

BLESS ME, ULTIMA: THE MOVIE | AUTUMN ADVENTURES

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New Mexico

MAGAZINE

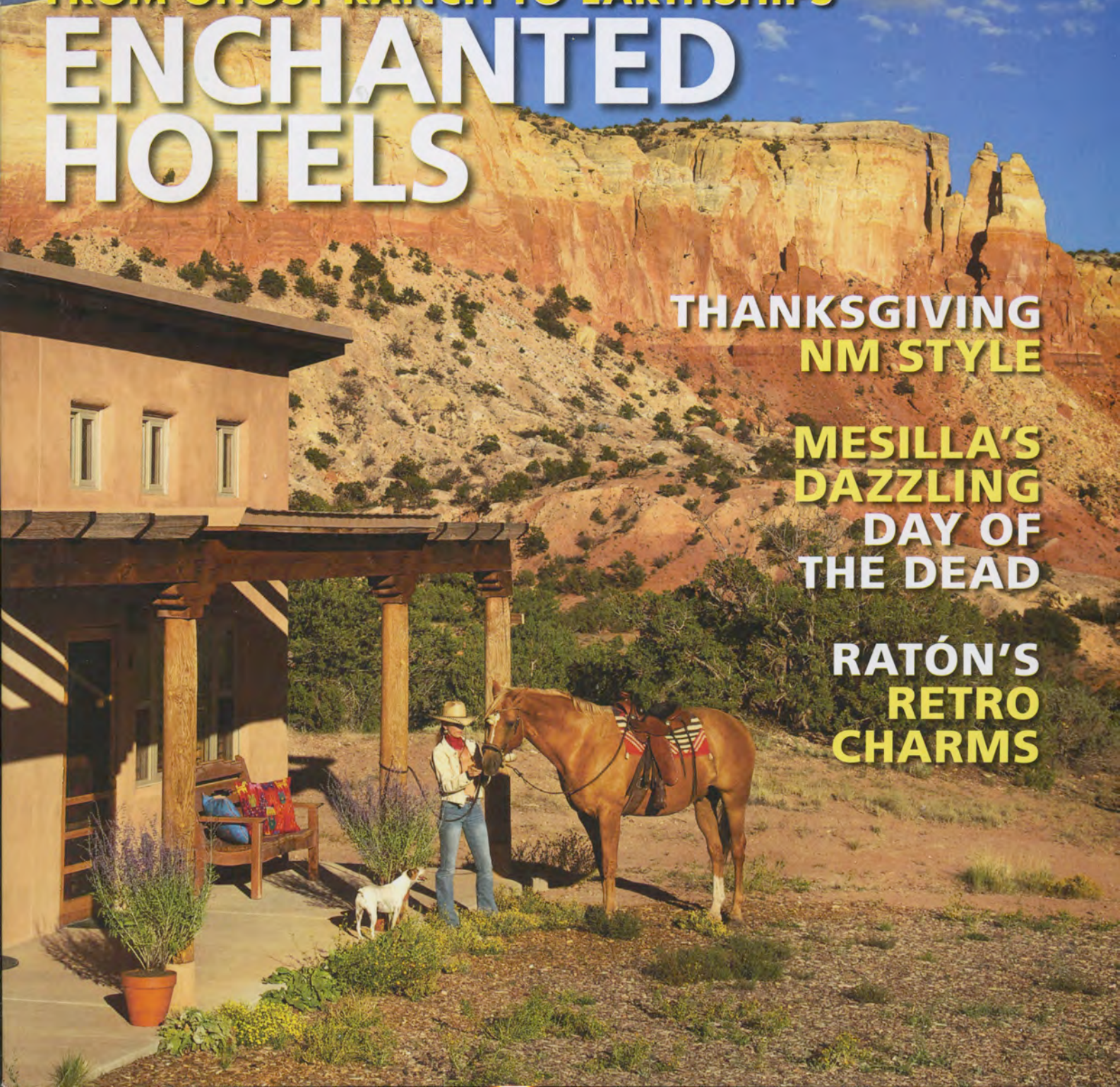
FROM GHOST RANCH TO EARTHSHIPS

ENCHANTED HOTELS

THANKSGIVING
NM STYLE

MESILLA'S
DAZZLING
DAY OF
THE DEAD

RATÓN'S
RETRO
CHARMS





T or C's Blackstone Hotsprings has vintage TV show-themed rooms, like this *Jetsons* suite—the perfect launch pad for visiting the nearby Spaceport. *Facing page:* Santa Fe's Inn of the Five Graces transports you to another, more interior world.

Fun. Funky. Fabulous.

Luxe cave dwellings, dapper Route 66 digs, dens of oriental splendor, and a Meem-designed farm-to four-poster . . .

Distinctive lodgings like these—destinations unto themselves—**help put the *Oh!* in New Mexico.**

BY ZORA O'NEILL



At Blackstone Hotsprings, mineral-rich, steaming-hot spring water is piped directly into guest-suite baths. *Below:* At the Inn of Five Graces, Eastern textiles, mosaics, and carved wood furnishings marry beautifully with classic New Mexico interior design.

MIDDLE EAST BY SOUTHWEST

INN OF THE FIVE GRACES is really two destinations in one. Outside, it's typical Santa Fe—a rambling complex of old adobe homes on either side of a side street, clustered around small courtyards shaded by gnarled cottonwoods. Inside, however, you're off to the Taj Mahal via flying carpet. The hands-on owners are Ira and Sylvia Seret—if you've been to Santa Fe, you likely recognize the name from their cavernous warehouse of exotic imports, Seret & Sons. They've furnished the 23 suites with some of their stock's finest treasures: carved Indian doors and marble screens define the spaces, while Turkish kilims and vibrant Central Asian ikats adorn every surface. Sylvia specializes in mosaics, and her breathtakingly detailed work covers the suites' bathrooms. The couple's masterpiece is

the two-floor Luminaria House apartment—book it (or at least ask to peek at it) to be wowed by its layers of color and texture. In short, it's no place for people who admire the clean lines of an Eames chair, and shopaholics may be putting themselves at serious risk. But for anyone in search of a romantic, orient-flavored hideaway, it's a perfect escape. It's lavish, sure, but still cheaper than two plane tickets to Samarkand.

From \$425/night. 150 E. DeVargas Street, Santa Fe; (505) 992-0957; fivegraces.com



TAKING THE CURE

Opened in 2006 after a year of intense renovation, **BLACKSTONE HOTSPRINGS** exemplifies the renaissance of Truth or Consequences. The converted old motel is a hip spot to enjoy the town's main tourist attraction, the hot springs that bubble up all over downtown. A weekend here makes a great low-key spa getaway, with nothing more to do than soak in the healing waters. T or C owes its oddball name to an early boob-tube stunt, so it's fitting that the décor in the Blackstone's seven suites is

