

Win Ringo Starr tickets: Take this quiz and try to win tickets to his concert at the Durham Performing Arts Center.

Simple and efficient

PUBLISHED SAT, FEB 27, 2010 02:00 AM
MODIFIED SAT, FEB 27, 2010 05:20 AM

COURTESY OF ART LIN



The house sits a few feet below the elevation of the street, allowing its simple gabled roof to rise no higher than its neighbors. The footprint of the house - a simple 32-foot-by-54-foot rectangle - draws its dimensions from the 1960s-era ranch-style house next door. A covered carport, rather than a garage, gives depth to the street view.

Email Print Order Reprint Share: Yahoo! Buzz Text

BY MICHAEL WAGNER - CORRESPONDENT

Tags: [home & garden](#) | [home of the month](#) | [lifestyle](#)

New residential construction typically follows a familiar pattern: big and boxy, with ornamental touches such as porches or fake shutters that help them fit in or look established.

Not so with architect Art Lin's latest project, a cozy retreat inside the Raleigh Beltline that reconciles a contemporary aesthetic and respect for its neighbors with a lot of space.

At about 4,200 square feet, the Lin home has an open floor plan. The house - a relatively shallow 32 feet deep and only 54 feet wide - sits on a steeply sloped site, which helps to minimize the visual impact of its three stories, all under a simple gabled roof. The main entry is on the middle level, and a master bedroom with home office is upstairs. Below is a spacious basement - a well-lit space with plenty of room for additional bedrooms, a den, playroom or even an additional work space.

The beauty of Lin's project is its simplicity and relentless efficiency. Built for \$76 per square foot (except for the framing, concrete and electrical work, Lin did most of it with his own hands, Lin used money-savers such as IKEA cabinetry and bookshelves to establish dimensions that everything else became based upon. The strategy, he estimates, saved him more than \$35,000. Lin used the Internet to shop for deals on everything from kitchen appliances to sliding doors, and he used simple aluminum pieces available at home improvement stores to make transitions between materials or to create counter edges.

The house is plenty big enough to accommodate the activities and daily rituals of Lin, his two children and his wife, who works from home. And it's all done with simple grace and modern efficiency.

Michael Wagner is an intern architect at PBC+L Architecture in Raleigh. He is a 2009 graduate of the master of architecture program at the N.C. State University College of Design.

Email Print Order Reprint Share: Yahoo! Buzz Text

LATEST COMMENT

VIEW ALL COMMENTS



changlin wrote on February, 27 10:33 PM:

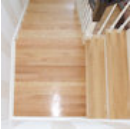
Art Lin may be contacted at artlin@bellsouth.net. Thanks.

[Recommend \(0\)](#)

[Report abuse](#)

Home/Garden Top Stories 1 of 10

When decorating, don't forget the staircase



You walk up them, you walk down them, perhaps countless times a day. When you look down, though, do you see any sign of your personal style?

Get life updates

Read our feature stories on your time. We'll deliver our best work right to your inbox!

[Subscribe to Lifestyles](#)

[Subscribe to Family & Community](#)

[Subscribe to Food & Fitness](#)

[Subscribe to Here's the Deal](#)

[Subscribe to Home & Garden](#)

[Subscribe to Travel Deals](#)

[Subscribe to TriangleMom2Mom](#)

WakeMed
Heart & Vascular

*The #1 heart & vascular program in North Carolina.
Your heart is in the right place.*

CLICK to see more.

IMAGES



[ENLARGE](#)

An open floor plan on the main level provides space for a living room and dining room, separated by the central wall of books and stairs. Overlooking the living room is a home office on the upper level and a master bedroom suite.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ART LIN

THE PROJECT LIN

The Project Lin Residence

Location : Raleigh

Architect: Art Lin

Cost: \$76 per square foot

Size: 4,200 square feet

Consultants : John Avery, October Builders (framing and electrical); Associated Plumbing Co.; Kaydos-Daniels Engineers (structural).

Key attributes: Efficient use of space, materials and construction methods.

HOME OF THE MONTH IS

Home of the Month is a collaborative effort with the N.C. State University College of Design through its Home Environments Design Initiative. The series highlights the benefits of good home design and represents the diversity of homes and home renovations designed by North Carolina architects. Our goal is to offer inspiration and knowledge that can be applied to your living space.



Most Popular

[Read](#) [Emailed](#) [Gallery](#) [Video](#)

1. White team's step show victory sets off controversy
2. Police shoot man in Durham
3. UNC's Marshall plan
4. For aspiring clown, it's big top or bust
5. Wake sets vote on school busing

Most Read Articles Feed

Print Ads

Ads from today's

THE NEWS & OBSERVER



- AMBASSADOR ENTERTAINMENT
- CARMIKE THEATRES RALEIGH
- CRAZY HEART
- EXPLORIS-IMAX
- GALAXY CINEMA
- MARQUEE CINEMA
- RALEIGHWOOD CINEMA & GRILL
- REGAL CINEMAS
- SHUTTER ISLAND
- SOUTHPOINT THEATRES
- THE CRAZIES

Search all Triangle Network ads

Search...



[View more ads](#)

[Local Fence Contractors](#)

Fence Sales, Services & Contractors In Raleigh - Business, Home.
yellowpages.com

[Ncs Largest Volkswagen Dealer](#)

#1 Volume dealer because we sell for less.....guaranteed!!!
www.leithvw.com

[Wake Urological Assocs](#)

State-of-the-art medical treatment of urinary & bladder problems.
wakeurologicalassociates.com

Ads by Yahoo!