



TYLER ENGLE

Tyler Engle Architects PS

Responsive. Grounded. Essential. Tyler Engle, AIA, keeps these three words—among many others—**R**at the forefront of his mind when he designs each of his projects. It is one reason why every residence he completes contains its own unique aesthetic and purpose, while being rooted in its place and tailored for its inhabitants.

After earning a Bachelor of Architecture with honors from Washington State University and a Master of Science in Advanced Architectural Design from Columbia University, Tyler honed his talents with large-scale projects, including the design of the Alhambra Visitor's Center and Master Plan in Spain and numerous institutional commissions in New York City. He then returned to his home state to join the renowned George Suyama Architects. It was there that Tyler developed a balance of his Western education of opposites with the Eastern philosophy of inclusion: When it comes to architecture, contrasts and opposites—formal versus casual, closed versus open—need not exist.



Above: The pendants, designed by Tyler Engle with local craftsman David Gulassa, provide a tensile counterpoint to the mass of the family room's stone fireplace in this new, classically inspired house.
Photograph by Nic Lehoux Photography

Facing Page: In this substantial remodel, an introverted garden that serves the dining room is set behind a louvered fence, while new windows and roof openings provide daylight without sacrificing privacy. Tyler designed the entry door using rift white oak, bronze and pickled brass.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography



For Tyler, design solutions are not "either/or," but "both/and." That philosophy forms the foundation of Tyler Engle Architects PS, established in 2000, and has manifested itself in each project ever since.

A native of the Pacific Northwest, Tyler embodies a regionally sensitive attitude, and it shows in his designs, as does his acute attention to detail. His work is aptly described as "site-specific modernism," thanks to his resolve to ensure that each project is indelibly rooted in its place—whether it abuts a golf course, is situated on a bucolic lake-view property or encompasses a narrow urban lot, each of his projects seamlessly responds to its surroundings.

No matter the challenge, Tyler works to connect structure and site, dissolving the boundaries between the two. This modern principle is both an aesthetic choice and a regional demand, as the Northwest's spectacular landscape and views beg to be accentuated and celebrated.



