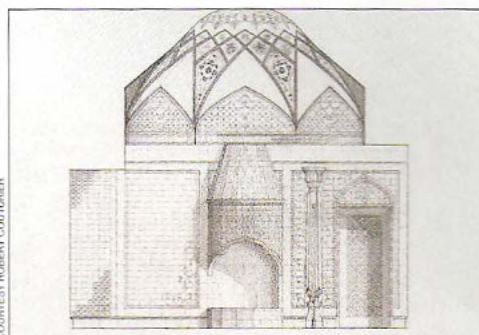


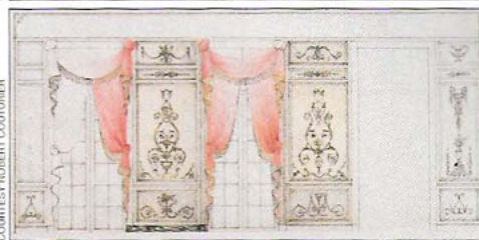
Multicultural Montecito



The Montecito, California, antiques community has a new dealer in its midst, **William Laman**, who carries a cross section of furniture for the house and garden, ethnic pottery and Souleaido fabrics. Housed in one of the oldest ranches in the area, Laman's multicultural selection (above) includes a long mahogany French trestle table, a 17th-century Danish corner cabinet, a Hungarian golden-oak chest, a Guatemalan fruitwood desk from the late 1800s, Chinese lacquered cabinets, Adirondack rockers and hickory chairs. Decorative items include Colombian and Guatemalan pottery and African masks. For the outdoors, Laman offers antique French wood benches and Andus pottery from the south of France. William Laman, 1496 East Valley Rd., Montecito, CA 93108; 805-969-2840.



COURTESY ROBERT COUTURIER



COURTESY ROBERT COUTURIER

Objects of Fantasy

Interior designer Robert Couturier has a show at the Chinese Porcelain Company of drawings and renderings he has created called "**Versatility in Design**" that runs through May. Couturier says he has taken "great pleasure" during his 15-year career in drawing interiors, sometimes to show clients what he proposes for them, sometimes as fantasies involving beautiful objects he has seen. One drawing in the show depicts an 18th-century clock and a portrait bust of Mme de Pompadour that was a proposal for an interior in San Francisco; the clock, says Couturier,

"ended up in New York and the bust was never bought." An elevation (above) has three French windows, two draped in pink silk velvet, with painted wood panels between them. Located in a New York town house, the panels date from the turn of the century when the house was built. A dramatic elevation shows a domed interior (top), sheathed in tile that is the entrance to a Turkish bath. Proceeds from the sale of the drawings will go to the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. The Chinese Porcelain Company, 475 Park Ave., New York 10022; 212-838-7744.

Bail to Bali

Exploring is about the best thing one can do at **Istana Semer**," Angela Vestey says of her hideaway on Bali (*AD*, Mar. 1996), which she also rents out. Located on four acres of tropical gardens with views west to the Indian Ocean, Vestey's villa (right) is in the undiscovered village of Semer, which means "heavenly spring." As remote as the house is, it's only five minutes from restaurants, shops and



ROBERT BECK

the beach, and guests can avail themselves of a number of activities, such as witnessing celebrations at local temples, horseback riding and river rafting. But "Istana Semer is a sanctuary in itself," Vestey says. "There's a swimming pool and lily ponds on the grounds. It's fully staffed. You don't ever have to leave." World Locations, 816 N. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069; 310-659-0599. □