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WARNER BROS.

SHRINKING

29th Annual ADG Awards

EXCELLENCE IN PRODUCTION DESIGN
For Half Hour Single-Camera Series

Production Designer - Cabot McMullen

Ep. 201
"Jimmying"

Ep. 202
"I Love Pain"

Ep. 203
"Psychological Something-ism"

SHRINKING



"The key mandate we were given ... was to make it authentic and make Pasadena a character in the story. Since Pasadena is rarely shot as Pasadena, we were all excited by the opportunity to localize it. Jason Segal is a resident and the show's location manager David Flannery is a third-generation Pasadenan who goes by the nickname "Mr. Pasadena," so I knew we were in good company."

PASADENA

Iconic Images of Pasadena, CA - Final Frame

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"We would treat it like a 5-hour movie about a man who slowly emerges from that darkness into the light over 10 episodes. For that and many other reasons, we all agreed a Craftsman-style house would be ideal for Jimmy's home. So that became the stylistic target for the exteriors."



JIMMY'S HOUSE

Front Yard (location) - Model of 1st floor (stage) - View to Pool House

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"Given Pasadena's filming restrictions and the limited days out on the shoot schedule, the production choices had to be equally strategic and creative."

"Ninety percent are stage sets, and we shoot exteriors on location maybe two or three days a month. But everything is done on stage four, six and eleven at Warner Bros. If you look at the exterior of Jimmy's House, it's actually right on the county line between Altadena and Pasadena. We found a house that was literally 50 yards from the county line."

JIMMY'S HOUSE - BALCONY

Final Frame - Jimmy's Balcony to Liz's House (location)

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JIMMY'S HOUSE - 1st FLOOR
Final Frame

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"Jason was brilliant at articulating the tone and ethos he had in mind by saying: 'Rock bottom is an interesting thing because it seems like it's a sad place, but it's actually very hopeful because there's no place to go but up, watching people scramble in the dark to try to pull themselves out of a hole I think is an inherently funny thing. Grown-ups desperate is really funny.' "



JIMMY'S HOUSE - 1st FLOOR (stage set)
Final Frame - Family Room - Kitchen

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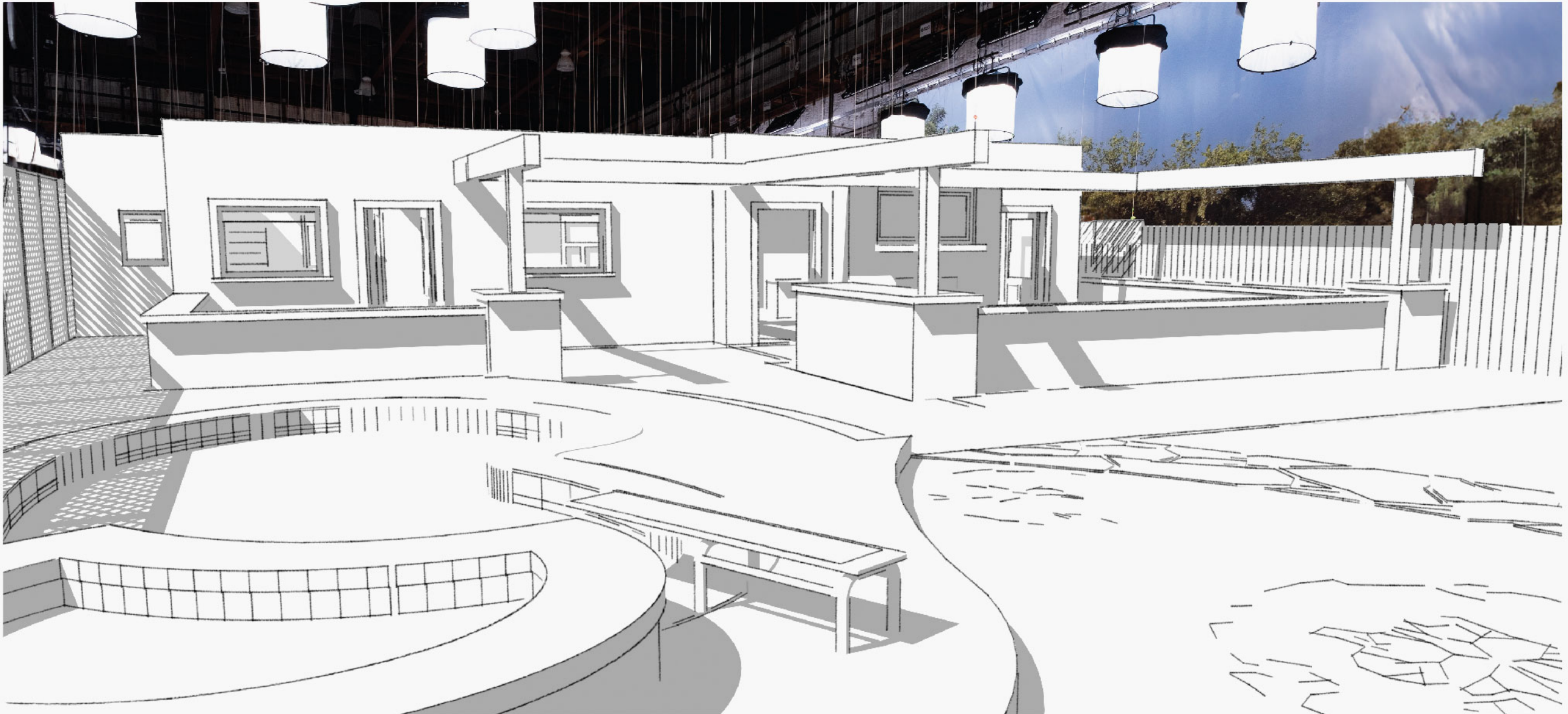
JIMMY'S HOUSE - 1st FLOOR (stage set)
Living Room - Foyer - Hallway - Dining Room

