

Seasons by the Sea

A LOS ANGELES COUPLE YIELD TO THE CHARMS OF NANTUCKET AND A HOUSE FILLED WITH FOLK ART



Architecture by Nantucket Architecture Group/Interior Design by Karin Blake
Landscape Architecture by David Troast of Ernst Land Design/Text by Jean Strouse/Photography by David O. Marlow

Herman Melville, in *Moby-Dick*, imagines a Nantucket sailor at sea: “With the landless gull, that at sunset folds her wings and is rocked to sleep between billows; so at nightfall, the Nantucketer, out of sight of land, furls his sails, and lays him to his rest, while under his very pillow rush herds of walruses and whales.”

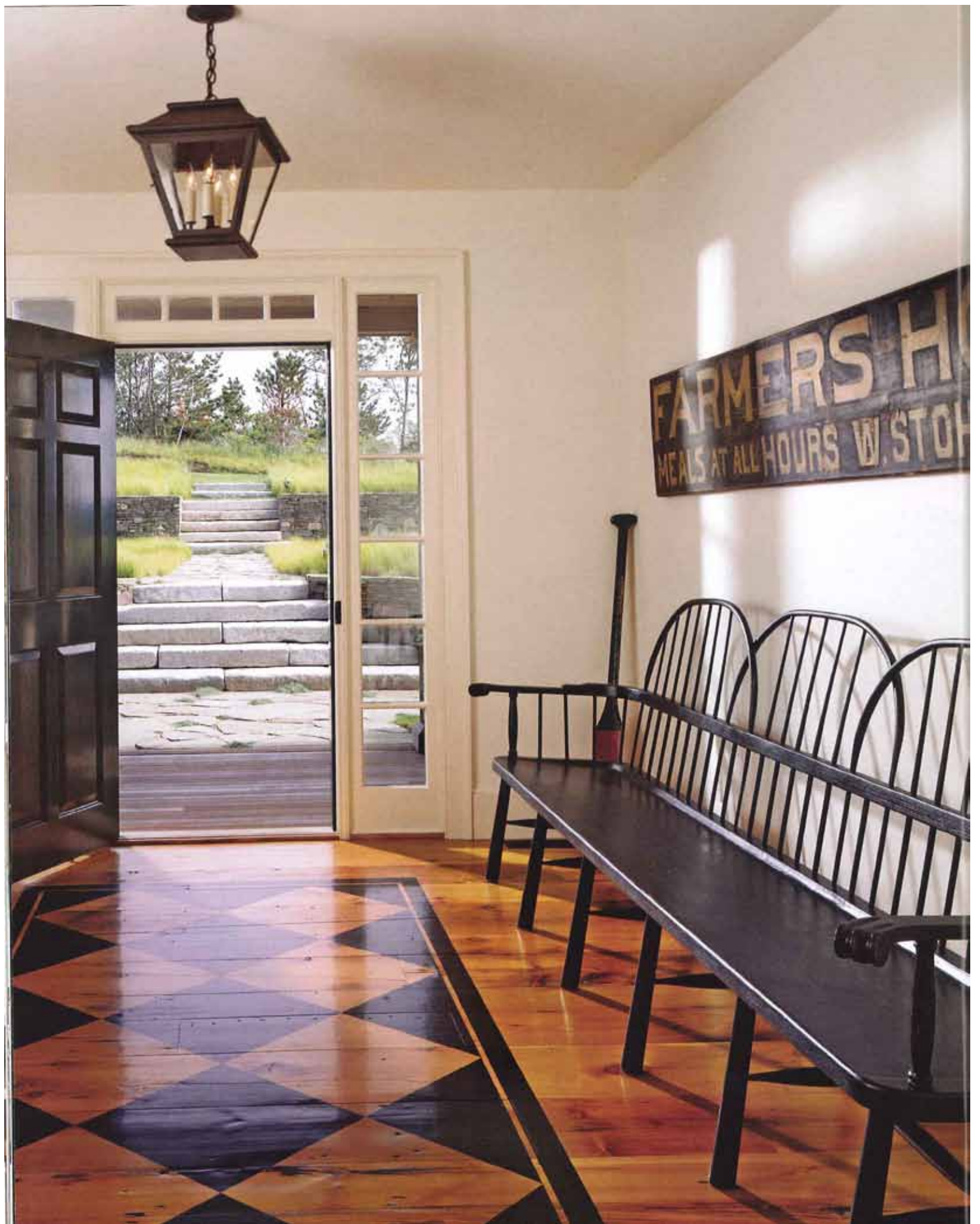
No longer the major whaling port it was in Melville’s day, Nantucket retains the nickname given to her by early sailors—“the Gray Lady of the Sea”—because of the fog banks that roll in and enshroud the tiny island in minutes. Gray, too, are the weather-beaten shingles on Nantucket houses, the

look of the barren island in winter, the herring gulls that wheel and call in all seasons. There is, however, nothing gray about the house built recently on the island’s north shore by a couple from Los Angeles, Gary and Healy Cosay. Situated above the dunes, with windows on all sides, the house “feels open and airy, even on dark days,” says Healy Cosay.

She and her husband, a founder of Hollywood’s United Talent Agency, began renting summer houses on Nantucket in the early 1980s. “As soon as my foot hit the tarmac when we got off the plane the first time,” she recalls, “I thought, This is home. We’d been looking for property there ever since.”



Karin Blake (above, on a stair leading to the beach) brought her signature mix of folk art and clean lines to the Nantucket, Massachusetts, residence of Gary and Healy Cosay. OPPOSITE: A 19th-century sign from a Pennsylvania hotel hangs in the entrance hall. Paul Ferrante lantern. TOP: The 11,000-square-foot Shingle Style house, designed by Nantucket Architecture Group, offers views of the sound from every room.



The house's lower level is visible on its rear facade to a gentle slope, the residence sits on several and looks out onto a path leading to the dunes. Landscape architect David Troast planted native plants to blend in with the existing scrub oaks, bayberries,

