

# BIG PRELUDE

SPRING



REVVED UP  
THE HOTTEST  
CAR SALONS



Principal Patrick Ahearn FAIA of Patrick Ahearn Architect puts a classic, Islander spin on his car barn, located on Martha's Vineyard. An avid auto enthusiast, Ahearn often finds inspiration for his architecture in the lines and designs of vintage automobiles, so it follows that he'd create a home for the dream machines he has restored, including a fire-engine red 1960's Corvette and a hunter green Porsche Speedster.

For this construct, he reinvented the livery stables of old, modeling it after the "upscale New England barns one would have found in historic towns like Concord, Mass.," says Ahearn. In keeping with tradition, he reused flooring from a mill building in Maine as well as other reclaimed materials like old beams and timbers, and a stone veneer on the exposed foundation. He made a point of keeping the first level freestanding (the second level boasts a guest quarters) and devoid of columns to make the space easy for cars to navigate, and incorporated plenty of brick and beadboard, a Vineyard staple. A "man cave" area, complete with a sitting area and TV, heating and AC, provides a place to kick back and admire the four-wheeled investments.

Photography: Greg Premru; Richard Mandelkorn