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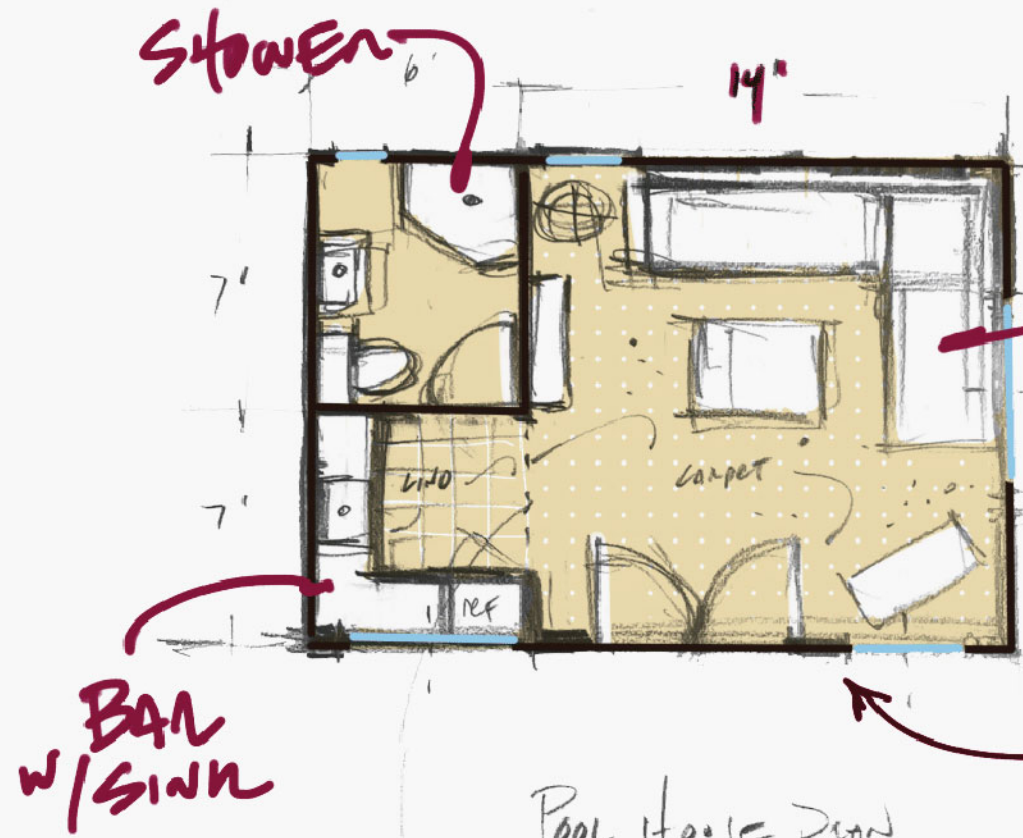
JIMMY'S HOUSE - 2nd FLOOR (stage set)
Hallway - Jimmy's Bedroom - Jimmy's bath - Alice's Bedroom

