

## **Bold Standard!** **RETRO-POLITAN**

By Sue Mayfield Geiger



### **The notion of vintage**

surrounds ad-agency owner and ex-NASA space-vehicle illustrator John Lowery, 43, and his photographer wife Laurie, also 43. Avid outdoors folk, they're probably hunting for a retro Airstream trailer right now, or John's in his backyard "private ice house" listening to Elvis and tinkering with his Harley. ("You never see one outside a

psychiatrist's office," he says, high on his hog. "It's the best therapy.") No wonder the 4,000-square-foot, three-story Montrose home they share with daughter Hope, 11, is a mod-minded showcase of throwback, pop-patterned style.

Laurie used '60s photog Julius Shulman's architectural images and a vintage red table runner with mod pink swoops by '60s textile

designer Alexander Girard as interior inspirations. “I wanted a minimalist feel, but with bold graphics,” says Laurie. Rooms are bright-white and sharp—John, an Eagle Scout, hates curves—with disciplined punches of orange, blue and green.

The ground level soars with sky-high rows of glass panels that flood the open floor plan with morning light and offer views of the backyard, where John’s Harley-housing man space fashioned of reclaimed wood is subtly situated behind a multicolor-tiled pool. The clean background repeats throughout the house, so sleek contemporary furnishings and a wide-ranging, colorfully retro art collection—from fabric collages to Deco soda pop posters—stand out. “We like vintage, repurposing,” Laurie laughs. “If it has character and is interesting, we like that mix.”