

MANSION GLOBAL

Scissor Sisters Singer Lists Iconic L.A. House for \$2.248 Million

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Nancy A. Ruhling



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Scissor Sisters co-founder Jake Shears's iconic 1930s Los Angeles house, defined by a semi-circular glass-block tower on the front, is on the market for \$2.248 million. Mr. Shears, who co-founded the American alt-pop/rock band in 2001, bought the 1937 estate in 2013 for \$1.92 million, according to property records.

The three-story, white stucco villa in Los Feliz was listed on March 7 by Penny Muck, Nancy Osborne and Tami Halton Pardee of Halton Pardee + Partners.

According to the listing, it is one of the few remaining residences in L.A. designed by architect William Kesling, a master of the Streamline Moderne style that was inspired by aerodynamic design.

"Mr. Shears decided to sell because of a lifestyle change," Ms. Osborne said. "He's on the road touring all the time, and he wants something with a smaller footprint."

Ms. Muck added that he is looking for a new place in L.A., "something smaller, even a lock-and-leave."

The 2,309-square-foot home, known as the Ulm house, is a product of Hollywood's glamorous, golden past. Its original details include colorful Art Deco bathroom fixtures, tiled walls, steel-cased windows, glass-block sections that let natural light in and a winding stone staircase in the tower.

"Ulm house has been a creative hub, an environment where all kinds of people, friends and family, including myself, have crafted songs, written books, dreamed up concepts, cooked feasts, thrown dreamy parties," Mr. Shears said. "I bought it from a woman who was a very prolific painter. I know she wanted to pass it on to someone who would keep the creative spirit there alive. It's my intention to do the same."

The home's 5,549-square-foot lot overlooks the city and the Pacific Ocean. It has three bedrooms and four bathrooms and a two-car garage at street level. The master suite has a private balcony that offers expansive views of the city. Its spacious living room, centered around a fireplace, opens to a large terrazzo-tiled patio that's a prime entertainment space. There's also a first-floor guest room and a terrazzo-tiled family room with a wet bar.

"The home's greatest asset is how the windows capture the light all the way to the Pacific," Ms. Muck said.

Ms. Osborne said the house has a cheery vibe and that it "emotionally grabs you and puts its arms around you the minute you walk in."

Scissor Sisters came on the scene in 2004 when its disco version of Pink Floyd's "Comfortably Numb" topped the charts and garnered a Grammy nomination. The group's debut album, "Scissor Sisters," became a hit in the U.K., where it was the best-selling album in 2004.

The group's biggest hits include "Filthy/Gorgeous," "Take Your Mama," and "I Don't Feel Like Dancin'."

Mr. Shears, 40, who early in his career was an exotic dancer, gained as much fame for his singing as for his flamboyant dance moves on stage.

In 2012, after the band produced four albums, Mr. Shears struck out on his own. The next year, he bought the Ulm house and moved in with his then-boyfriend. In 2015, when the couple split, he retreated to New Orleans, where he retains an apartment. Ms. Osborne and Ms. Muck added that he also has a place in Brooklyn, New York, where his career started.

In 2018, he made his Broadway debut in the award-winning musical "Kinky Boots," recorded a self-titled solo album and released his memoir, "Boys Keep Swinging." He's currently on tour in Australia.