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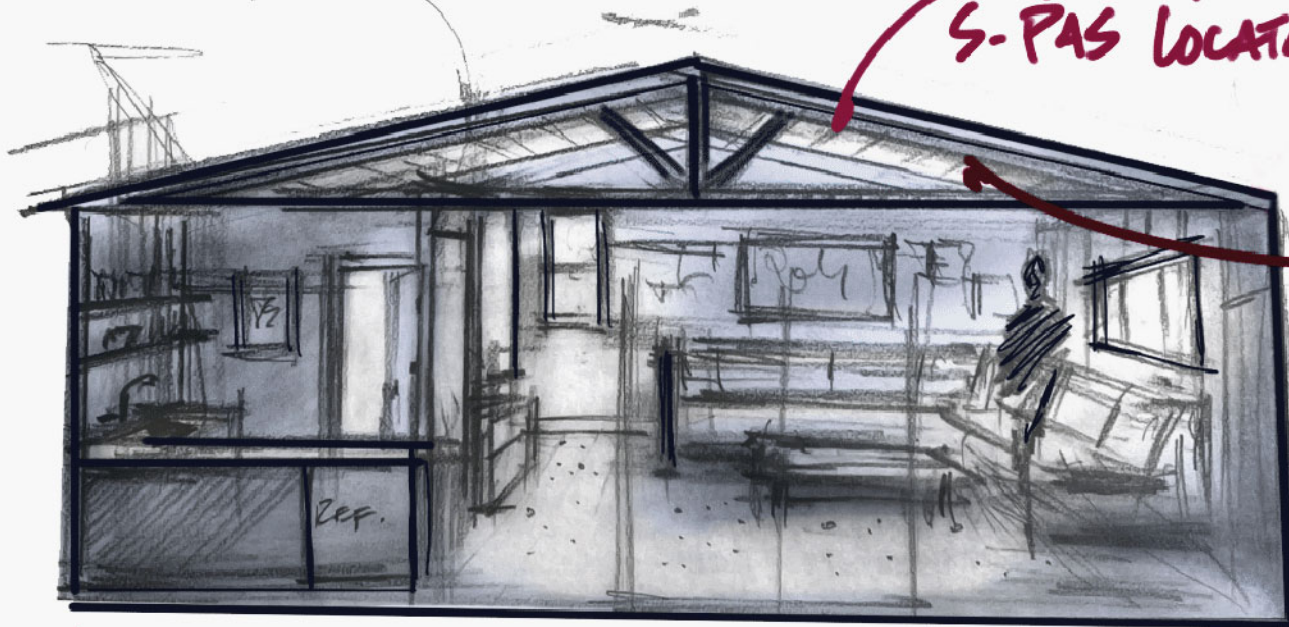
JIMMY'S HOUSE - BACK YARD
Patio (stage) - Back Yard (stage) - Model

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Pool House = Dean
1/4" = 1'0"

CEILING FINISHES TO
S-PAS LOCATION



5/20/22 - JIMMY'S POOL HOUSE STUDY

JIMMY'S HOUSE - POOL HOUSE
Concept Sketch - Stage Build - Final Frame

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"After scouting a bunch of properties in Pasadena, we came upon this one that was on the second floor, and it looked into the tops of all these trees, so you had this huge green canopy outside. I got the idea that this would be a great backdrop for therapy offices because it's kind of like walking into an oasis where everything's calm. So we built a bunch of trees and put them outside the office windows."



THERAPIST OFFICE

Stage Build - Model - Ext. Location

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"...we all did extensive research together and referenced an exceptional nonfiction book titled *50 Shrinks*. We learned many therapists often make intentional design choices with their surroundings to provoke a response in their patients. So, with authenticity as our North Star, we were mindful of strategies our diverse cast of characters might employ to set the table for their patients, or to minimize their own exposure with an absence of anything personal."



THERAPIST OFFICE
Final Frame - Jimmy's Office

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"Since the partners' offices have similar architecture, the personal choices in décor is the differentiator. Set Decorator Andrea Fenton was so successful working with Jessica to find the balance between artistic exuberance, cultural specificity and professionalism, right down to putting books on the shelves by her favorite Black authors."



THERAPIST OFFICE
Final Frame - Gaby's Office

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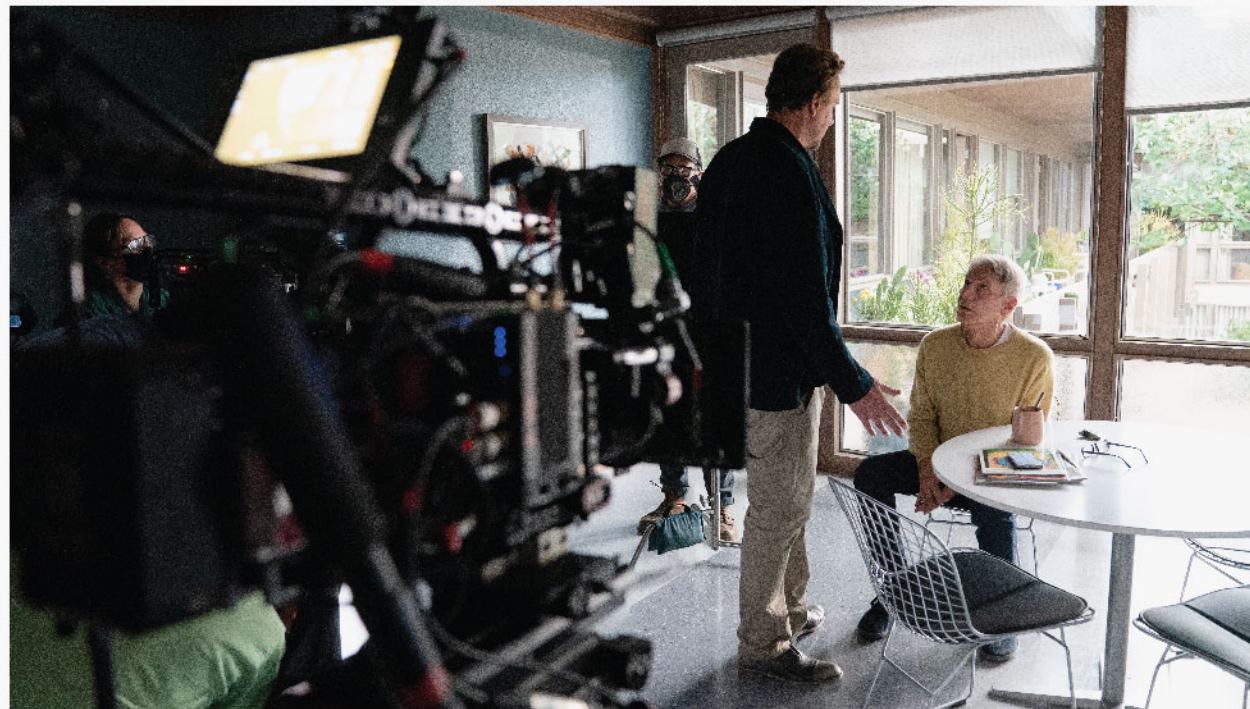
"The character of Paul was inspired by real-life therapist Phil Stutz, who is renowned and celebrated for his groundbreaking work in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and innovative 'tools' developed over a long and storied career. "



