



This photo: Homeowner Linda Spittler and etched-glass designer Lee Prosser kept plans for the welcoming angel motif above the front door secret from all others involved in the construction. "It was a fun surprise," says architectural designer David Ross. "Very bold." Opposite: Spittler's collection of angel figures and images extends throughout the residence.

The Angel House

A haven
for healing
in Paradise
Valley



TEXT BY TERESA O'NEIL

Otherworldly visions are a common occurrence for visitors who stroll up Linda Spitler's meandering front walkway. For at the end of the path, high above the front door, an angel awaits with open arms. Sandblasted on glass by Lee Prosser of The Light Benders, the striking eight-foot-tall figure has evoked considerable response from passersby. "People leave notes in my mailbox," says Spitler, "and some even ring the doorbell to tell me how much they love it." On one occasion, a golfer strayed from a nearby course to get a closer look at what other players at the club refer to as "The Angel House."

Beyond the heavenly form, serene interior spaces await. In the foyer, arboreal murals painted by Catherine Leavitt stretch toward the twenty-two-foot-high ceiling. Just beyond, a shimmering pile of amethyst geodes serves as the base for a murmuring fountain. Perched on top is artist Ramon Parmenter's *Fragrance of Love*, a graceful female form holding a purple rose. "Three different craftsmen collaborated on the fountain, each saying it couldn't be done," says Spitler. "I think everything is possible."

"I wanted to create a healing space, a place for rejuvenation," she continues. "The sound of water along with the amethyst, a healing stone, help to create that ambiance."

The residence, designed and built by David Ross, was fashioned around the custom water feature. "Linda wanted the sound of the water to permeate the house," he says. "So the plan is open, with arches used to achieve a sense of separation between rooms." In addition to the fountain, Spitler placed crystals in each room to create a restorative mood.

Muted tones of taupe, gold, and purple set a calming scene throughout the 5,400-square-foot house. And angels abound. In the backyard, two statuettes stand watch near the pool's waterfall, others serve as pots for plants, while still another hangs playfully outside the kitchen's bay window. More angels pose on the edge of the master bathroom and adorn a gilded-edged privacy screen in the living room.

"I knew I wanted a welcoming angel in the front window," says Spitler. "The