

# THE MOVIES

## HOW TO GET YOUR HOME IN

### AND MAKE A FEW BUCKS

By Marcia Rosen

Photography By Arthur Coleman

**R**ight over there," says Evan Matzner, pointing across the pool toward the cozy guest cottage, "is where Teri Garr did her interview for *Entertainment Tonight*." "And over here," adds wife Diane, "lightly stroking the dining room table with her fingertips, "is where the director sat, with cameras and cables everywhere."

Soft-spoken and seemingly sane, the Matzners got an intimate, behind-the-scenes glimpse of Hollywood when they rented out their charming, Spanish-style home as a movie set for *Fugitive Nights*, a recent NBC movie of the week. In return, they used their profits, about \$3,000 for a three-day shoot, to treat themselves to a dream vacation in Greece.

As a photographer and location scout, Art Coleman enjoys the challenge of finding the perfect site, particularly when it's his own. Coleman has turned the 78-year-old authentic adobe house he bought in the old movie colony not only into a comfortable abode, but also a picture-perfect property.

"In its original state, it was a mess," he admits, "but it also had a lot of redeeming features, like French windows, tex-

ured walls, beamed ceilings, even a little history. It seems Garbo lived there once, way back when."

Now, after lots of TLC, Coleman's complex has been photographed three times in national books and featured six times in the past seven years in foreign and American fashion magazines, with a booking already scheduled for 1994. Average earnings: A recent shoot paid \$6,000 for six weeks' use.

Any desert dweller who has seen *Dead Solid Perfect*, *Kill Point* and made-for-TV movie *Castles Burning* can probably I.D. the pool, the grounds and those signature wrought iron



"We got to kibbitz with Teri Garr and Sam Elliott like they were everyday people."

Evan and Diane Matzner

gates at the entrance to Melvyn's Ingleside Inn.

Owner Mel Haber's movie-star property, with its plush landscaping, sweeping verandas and bougainvillea-lined courtyard, even his vintage Rolls Royce, is the paragon of old Palm Springs charm.

Featuring his historic property in numerous movies, TV commercials and photo shoots for the past 28 years has earned Haber a respectable five-figure income, as well as entrance into the loose fraternity of owners with edifice complexes. "With the lights and cameras set up and the movie stars milling around, it's like one big party around here. Rather than creating a problem, it's exciting

and my guests love it."

Turn on your TV. Go to the movies. Open a magazine. There's a good chance that the house, apartment, office, hotel or restaurant featured in the picture is a real property. With filmmakers spending more than \$50 million each year finding and renting these locations for their productions, there is a high probability yours could become one of them.