THERAPIST OFFICE
Final Frame - Paul's Office

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“We built an interior that spoke to the exterior, but it was really our own design. All the rooms and the way they’re laid out in the hallway were very specific for the action of the show because it’s always great to have a lot of entrances for people to come and go and get some good comedic action going.”



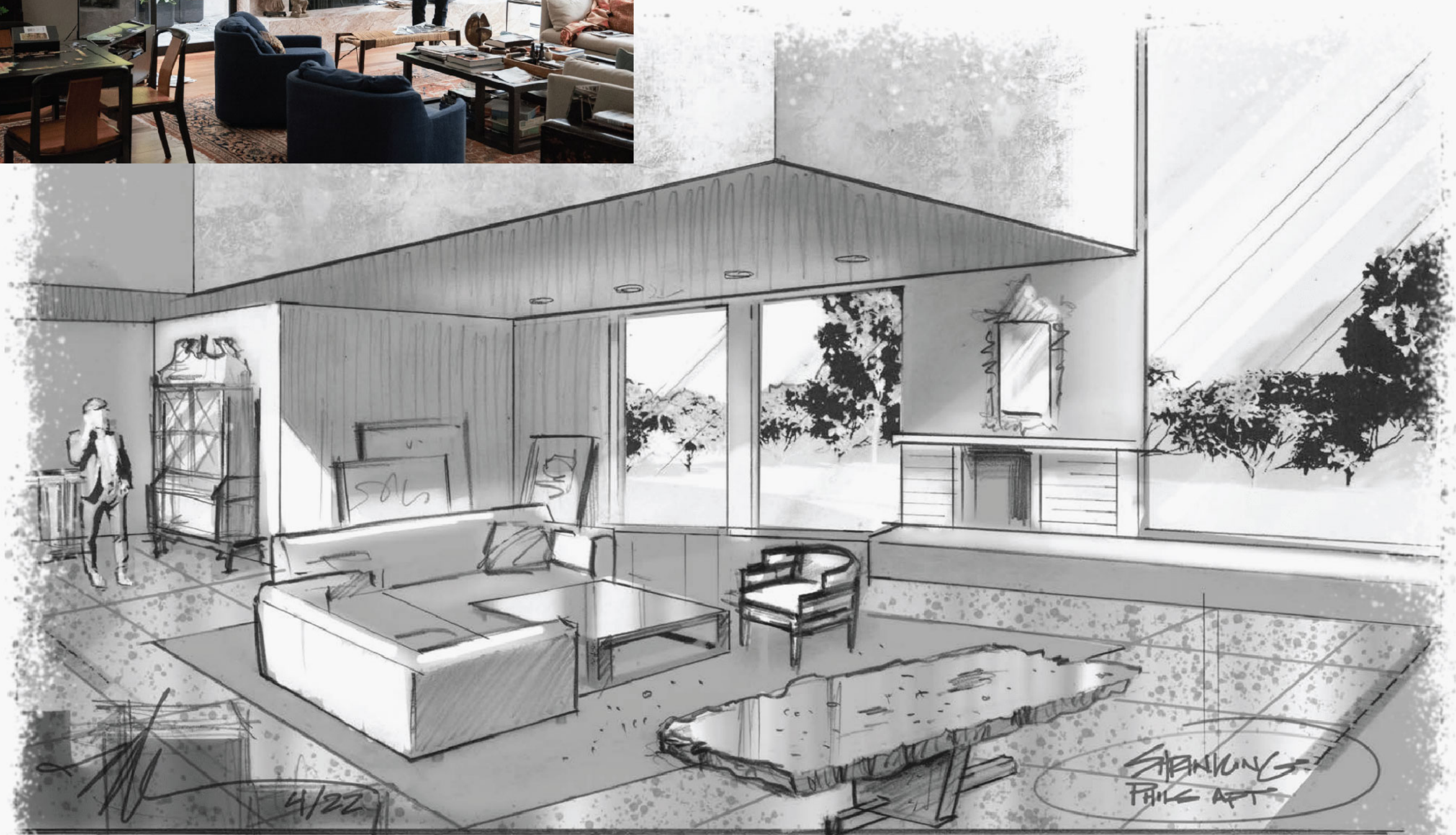
THERAPIST OFFICE

Break Room (BTS) - Hallway - Deck Walkway

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“As a designer, I try to tell you something about the characters that the script can’t tell you with words.”



