

# Plainly Stated

ALLOWING ARCHITECTURE TO SPEAK FOR ITSELF IN MASSACHUSETTS

Architecture by Graham Gund, FAIA/Text by Philip Nobel/Photography by Peter Aaron/Esto



*Overview:* The entrance to the house architect Graham Gund designed for his family in Cambridge, Massachusetts. *La Riviere*, a house by Armand Maillol, is at right. Inside, on a partial-height wall in the living room, is Robert Rauschenberg's *Metropolitan Landscape*.

**I**n a back-deck corner of Cambridge, Massachusetts, a short walk from colonial Harvard Square, the miracle is that the land is there at all. But there it is, then a long gravel drive off a side street set thickly and with clapboard Victorian the wooded, privately secluded property on which Graham Gund has built a new house for his family. "It's a fluke of nature that this land even exists," he says. And it is a fluke, but a fortunate one. In a neighborhood of small blocks, for reasons lost to history, one street was planned but never cut, and the land left stranded became a kind of neighborhood secret—a private back—until a few years ago when it came on the market and its first owner shared plans to build a line of 22 row houses.

Needless to say, that they



*Next:* Gund, his wife, Ann, and their son, Camille, in front of Willem de Kooning's *Carried Off*. **RIGHT:** *Spatial Boundary*, an installation by Thomas Patti, plays across the front door. "It changes in differing light from really transparent to levels of opaque," says Gund.

