

Romantic **42 WAYS** TO ADD PASTELS INTO YOUR HOME

HOMES

CASUAL
ELEGANCE,
PERSONAL
STYLE

Beautiful,

**SUMPTUOUS
BEDROOMS
5 STYLES**

**GLAMOUR
HOMES
ACHIEVED!**

Tips on paint,
restoring
and more

**EXPERT
DESIGN TIPS**

that are easy,
clever, beautiful

SEPTEMBER 2012 • DISPLAY UNTIL 9/04/12
VOLUME 25, NO. 09 • \$7.50 CAN



ROMANTICHOMES.COM

contents

SEPTEMBER 2012 • VOLUME 25, ISSUE 9

THE NEW CLASSICS

come inside

- 24 **The Good Old Days Revisited**
The Charlotte Inn on Martha's Vineyard is a rich blend of Olde England and New England.
BY MERYL SCHOENBAUM
- 32 **Cultured Gem**
Its architecture may be California Mediterranean, but this vintage home has international flavor.
BY MERYL SCHOENBAUM
- 44 **French Influence**
An Italianate home gets Parisian flair thanks to an interior designer inspired by a pair of fabulous shoes.
BY MARGIE MONIN DOMBROWSKI
- 54 **Current Classics**
Today's décor starts with bold choices. Throw in some sparkle and shine, and you've got a romantic, sophisticated room.
BY JACQUELINE deMONTRAVEL
- 58 **Suite Dreams**
Sumptuous and serene guest suites that are even better than a five-star hotel.
BY AGNES STANTON
- 70 **Unconventional Business**
What's a woman to do when she can't find the vintage-style accessories she wants for her home? You could open your own shop like this entrepreneur did.
BY REBECCA ITTNER

on the cover

Beautiful, sumptuous bedrooms—five styles.....40, 44, 50, 52, 58
Glamour homes achieved! Tips on paint, restoring and more....32, 44, 54, 58, 84
42 ways to add pastels into your home....16, 20, 44, 54, 58
Expert design tips.....44, 54, 84

Cover photo by Red Cover/Christopher Drake



Pieces with clean lines, gentle curves and a monochromatic color scheme create a soothing ambience in this master suite.



French influence



Dreamy colors, French antiques and sensual textures add Parisian flair to an 1870s Italianate home.

BY MARGIE MONIN DOMBROWSKI
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID DUNCAN LIVINGSTON

A STately ITALIANATE MANSION BUILT IN 1875 REQUIRES A CERTAIN LEVEL OF ROMANCE AND ELEGANCE. WITH AN ARCHITECTURAL STYLE THAT COMBINES 16TH-CENTURY ITALIAN RENAISSANCE AND 19TH-CENTURY INFLUENCES, THIS SAN FRANCISCO HOME NEEDED A CONTEMPORARY TOUCH THAT SPOKE TO THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURE AND THE HOMEOWNERS' EXQUISITE TASTE.

WHEN ONE OF THE HOMEOWNERS PRESENTED INTERIOR DESIGNER JONA COLLINS OF JONA COLLINS INTERIORS, IN SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA, WITH THE DESIGN INSPIRATION FOR THE ELEGANT MASTER SUITE—THE SMOKY LILAC FABRIC OF A JIMMY CHOO SHOE—SHE KNEW EXACTLY THE AESTHETIC SHE WOULD CARRY THROUGHOUT THE REST OF THE HOME: TRADITIONAL MODERN SOPHISTICATION.



A lush tree livens up a corner of this living room. A large mirror, chandelier and mirrored coffee table add sophistication.

"This is an area that we wanted to keep more casual and comfortable, so I brought in a contemporary-style sofa to make it a little less formal," Jona says.

A welcoming entryway includes generous seating, the warmth of an area rug and floral displays.

Making the interior personal to its owners, who frequently travel to Paris and collect French antiques and art, meant Jona would pull from French and other European influences. Jona created a statement-making interior by incorporating French antiques, Barbara Barry furniture pieces, pale hues and sumptuous fabrics. "The colors are so luscious," Jona says. "There's a certain panache that comes with the French charm. The fabrics, luxurious antiques and draperies, all the fabulous details of the trimmings—you'll see a lot of these embellishments."

Jona describes the color scheme as "soft petal," reminiscent of a rose garden and of



some of the homeowners' favorite places in Paris. "The soft petal pinks, hydrangeas, silky lilacs—they're all dreamy colors," Jona says.

In the French-style parlor, the color scheme is set off by the Annie Hall custom paint in blue, followed by matching blue silk draperies. Luxurious details such as the 19th-century Louis XV style console, Italian Rococo antique mirrored coffee table, French deco-styled glass mirrored table, Louis XV Fauteuil leather chair, Louis XVI gilt urn lamp and 1800s antique crystal chandelier add drama and a palatial feel to the space. "This is an area that we wanted to keep more casual and comfortable," Jona says. "So I brought in a contemporary-style sofa to make it a little less formal." Other beachy elements such as the custom shell mirror and the seagrass rug add warmth, making the parlor a cozy gathering place.

The elegant master suite is soothing, with billowy French silk draperies and coordinating suede upholstered bed with silk bedding that Jona custom designed for the room. With so many silky, luxurious textiles and refined furniture pieces and accessories, Jona was able to achieve just the right *belle suite parentale française*—a beautiful French master bedroom suite—for her client.

