‘Dr. Who’ Actress Rents Her Lady of the Lake House

British actress Alex Kingston’s comfortably contemporary residence above Lake Hollywood and below the Hollywood sign has come up as a furnished luxury-level lease at a rate of $15,000 per month. The “ER,” “Doctor Who” and “Arrow” actress, once wed to Ralph Fiennes and now married to British producer Jonathan Stamp, purchased the property in 2013 for $1.23 million. She oversaw a complete renovation that transformed a fairly ordinary ranch house into a sleek and crisply rendered two-story contemporary with five bedrooms and four and a half bathrooms in just over 3,800 square feet.

Mark David
The Real Estalker

The foyer steps up to an airy, loft-like combination living-dining space with hand-scraped hardwood floors, a soaring vaulted ceiling and a minimalist-minded reclaimed brick fireplace. Huge banks of telescopic glass sliders disappear into the walls and allow for seamless and classically Californian indoor-outdoor living. One end of the room is anchored by a galley-style kitchen with marble countertops.
and a center-island snack bar. Gigantic panels at the other end of the room slide open to a cozy proportioned media lounge with projection entertainment system and another bank of telescopic sliders that open to the backyard.

On the second floor, a spacious en suite bedroom is joined by a private master suite that incorporates a fitted, bedroom-size walk-in closet, a spa-style bathroom and a wall of windows in the bedroom that open to a slender balcony with distant, tree-framed city views over Lake Hollywood.

In addition to a swimming pool and spa, the backyard includes drought-minded landscaping bordered by low stacked-stone walls, an alfresco dining loggia and a sunken lounge burrowed into the hillside.

Sony Honcho Lands Beachy Compound
Famously low-key veteran entertainment executive Tony Vinciquerra, who recently signed on as the powerful new chairman and CEO of Sony Pictures Entertainment, has splashed out almost $10.9 million for a lavish French country compound in a quiet and pricey part of Manhattan Beach, Calif. The multi-structure compound, not far from a Craftsman-style residence Vince Vaughn has owned since early 2014, encompasses two legal parcels that together span almost an acre of landscaped grounds, and represents one of the area’s largest residential lots.

A gated circular drive passes under a porte cochère topped by guest or staff quarters as it makes its way to a motor court at the front of the main residence. There are eight-plus bedrooms, nine bathrooms and nine fireplaces among the various buildings. In addition to an almost 7,000-square-foot main house, there’s a pool house with a fireplace and another house of around 3,000 square feet that could serve as a guest house or rental. In the main house, a voluminously grand foyer with a curved staircase is flanked by a cavernous double-height formal living room and a marble-floored formal dining room. There’s also a chef’s kitchen with a vaulted ceiling and a butler’s pantry, a billiards room and a wine cellar. The grounds are equipped with an outdoor sound system and include gardens along with a swimming pool, a built-in barbecue area and a copper-roofed gazebo with a stone fireplace. Property records indicate Vinciquerra continues to own a nearly 9,500-square-foot villa in a swank, guard-gated enclave in Pacific Palisades purchased in early 2005 for $5.6 million.

Rachel Skarsten Buys Laurel Canyon Cottage
Canadian actress Rachel Skarsten, who portrayed Queen Elizabeth I on the recently canceled historical series “Reign” and will soon be seen in Aaron Sorkin’s drama “Molly’s Game,” has purchased a secluded, celeb-pedigreed cottage in the storied Laurel Canyon area of Los Angeles for not quite $1.4 million. Previously owned or occupied by model-turned-actress Rene Russo, “300” and “Atomic Blonde” screenwriter Kurt Johnstad and “Bent Hur” and “Boardwalk Empire” star Jack Huston, the 1920s cottage sits on a postage-stamp-size hillside parcel and measures in at a tad bit above 1,600 square feet with two bedrooms and one bathroom. Invisible from the street, behind a detached single-car garage and a secured entry gate, the house includes a sun-flooded step-down living room with a high ceiling, the original tile-accented fireplace and French doors that lead to a wrap-around deck with leafy canyon views. Brown-and-white checkerboard flooring in the dining room continues into the adjoining kitchen that features marble countertops, two under-counter wine fridges and a commercial-style range that’s rather awkwardly placed in front of a bank of windows. Both bedrooms have coved ceilings and windows that look into the surrounding terraces. The lone bathroom, all in

Digs
Lauren Conrad Sells Brentwood Cape Cod
Former “The Hills” star Lauren Conrad, now married with a child, listed a Cape Cod-style residence in Brentwood for $4,495,000. She purchased the 4,103-square-foot residence in 2016 for $2,685,000.

City of L.A. Buys Dolby Theatre for Just $100K
Who knew the Dolby Theatre could be had for $100,000 — less than the price of the most modest condo? It can’t really, of course. But the city of Los Angeles recently took official possession of the home of the Academy Awards from the now-defunct Community Redevelopment Agency, which paid about $30 million toward construction of the venue in 2012. As a formality, the city paid the CRA $100,000 for the theater, which was in limbo when California Gov. Jerry Brown dissolved all community redevelopment agencies. The CRA is also selling the historic Westlake Theatre near MacArthur Park, which could be redeveloped as housing or retail.