

HOME

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Amy Lee's "Bits of Spring Performance Lounge" is an eye-popping celebration of 20th-century art and design infused with spring's fresh, saturated hues.

SHOW HOUSE for a NEW GENERATION

Kips Bay welcomes a new generation

...ness from the wall into the interior, where it is engraved, and look onto the adjacent wall. The pattern reappears in a metal-based design encircled on blue cashmere pillows and again in a copper-washed swirl of polished nickel as the base of a console table.

A pattern of a different sort was the jumping-off point for Gomez Associates. The white-on-white wallcovering of large, shimmering roses forms the backdrop to a space imagined "for someone like Avery Hepburn."

"We chose to treat this landing as a room," Brooke Gomez explains. "The idea is, just because you don't have a dining room doesn't mean you can't dine."

Dinner is served before a pair of French Louis XVI chairs, beneath a gold-tinted, hand-blown Italian glass chandelier, in a space defined by a pair of antique Moroccan mirrors. Adding to the romantic space are a pair of whimsical low sofas, which Gomez admits to being "obsessed with" for the last 20 years.

"I like pretty, girly things," she says, laughing. But here again, despite the space's "important" pieces and decidedly feminine point of view, it never becomes saccharine or stuck in time, as the screen outside behind artwork, white, lacquered bookcases that have a very '90s vibe.

SHINE ON

Lacquer, Venetian stucco, gold- or silver-pageted ceiling, moldings painted in high-gloss enamel, railrod trim and polished nickel furnishings make Kips Bay glimmer this year. Among the more intriguing uses of sparkle is found in one of two powder rooms designed by Gail Green.

With Cole Porter as inspiration, the room she's dubbed "Night and Day" (the other is "Day and Night"), has three walls of custom-designed, black marble tiles with tiny mirrors and crystals embedded in them.

"You should see how it looks at night" the bubbly designer says, before pointing out the fourth wall, where large, black Roman materials tumble down custom-designed white tiles and onto the floor.

"I love Cole Porter, and I just thought of the opening lines of Night and Day," Ms. Green says before launching into "Like the tick, tick tick of the stately clock as it stands against the wall..."

"I thought the Roman materials were a natural."

Through the inspiration is very ironic, the room is totally modern, with a shiny black Kohler bathtub toilet and a circular, black glass sink cabinet in place of a traditional vanity.

BLACK AND WHITE

Black and white also are the main choice in the dining room put together by Eric



The Jeffrey Design Group decorated "The Study" in a contemporary style, using shoukufu examples of mid-20th-century furniture.



"Handbags" look cigarette tables in Amy Lee's postmodern lounge have colorful seat and ottoman tabourets.



Among the outstanding features of the study is a Robinson cotter "Living Color," in the elegant and heavy fireplace surround with its bold band of chabreuse glass.

able luxury to walls of black Venetian plaster, where very '50s-contrastive blue, black-and-white flecked draperies hang at the windows, and black-and-white photographs are displayed before mirrors.

Of special interest here is Collier's frothy-wit: a main strategy to "make the space more intimate." To wit, he's enclosed the round, glass dining table within semi-transparent, eco-friendly screens suspended on airplane cable.

Several spaces offer nooks to so-called "green" design, but none more so than Vital Design's "A Little Something Room," a mini-tailorment of sorts, where the air is perfumed with the delicate scent of orchids and resonates with the sounds of global music.

Natural cork flooring, CFL lightbulbs and moisture-producing greenery add up to a very PC space. And a console table designed by James Murphy brings a little bit of Staten Island to Rand Street. Crafted in his Stapleton studio, the James Murphy Design Stone Console is handmade from North American rock marble and displays a bed of sea urchins gathered from the island's salt marshes beneath its glass top.

Of course, every show house has to have its over-the-top spaces and this one is no different, with three rooms standing in direct contrast to the simplicity of Vital Design's calming refuge -- yet

still very "livable."

David Barrett envisioned his "petting shed" as a room where the lady of the house would go to arrange flowers for the rest of the house, as well as entertain friends over



Furniture designer James Murphy created the Stone Console Table for Vital Design Ltd. In the Stapleton studio and filled it with stones collected from Staten Island's salt marshes.



The Ron Arad pink aluminum sculptural chair mimics Sam Lerner's photograph of super model Iga in Nathan Lyon Roberts' "The Study."



Victoria Imperial created her theatrical "In Dolor Vita" baby's crib as a tribute to the Statue of Liberty.

cocktails or tea. It's whimsical and charming, with fabrics in crisp springtime shades of pink, blue and green dancing on pristine white, and a riot of flowers in every color imaginable spilling from the pots and containers that are arranged on every surface.

For a bit of pure, jaw-dropping color, Jamie Drake channels Dorothy Draper in an unfamiliar tour de force he calls "Sweet Dreams." This bedroom suite for a fantasista is a sumptuous suite played in pink, fuchsia, coral and lilac, with furnishings and surfaces dressed in Drake's new fabric line, Jamie Drake for Schumacher.

"Raindrops," a delicate mauve moiré silk covers the walls; the bed is dressed in luxurious fuchsia net silk netting, with nailhead detailing. Adding to the pastel glow of the wallcovering is the high-gloss, lacquered rectangular painting on the fireplace wall. Drake has fun with the space, filling an ample walk-in closet with high-end shoes and handbags, as well as dresses and suits that repeat patterns and fabrics featured in the bedroom beyond. Just inspired.

The true piece de resistance, though, the room of

everyone will be talking about at Kips Bay this year, is first-timer Amy Lee's "Rites of Spring Penthouse Lounge."

In this eye-popping celebration of 20th-century art and design, clusters of porcelain flowers climb the walls, a hanging cabinet of warm, waltz ball status bottles of wine, and a pale yellow vintage sofa curves eccentrically before a pattern of waves washing over the wall to cool springtime blues and greens that are repeated on furnishings and accessories, from the Pop Art draperies to the chandeliers.

A mobile tumbler from beneath a skylight, and a light sculpture appears to be growing out of the ceiling in this room at the top of the stairs, where a wall of windows leads to a sun-drenched terrace.

You can't help but smile when you step into the penthouse, with its vibrant color, shapes, movement, sheets and textures.

For the moment, you forget where you are -- and when you remember, you wonder why it took so long to create this far.

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