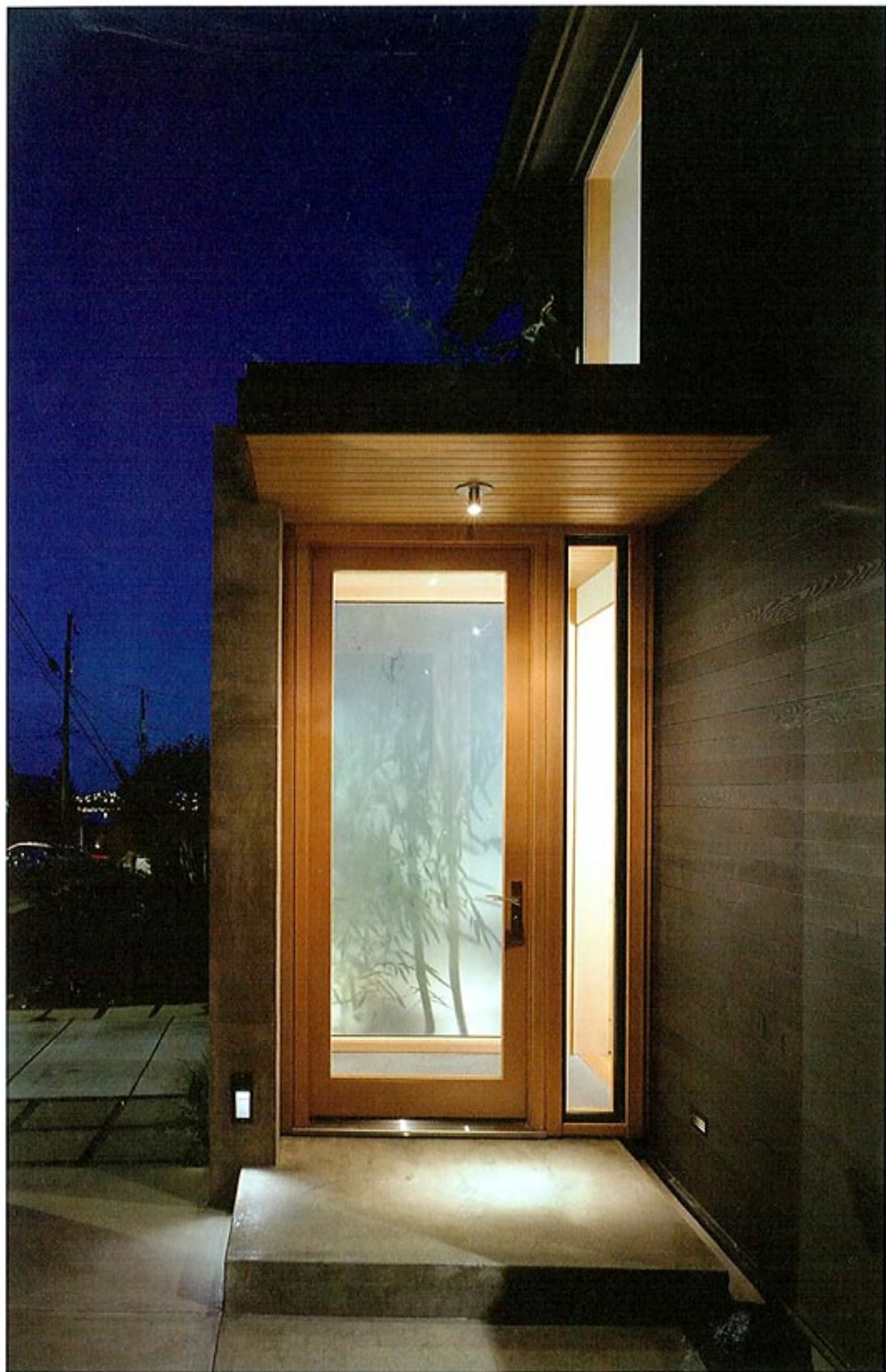
For one home on a golf course, walls of windows embrace the verdant view from inside. When the weather beckons, outdoor living spaces provide for summer entertaining, and a colonnade extending from the entry's interior serves as the homeowners' personal path to the fairway. In another home, Tyler created a double-walled elliptical stair on which clients can weave in and out of the home's interior as they descend. Still other homes have exterior rooms or trellis-covered corridors which are features that mitigate the contrast of inside and out, physically connecting residents to the outdoors, as well as each house to its particular site.