PAUL'S APARTMENT

Final Frame - Concept Sketch

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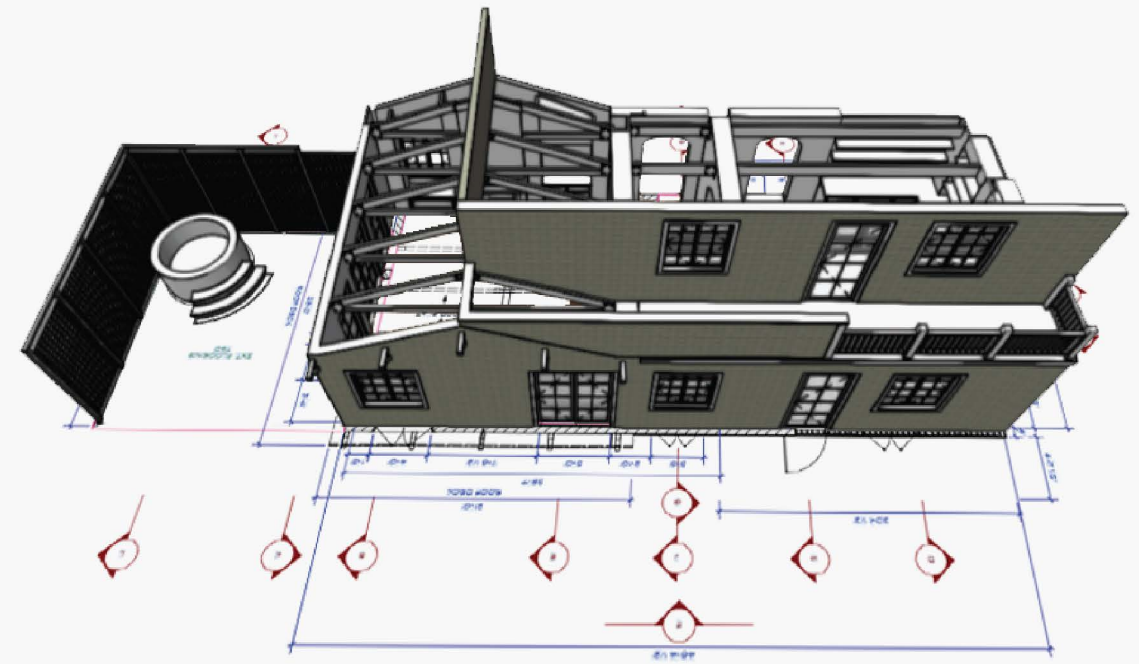


"To my surprise, one of the first requests he [Harrison] made was to meet the Production Designer, because he had ideas about Paul's apartment set and wanted to work on it with the Art Department. He went on to say some very specific things about the furnishings... 'Paul would have gone to Design Within Reach, walked around and picked out some basics... two of these, three of those and then mixed it up with some great 18th and 19th century antiques and vintage pieces like an iconic George Nakashima bench, a Biedermeier chest and maybe a Harvey Propper sofa.' Of course, I was in the back seat furiously scribbling notes, thinking, wow, he really knows design, this will be intense and fun."



