

MODERN LUXURY

Interiors

CHICAGO



INNOVATIONS IN KITCHEN & BATH

DESIGN BUZZ: INSIDE SOHO HOUSE CHICAGO
CARIB CHIC: CHICAGOAN DANA HOKIN'S BITTER END YACHT CLUB
AUDRAIN ARCHITECTURE TRANSFORMS INDUSTRIAL TO RESIDENTIAL
ART ENTHUSIASTS CARLOS MARTINEZ, PAM CAPITANINI & AIROOM OPEN UP



PERFECT PAIR

From top: The living room's custom-made smoky sofa is cloaked by the cream tones of the surrounding space; LG might stand for luxurious meets groovy, or lively meets genteel. Either way, the design styles of Lewis (left) and Giannoulas are the perfect hybrid.



MEMORY BOX

A Lincoln Square home is peppered with pops of color, modern highlights and travel mementos.

By Katie Anne Orr

Photography by Eric Hausman | Portrait by Cynthia Lynn

Designers Melissa Lewis and Cari Giannoulas of LG Interiors (lg-interiors.com) may finish each other's sentences, but it's their differences that make them the perfect blend. One arrives a bit early in a belted sundress, the other a tad late in an off-the-shoulder caftan. One goes for clean lines; the other goes for antiques. "But sometimes we switch," they say in near unison. "We're very fluid."

Recently, the synced-up duo took on the design of a Lincoln Square single-family spec home, newly purchased by homeowners Chris and Patricia. The couple, who hired the LG team to breathe some life and personality into the blank box, gave the designers plenty of freedom

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The requests were minimal: clean lines with textured bits scattered in. They sought a cross between modern and bohemian, with neutral tones and pops of color, and they didn't want it to look like a museum.

The latter task came easily, as it was already a house with the makings of a home. Wanting to create a sense of welcome right off the bat, Lewis and Giannoulas moved the mudroom out of the small entryway and into the open area above the stairs, where guests could mingle during their comings and goings. They redressed the color palette of the entire residence in comforting gray, purple and white, with touches of chocolate and charcoal. Adjacent to the mudroom, the designers tore out the desk and cabinets and installed a full-wall wine fridge, creating the feeling of a private wine cellar alongside the kitchen. Uniting their signature style tendencies, the two designers paired a large Restoration Hardware table in the dining area with ornate custom-designed chairs—upholstered in purple Kravet fabric, no less. In



PALETTE PLAY

Clockwise from above: Jamie Young's bright silver lamps pop against the grass-cloth Phillip Jeffries wallpaper in the master bedroom; pressed paper orchids from Joan Cusack's Judy Maxwell shop liven up the master bedroom walls; pomegranates punch up the master bath via Osborne and Little's swanky wallpaper.



the nearby living room, a lush velvet stool from One Kings Lane joins the couch, upon which someone has left a little juice box—a subtle reminder of life's sweet chaos. The LG team custom-designed many elements throughout the house, but found lighting gems for the entire residence at Arteriors, Jonathan Adler and Ro Sham Beaux, and sourced fabrics from Romo, Robert Allen and Donghia. An eye-catching grass-cloth wallpaper came from Phillip Jeffries.

But the keystones of the home are truly its familial elements. In the living room, there's a wall of signed menus from restaurants where the couple shared a special meal. In the bedroom for newborn daughter, Kathleen, it's pencil sketches collected from European trips the family took together: the Charles Bridge in Prague, a street corner in Dublin and the parliament building in Vienna. The young son Spiros' bedroom bears an ode

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...CONTINUED to travel as well, with metal airplane frames dangling from the ceiling and globe wallpaper covering the walls. "I love to point out places where we've gone on the map," says Chris.

Brandishing especially unique charm are the two rooms designed for the husband and wife individually. Chris' office boasts a wall of floor-to-ceiling bookshelves containing more than 250 of the greats (*Walden*, *Moby-Dick* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* among them)—a collection of classics for the children's future. "I wanted it to resemble a library, darker in contrast to the rest of the house, where I could come to read and decompress," he says. Blending eras, it also exhibits close-to-the-heart

sports memorabilia: photos from Game 6 of the Blackhawks vs. Bruins Stanley Cup and Brett Favre's last game at Soldier Field, plus a signed jersey from Ben Roethlisberger's days at Miami University (the couple's alma mater). Patricia's craft room, meanwhile, is the polar opposite. An attic conversion, it's now a bright orange, gold and white space, with sunlight streaming through the windows. Literally capping off the home, it's the epicenter of Patricia's arts-and-crafts hobby.

From top to bottom, and thanks to the clever vision of designers Lewis and Giannoulas, it's a house that celebrates cherished family memories and, most importantly, offers the perfect place to make many, many more. ■

PURPLE REIGN

From left: Countryside Draperies' custom-textured sheer overlay on solid cream fabric lightens the dining room with a classy, classic feel; LG's custom eggplant velvet ottoman pronounces livable luxury as you enter the home's mudroom, with its many framed memories.