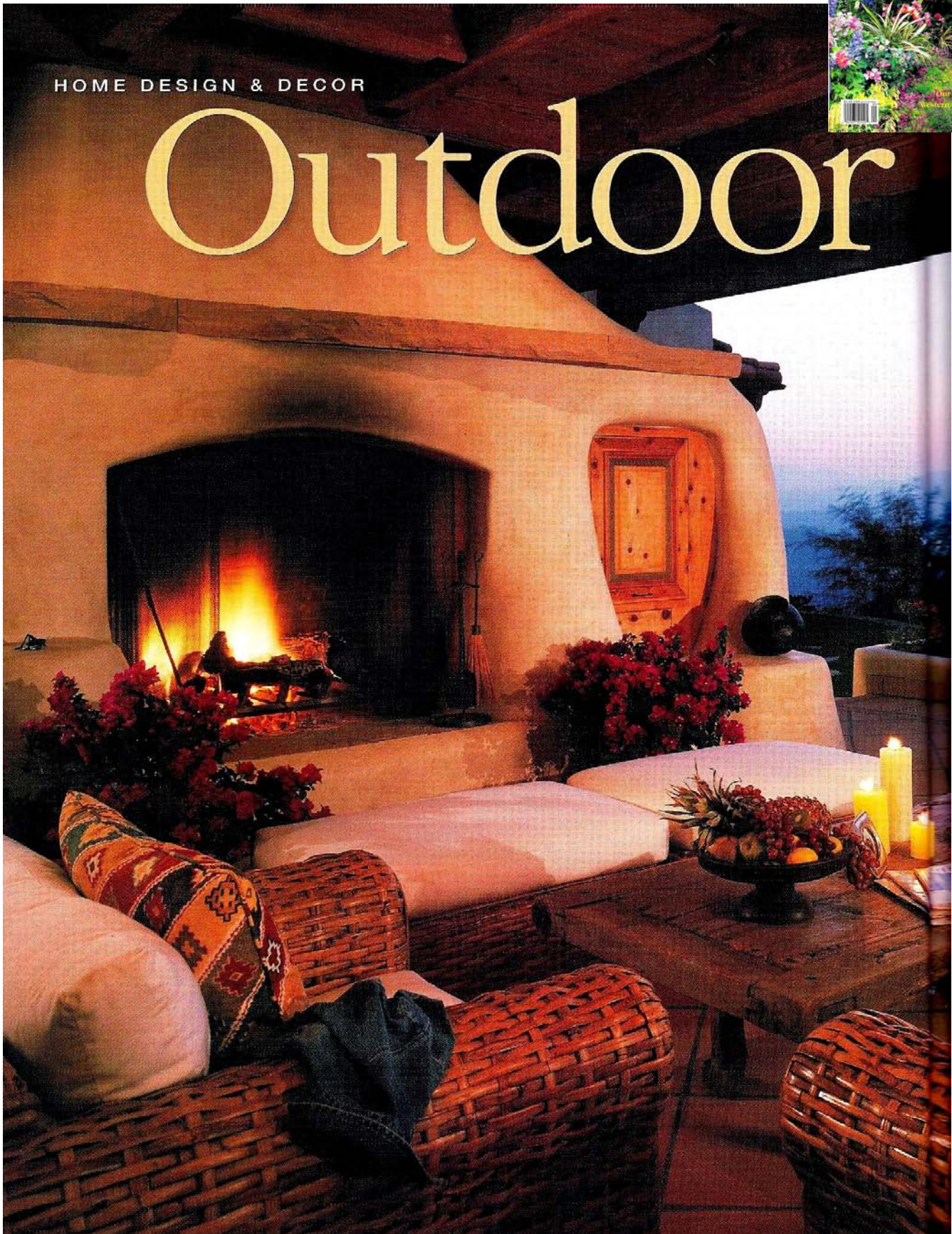


HOME DESIGN & DECOR

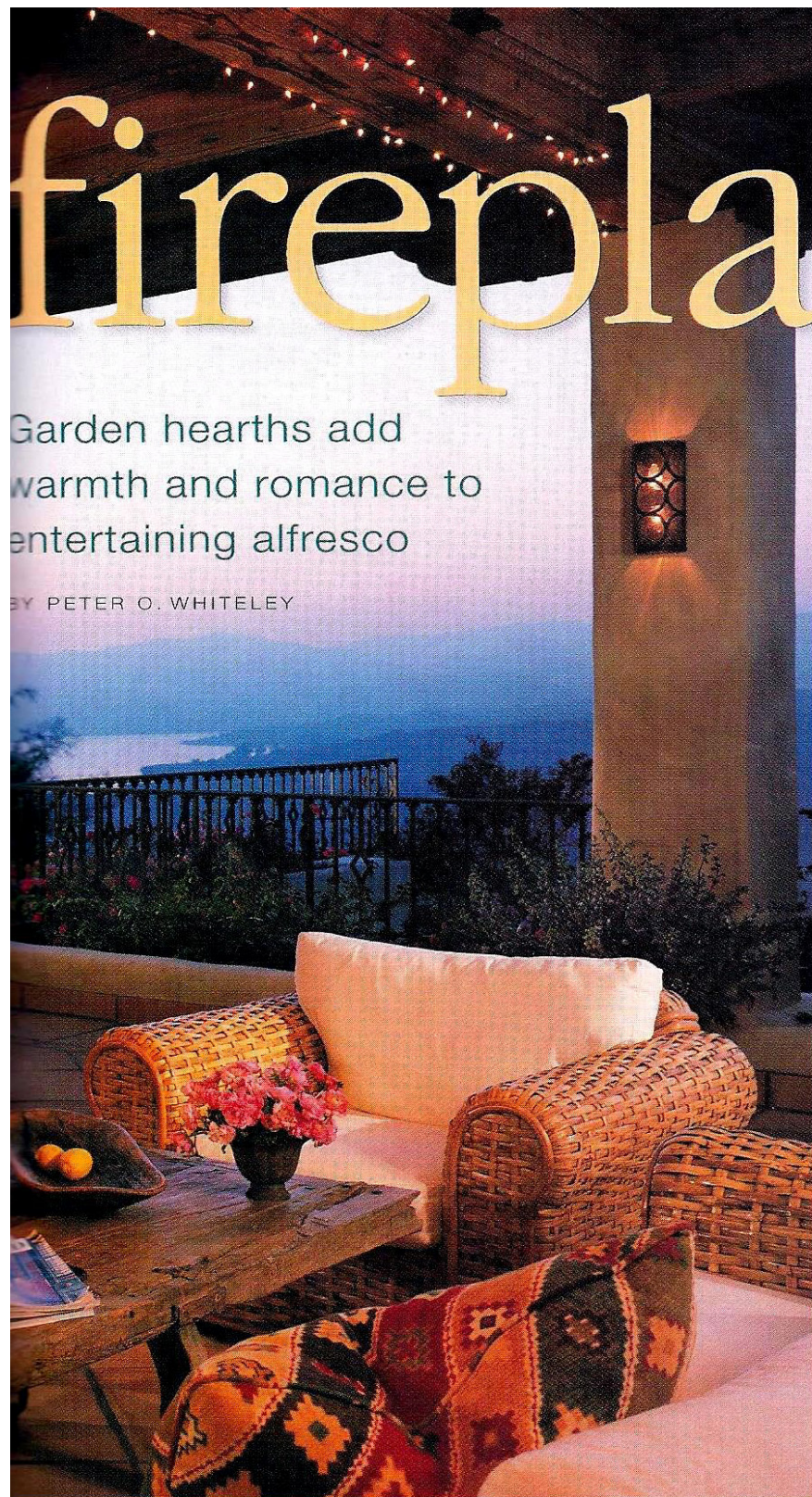
Outdoor



fireplaces

Garden hearths add warmth and romance to entertaining alfresco

BY PETER O. WHITELEY



■ In the cool of the evening, the crackling sound, flickering light, and radiating warmth of a fireplace extend an irresistible invitation to linger in your garden or patio.

"The outdoor fireplace is a perfect combination of functional and visual design," says Steve Adams, a San Diego-area landscape architect who designed three of the installations on these pages. Each fireplace creates a dramatic architectural focal point for

Good advice

- Situate fireplaces so they don't face prevailing winds.
- Make the chimneys as tall as possible both for improved draw and to keep smoke away from people.
- Install spark-arresting screening and/or chimney caps for fire safety.

a patio or courtyard. The fireplace can attach to the outside wall of a house or act as a free-standing destination in the garden. It should be placed in an

area that is easily accessible from inside the house. Three of our examples border rear patios, and two projects are in front yards remodeled to include privacy walls, new patios, and seating areas. The room at left even sits atop a garage. All six examples bring the magic of fireplaces out into the fresh air.

THE OUTDOOR LIVING ROOM of this hilltop home in Ojai, California, was inspired by the owner's vacation in Acapulco. Everything is resort scale: the 5-foot-wide masonry fireplace; couches and chairs with woven-reed frames; hand-hewn beams; a roof that is part trellis and part skylight; and large terracotta floor tiles set on the diagonal.

DESIGN: Marc Whitman, Whitman Architectural Design, Ojai, CA; (805) 646-8485

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