PAUL'S CONDO
Living Room - Den - Entry

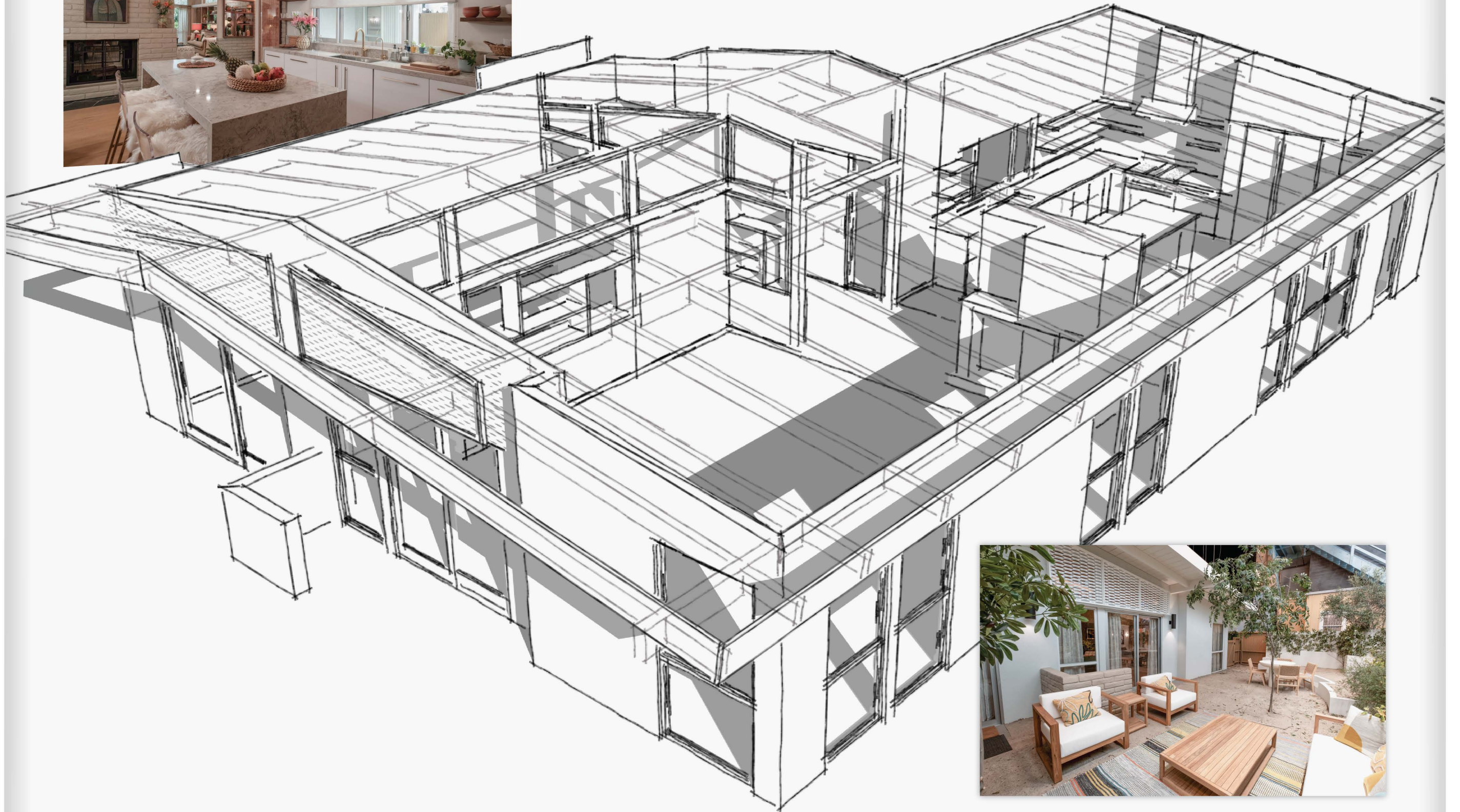
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LIZ AND DEREK'S HOUSE

