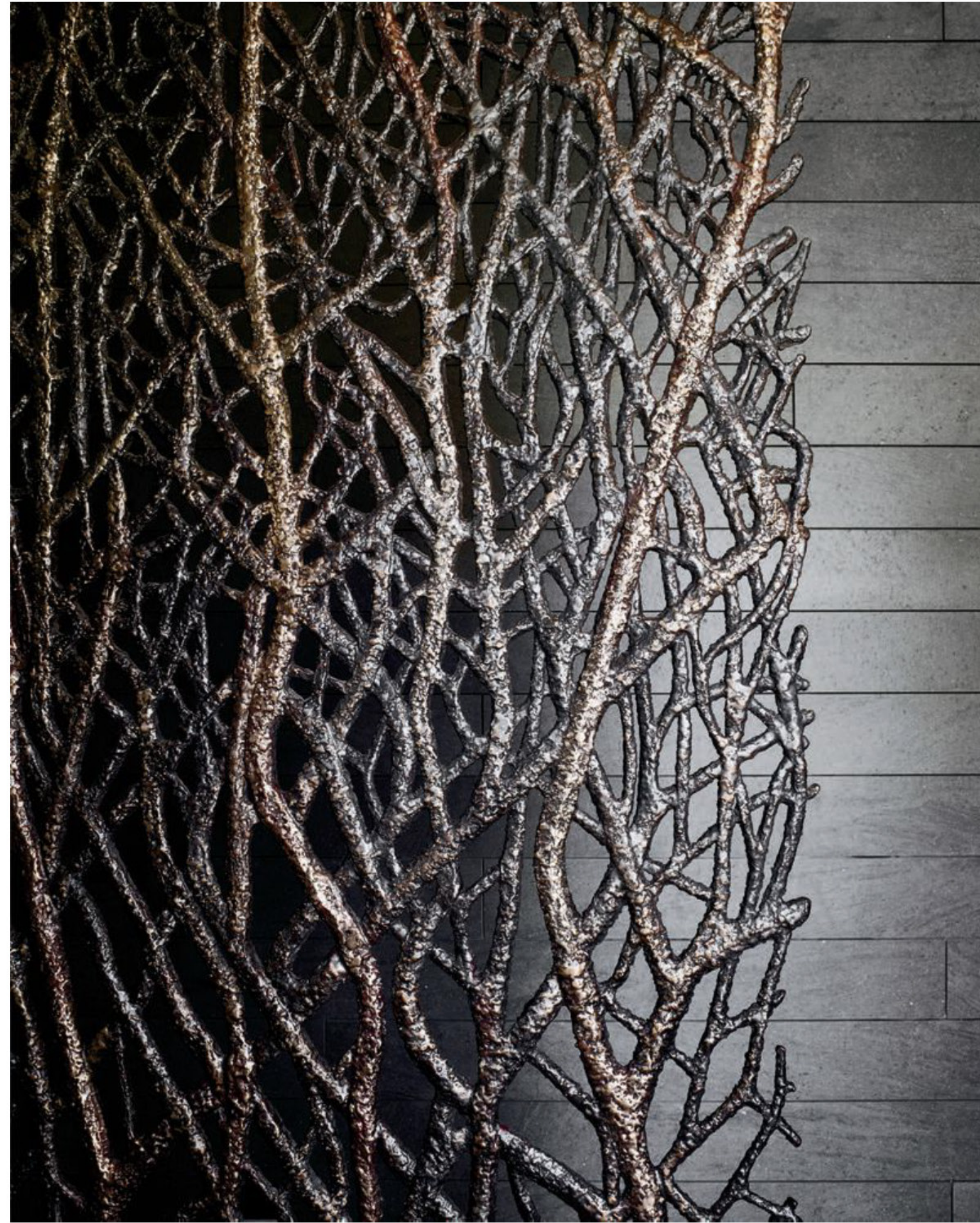
C: What has been the most challenging or complex design problem you have encountered and what was the solution?

GW: Each project has challenges. You need to manage risk. External elements influences the building and the site, but it is not just weather conditions and materials for consideration but also local culture. Sometimes it required a field trip with clients looking at older weathered buildings in Hawaii designed and built with natural materials to resolve design challenges.

C: What is the most memorable structure you have ever seen and how did it affect you?

GW: I would have to say the “chapel building” in Hawaii designed by Vladimir Ossipoff. Born in Russia and educated at Berkeley, he lived much of his life in Hawaii and became known as the master who defined Hawaiian mid-century architecture. Returning to Hawaii to begin a project, going back to that chapel spoke to me in a new way from my early years. The use of natural raw materials and exposed concrete showed a “respect for place” which is influential in my design today.





C: Growing up in Hawaii, what do you love most about the Hawaiian lifestyle?

GW: Hawaii has such interesting projects from the rural cattle ranch where I grew up to the charm of Kona Village beach houses.

C: If you were not an architect, what other profession interests you?

GW: Although I started out in a Fine Arts program, I gravitated to exploring architecture which has been very rewarding and can't think of doing anything else.