A key piece in the master suite, a custom chaise lounge, is also one of Jona's favorite elements in the home. The client's young daughter had given Jona a line drawing she created, depicting a

The dining room is the epitome of elegance with its dark wood dining set, sumptuous draperies, ornate chandelier and gilded mirror.

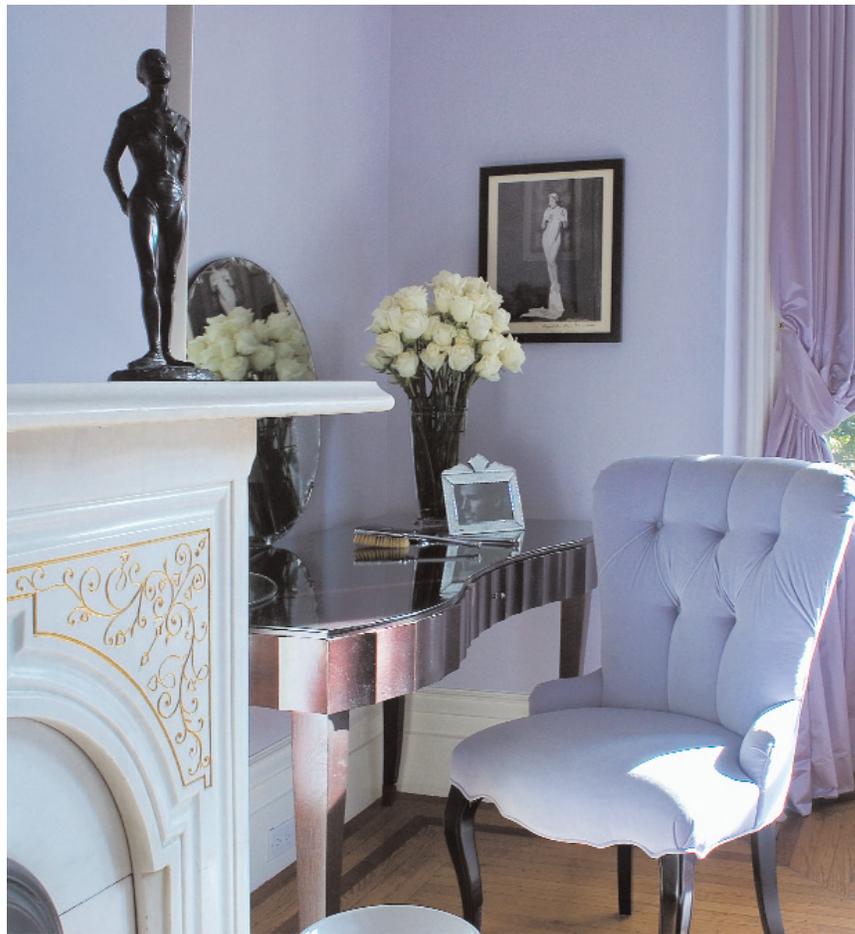




piece of furniture. The little girl's furniture concept became the luxurious tufted velvet slipper-style chair in the Jimmy Choo lilac color with a coordinating brooch-bedecked pillow, which no doubt left the young designer overjoyed. "I was thrilled to be able to present it to my client," Jona says. "It was a special detail in that space."

The daughter's bedroom was another favorite feature. "I love this little girl's room," Jona says. "The client wanted it to be reminiscent of a ballet slipper." To achieve the look, Jona set out to find gorgeous fabrics such as silk and velvet to create an elegant and comforting little girl's bedroom that also provided an ideal space to play and dream. She

Shades of lilac are a soft, soothing backdrop for the elegant and dramatic black and silver furniture in this bedroom.



The smoky lilac fabric of a Jimmy Choo shoe was the design inspiration for the master suite.

selected a darling toile for the white canopy bed, the "Bunny Business" design by Brunswick & Fils, and a soft pink velvet for her bedding that's accented with tufted buttons.

The bedroom's bay windows and the French Fauteuil chair near the fireplace are dressed with the same pale pink, while the walls are covered in the same toile pattern as seen on the canopy. The repetition of pink and toile tie the sweet "Bunny Business" theme together in the bedroom, while keeping with the French style of the rest of the interior. "I just wanted it to be a fun, creative place for a young girl to spend her time," Jona says.

Creating a personal retreat for her clients was an exciting and successful journey for Jona. "I selected items that are very complementary," she says. "Each space has that very subtle, luxurious feeling with a couple of dramatic focal points so the backdrop will have this very monochromatic soft-petal feel." Similar grown-up pastel colors, matched with billowy silk draperies, crown moldings and hardwood floors, make the interior design cohesive, as the elements flow from room to room, while each space is unique in its own way.



Jona describes the color scheme as “soft petal” — reminiscent of a rose garden and some of the homeowners’ favorite places in Paris.



This little girl's bedroom is the perfect place to play and dream. “The client wanted it to be reminiscent of a ballet slipper,” Jona says. The charming toile wallpaper adds a touch of elegance that will still be appropriate in the room as the child gets older.

For more information on Jona Collins, visit jonacollins.com.