Final Frame - Drawing/Model - Living Rm./Dining Rm./Kitchen - Final Frame

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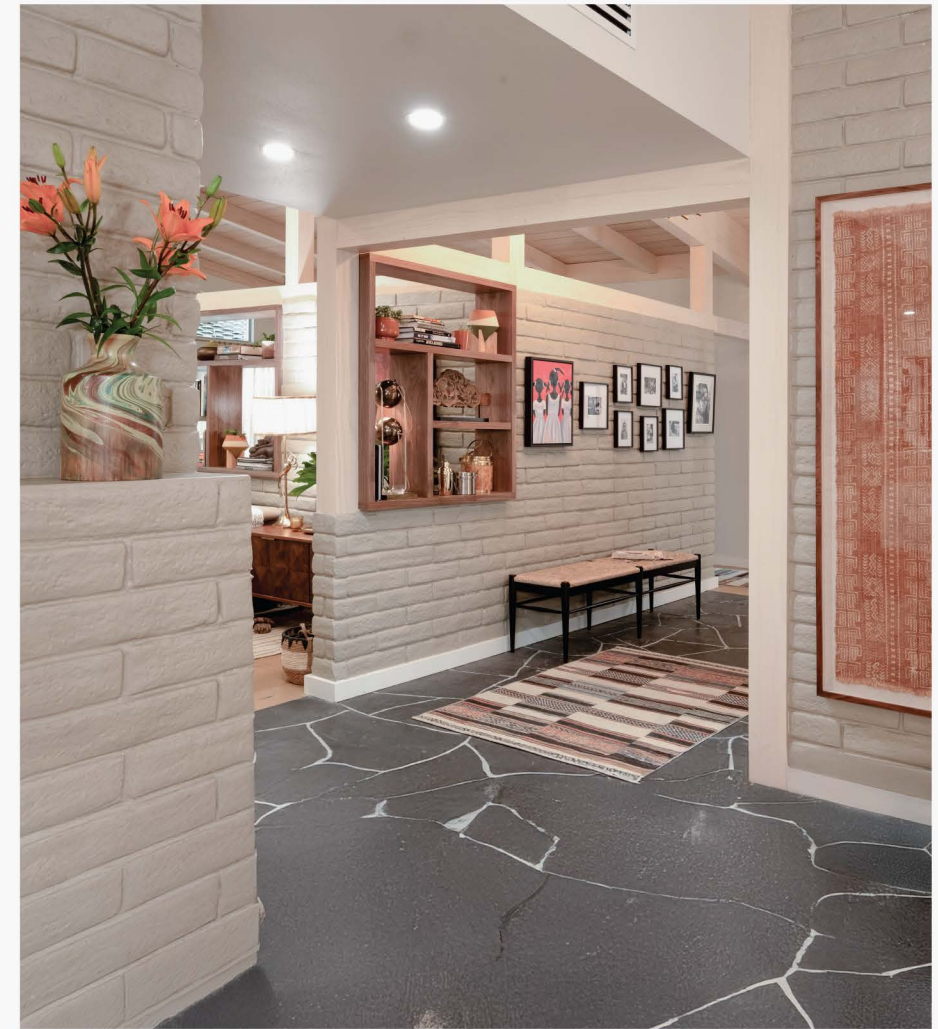
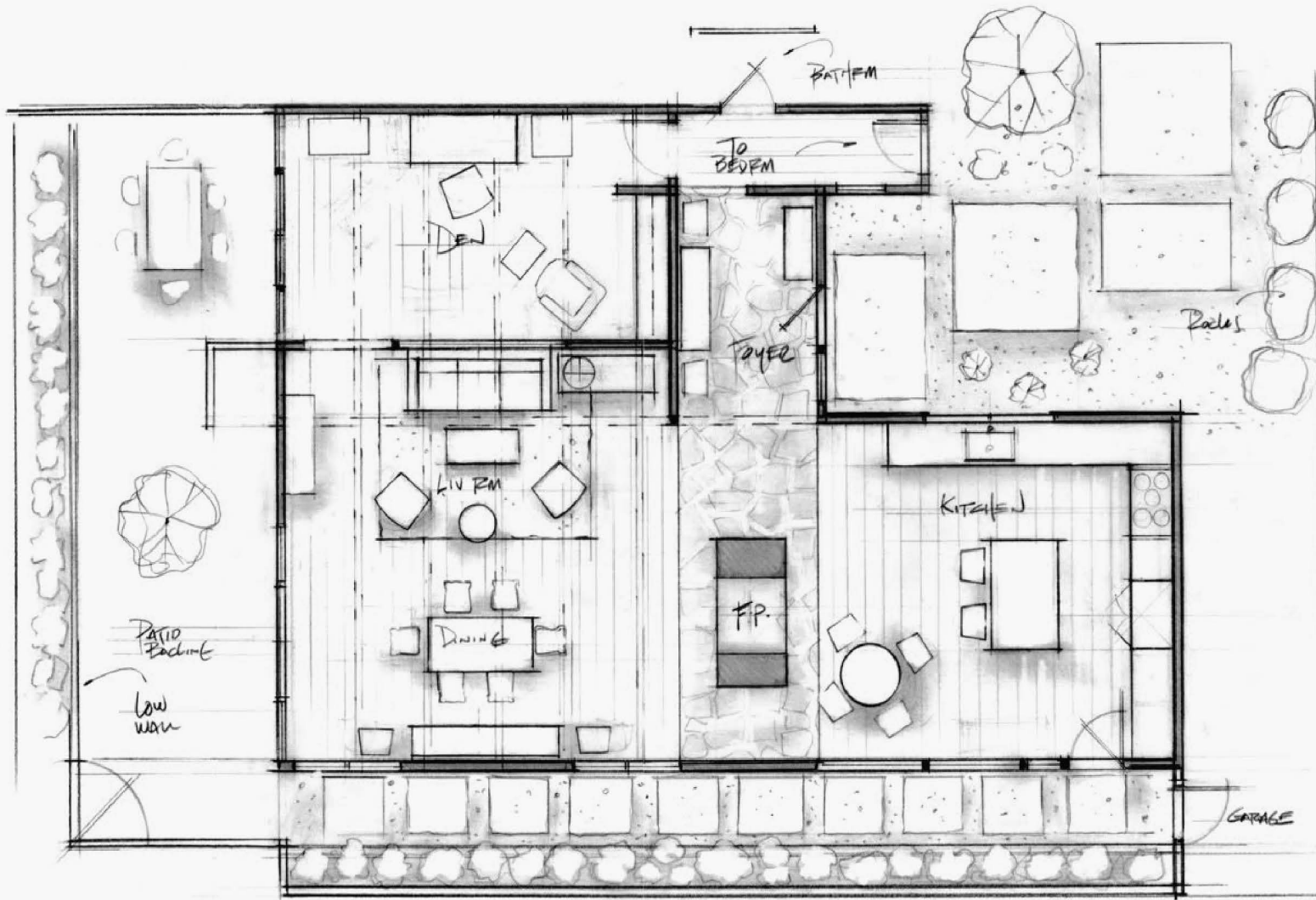
GABY'S HOUSE
Kitchen, Model, Back Yard

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GABY'S HOUSE
Final Frame, Front Ext. Living Room, Den

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GABY'S HOUSE

Plan Drawing, Foyer, Dining Room, Living Room

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GABY'S HOUSE
Den, Living Room, Kitchen

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"We had the same impossible challenges every show faces these days, a nonstop six-month 24/7 charrette and marathon. We stuck together through thick and thin and were able to do work we are all proud of thanks to our phenomenal crew and incredible cast of iconic artists who took the time to speak our language and help us bring this Pasadena story to life. Thanks to all ... "

