



## climbing PATTERN

by Lori Veit

OCCASIONALLY HOMEOWNERS FIND THEMSELVES with a space that begs to showcase something truly special. Rising up from the center of a large three-level home is this artistic open staircase, designed for a family that surrounds itself with nature, art, and plenty of travel and adventure. The steps reach from the lower-level recreation area, up through the kitchen and on to the children's level with its treehouse feel — private, yet accessible. Imperceptibly, the stairway ties everyone in the home together and also plays host to a whimsical vertical lightwork designed to reflect the owners' (both pilots) passions for flight.

The aluminum fixture was conceived by the home's architect, Dick Sherer, and designer, Susan Sherer, of Deep River Partners Ltd. Executed by Steve Klein of Klein Lighting, the fixture features sculptures of the sun, the wings of Icarus, abstractions, a biplane and a parachuter, all tethered by aluminum wires.

The repeating patterns created by stairs and handrails frame the sculpture, while sweeping the eye up and around. "The static visual of motion is really elevating to people," explains Susan. "I think that's because, in our interior, physically we're in constant motion — the heart's beating, the blood's pumping and it makes us feel like we're 'in the right place.'" MH

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Mark Heliron