



photos by suzanne elmer



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Enchanted

Hidden away, a home with a wondrous effect on visitors

Just when you think the only way to relax requires jetting off to a secluded resort, a magical property comes on the market. Rather befitting of its name, La Encantadora has had an unusual effect on everyone who's seen her.

Translated, "The Enchantress" is simply spellbinding. Mood altering. Hidden on three acres just off Hillsboro Road near Tyne Boulevard—and only 2.4 miles from Green Hills—the 3,452-square foot home is romantic and almost intoxicating in its natural beauty.

Unlike most million dollar-plus homes in the Nashville area, which lean toward heavy crown molding and deep baseboards, surprisingly, there is nothing opulent about La Encantadora. "Nothing garish, nothing ostentatious," says listing agent Suzanne Elmer. There isn't a grand foyer with a circular staircase, let alone a separate theater or billiards room. The kitchen isn't stacked with cabinets on all sides, and there isn't a massive island with pendant lights dangling above.

Perhaps the appeal of La Encantadora is its earthy simplicity. The U-shaped (primarily) one-story floor plan was designed so that nearly every room has access through French doors to the salt-water pool and waterfall in the private center courtyard.

A few weeks ago, I toured the home and walked from room to room. I noticed how the home's details are woven together inside and out like a fine antique tapestry. For example, the Ludowici tile roof and copper gutters enhance the

pecky cypress arched front door and the stone-wrapped koi pond and waterfall at the entrance.

Inside, Venetian plaster walls, tumbled Mexican tiles, travertine and hand-hewn wide-plank Vermont pine flooring offer a soft, muted backdrop for the mosaic tile counters and the aged frescoes. Arched doorways and rough-hewn beams help define the space, which is strategically illuminated with sconces and recessed and pin lights.

And then there are those unexpected design details like the rafter tails that peek out under the gallery catwalk overlooking the dining room, the kitchen's French stone farm sink, the walk-in, tiled rain-head showers and the furniture leg detailing of the kitchen and bath cabinetry. Built-in cypress bookshelves are carefully tucked into niches. And a luxurious soaking tub takes center stage in the very private master suite.

Custom iron trellises and railings add texture to outdoor rooms like the intimate loggia off the dining room and the gallery that leads to the second-floor art studio; hidden patios and paths offer views of the brilliant landscape design by Bill Hewitt.

It's too bad that La Encantadora isn't a resort or a bed and breakfast where we all could escape from time to time to restore our senses. Before too long, new owners will move in and this oasis will belong to them alone. And there's no question, it will quiet their minds, stir their passions and feed their souls.

—Marilee Spanjian

What: Designed by Jenny MacDougall and architect Marcus DiPietro, built by Stan Pope, the Mediterranean-inspired stucco, 3,452-square-foot, three-bedroom, 2-1/2 bath home is hidden away from sight on 3.02 relatively flat wooded acres

Where: 5748 Hillsboro Road, Nashville

Asking Price: \$1,700,000

Amenities Include: 10-foot ceilings except where vaulted, two-car garage, whole-house water purification system, air filtration system, advanced security system

Listing agents: Suzanne Elmer and Kristin Duncan Lyon of Shirley Zeitlin & Company, Realtors at 615-383-0183