

## PROJECT □ traditional update

ARCHITECT □ Cary Bernstein Architect

CLIENT □ Chris Choy, clothing exec, and Shaun Rowley, college teacher

MODERNIST HIGHLIGHT □ Steel-clad fireplace that says hearth and entertainment center at the same time



A peek inside this remodeled brown shingle reveals a simplicity and light that could only be modern. Sculptural stairs with open risers (BELOW) connect the living room (LEFT) with a new third-story master bedroom (BOTTOM) that has sweeping views of downtown.



→ "My tendency would be to want something modern, top to bottom," says Chris Choy. "But our neighborhood isn't about super ultra concrete-and-glass modern." In Cary Bernstein, Choy and Shaun Rowley found an architect willing to blend modern ideas with the more traditional elements of their 1908 Castro District brown shingle. "The academic way would be to create high contrast," says Bernstein. "But we felt an obligation to make the exterior 'whole' without being nostalgic." Tall metal window frames on the third-story addition and a soaring new "stair hall" read as modern elements without overwhelming the more traditional ones. By creating a light-filled, playful interior and adding a sculptural staircase and steel-clad fireplace, Bernstein breathed new life into a classic San Francisco home.