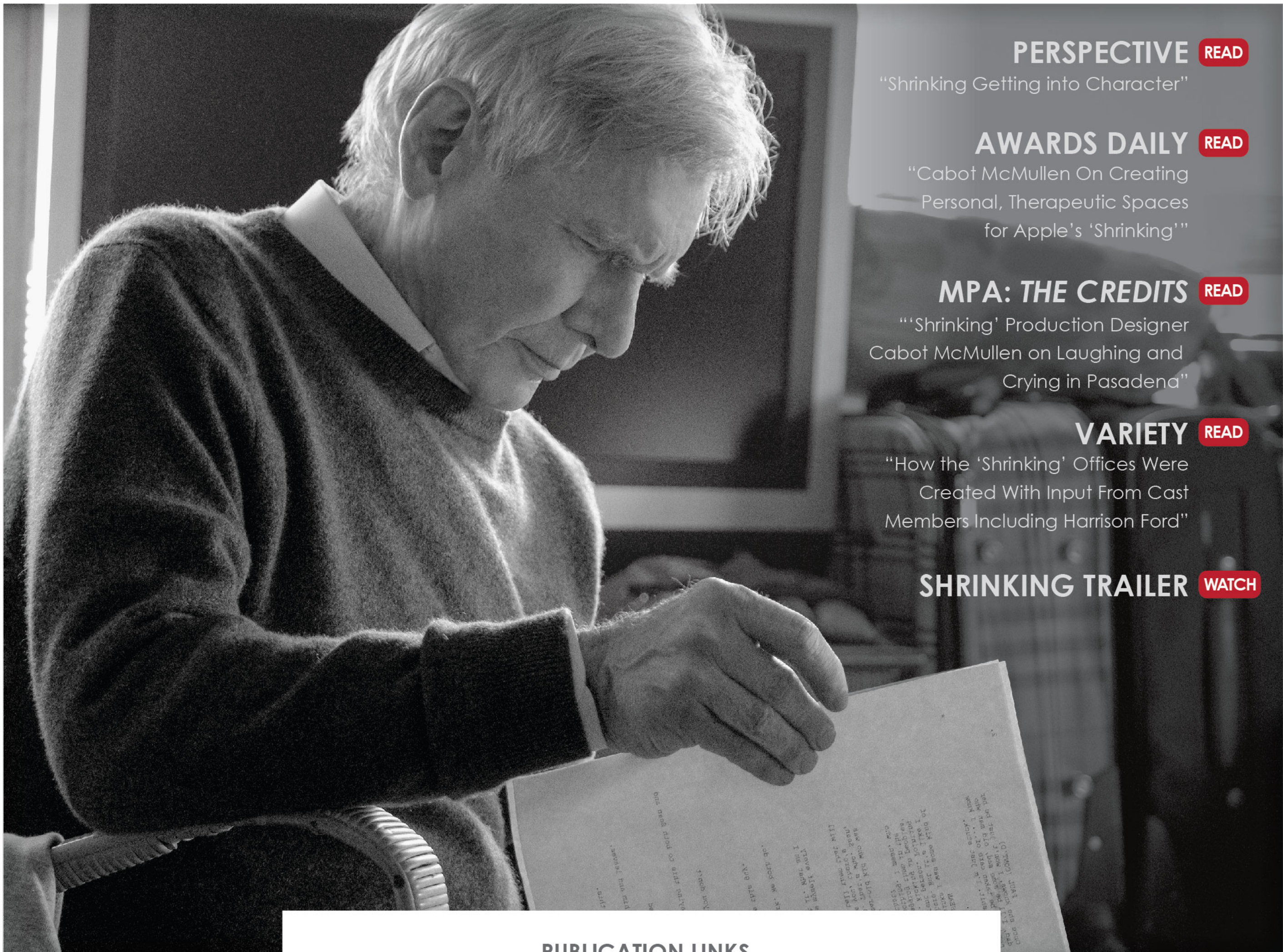
-Cabot McMullen - *Production Designer*



JIMMY'S BACK YARD

Location (Behind the Scenes)

SHRINKING



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“Shrinking Getting into Character”

AWARDS DAILY [READ](#)

“Cabot McMullen On Creating Personal, Therapeutic Spaces for Apple’s ‘Shrinking’”

MPA: THE CREDITS [READ](#)

“‘Shrinking’ Production Designer Cabot McMullen on Laughing and Crying in Pasadena”

VARIETY [READ](#)

“How the ‘Shrinking’ Offices Were Created With Input From Cast Members Including Harrison Ford”

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SHRINKING

Production Designer
CABOT MCMULLEN

Set Decorator
ANDREA FENTON

Art Director
JUDY COSGROVE

Assistant Art Director
MICAHA WILMOTT

Set Designers

ANDY BROOMELL STEVE SAYLOR JERRY ORTEGA RICK NICHOL COULTER MCAUSLAN

Propmaster
JONATHAN BUCHANAN

Graphic Designer
CHRIS FINNEY

Leadman
STEVE MACMILLIN

Key Set Dresser
SHANT BALKIAN

On-Set Dresser
MARK BOYLE

Buyer
WENDY MURRAY

Set Dec Coordinator
MITCH LOFLIN

Construction Coordinator
DWAYNE FRANKS

General Foreperson
JAMES NASH

Greens Foreperson
JOHNNY TORRES

Paint Foreperson
DYLAN FRANKS

Location Manager
DAVID FLANNERY

Art Department Coordinator
MARIHA LOWE

Art Department Assistant
AMBER KRIEG

Set photos by
TIM SWOPE

Still frames courtesy of
Apple TV+

ART DEPARTMENT