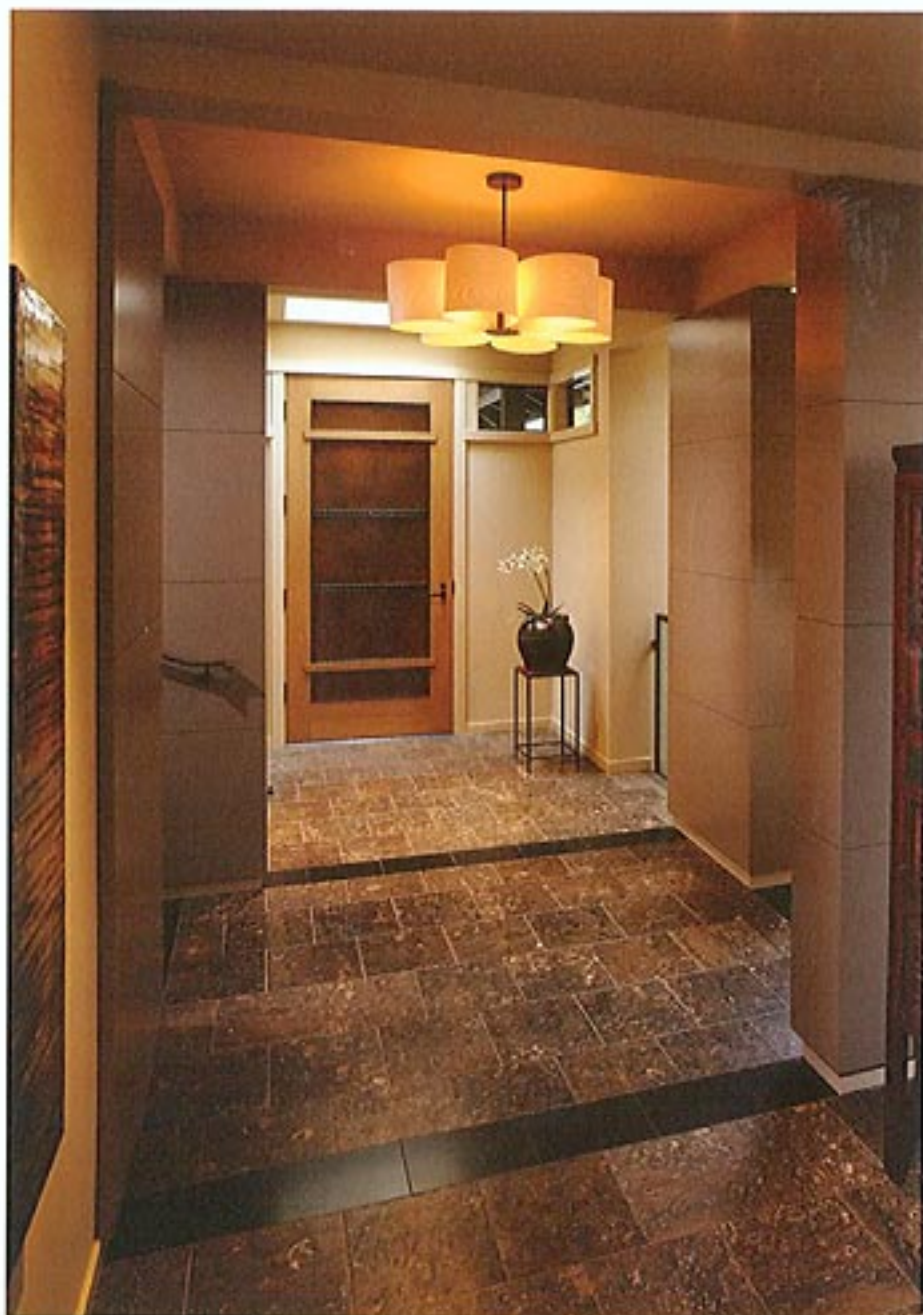
Top Left: To capitalize on the intimacy of this wooded site, the dining room and dining terrace behind the concrete wall are tucked under the tree canopy. A bridge beyond provides direct access from the kitchen.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography

Bottom Left: From the golf course one can see, from left to right, the dining and living spaces, entry trellis, triple-height stair and bedrooms. Windows were standardized, and the massing was kept simple for economy.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography

Facing Page: This central hall organizes the house into zones of private and public spaces. Rooms are clearly defined yet interconnected: kitchen to living room to study loft above.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography

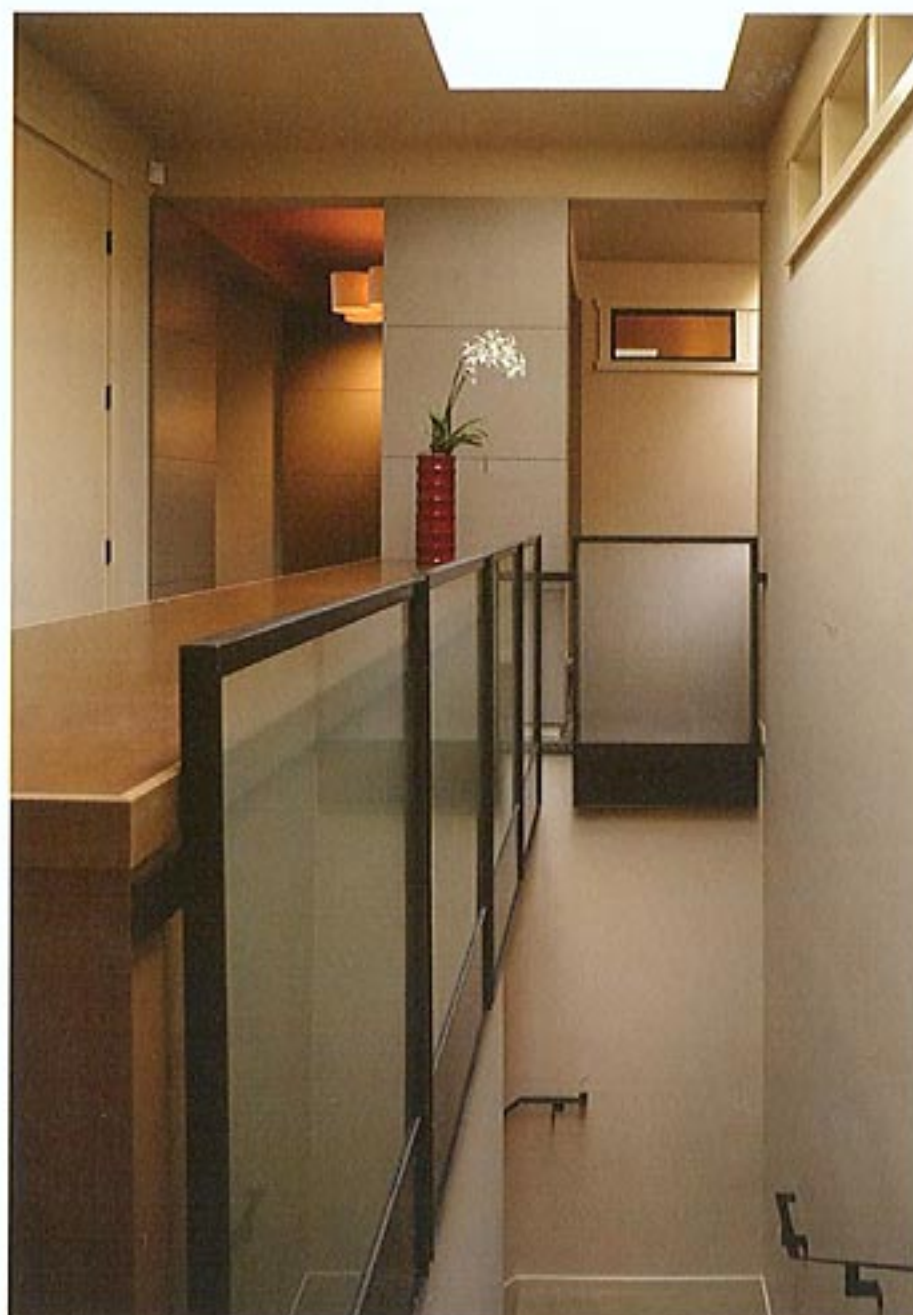






In urban projects, Tyler is charged with creating comfortable homes in limited spaces. Taking cues from Japanese shrines, he cultivates a feeling of openness in the smallest spaces, varying spatial volumes that contract and expand to dramatic effect.

Best illustrating this technique is a home Tyler designed on a narrow lot in west Seattle. Only 25 feet wide, the home feels much larger because of its carefully planned exterior and interior spaces. Located only seven feet from the street, the entry foyer is an outdoor courtyard, providing a seamless transition from outside to in. The front door opens to a glass-walled vestibule with eight-foot ceilings. From there, the home expands first



vertically then horizontally, stretching out to a large window that features an exquisite view of the city beyond. Tyler's successfully executed spaciousness fully compensates for the home's restricted width; closed and open spaces seamlessly coexist.

It comes as no surprise that Tyler Engle Architects has been named one of *Seattle Homes & Lifestyles* magazine's "Seattle 100: The People, Places and Things that Define Seattle Design" and one of *Northwest Home and Garden* magazine's "Top 50 Architects." Certainly, the firm's attention to detail from concept to completion and the rigor with which the team works to provide clients timeless solutions within their budgetary



frameworks merit such praise. Clearly, Tyler's work stands as vivid testimony that practicality and artistry can brilliantly blend.

Above Left: The entry was extended to provide a more gracious arrival. A radial foyer surrounded by lacquered panels gives order to the original structure and its new circulation.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography

Above Middle: Skylights and clerestory windows bathe the interior stair with natural light. Lacquered panels and guardrails of art glass framed in bronze separate the stair from the entry.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography

Above Right: A new bronze-clad two-sided fireplace separates the casual and formal living areas, yielding well-scaled rooms that flexibly accommodate both intimate family gatherings and large parties.
Photograph by Doug Scott Photography

Facing Page Left: In a tight urban setting, this house uses an exterior courtyard as its entry foyer, separating the pedestrian from the street. One is greeted by the shadow of backlit bamboo on frosted glass.
Photograph by Nic Lehoux Photography

Facing Page Right: Once inside, the house expands vertically then horizontally, providing the illusion of width. In the distance, a skewed wall guides the eye to a panoramic view of downtown Seattle.
Photograph by Nic Lehoux Photography