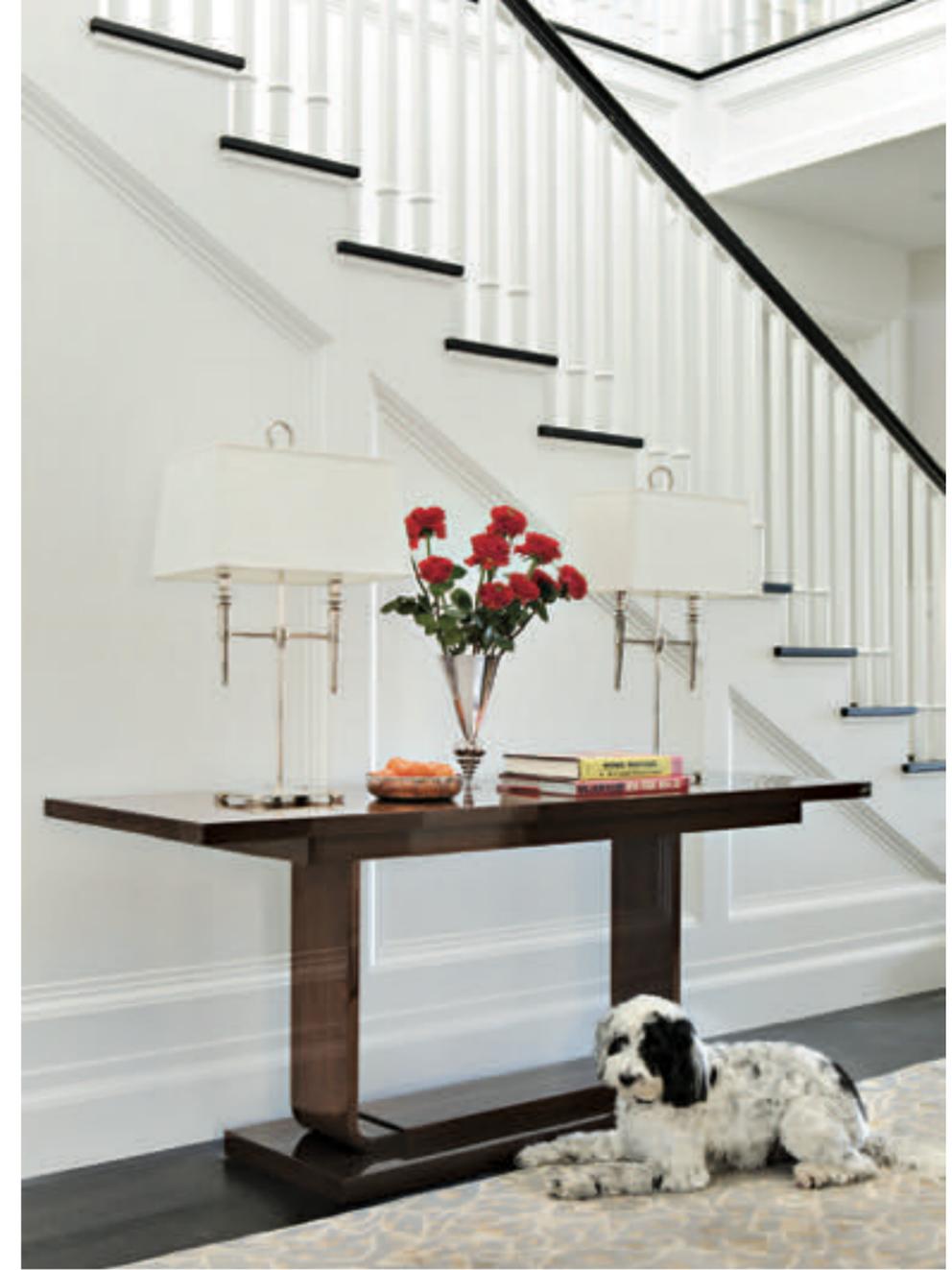


INTERIOR DESIGN / LISA PRICE, LISA PRICE INTERIORS
HOME BUILDER / ROBERT TASLIMI, TAZ CONSTRUCTION



TAKE TWO

THE KEY TO TRANSLATING A SANTA MONICA COMPOSER'S
AESTHETIC FROM HIS OLD HOME TO A NEW ONE IS
ACKNOWLEDGING HIS PERSONAL EVOLUTION.

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Designer Lisa Price dressed a pair of custom Deco-style armchairs in the living room of a Santa Monica home in Liaigre silk. Standing atop a Holly Hunt silk-wool rug, the chairs join a Liaigre sofa from Thomas Lavin in Lulu DK fabric from Duralee. The sofa, Price notes, sets a sophisticated tone for the house. Flanking a Pablo Picasso lithograph over the fireplace are Zia Priven sconces. Roman shades in Sahco fabric from Donghia keep window treatments simple.

French philosopher Henri Bergson famously said, “To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly.” The owner of this Santa Monica home knows that well. An award-winning composer, he decided to sell his previous house, allowing him the chance to create himself anew in a different residential setting. Rather than ditching everything and starting from scratch, however, the client viewed this evolution as an outgrowth of what had come before and decided most of his furnishings would accompany the move. He then called on designer Lisa Price, with whom he’d worked on his last abode, to help transition his collection into the new digs. “He’s very calm, mellow and easygoing and is usually in jeans,” Price observes of her client. “But he’s also very traditional with a sense of modern thrown in.”

The bones of the new abode telegraph the traditional facet of the client’s personality, as does extensive interior woodwork (box-beam ceilings, cornices, wainscoting and paneling) on which Price and builder Robert Taslimi collaborated. But steel-and-glass doors and windows throughout the home hint at the composer’s more contemporary predilections, adding a soupçon of industrial chic while opening up the interiors to almost function as a single unified space, suggesting a loft-like feel. “They keep the flow going so you can see from the front of the house to the back,” says the homeowner, “and it keeps the light moving through the residence.”

When it came to the interiors, the owner explains, “Even though I’m not a very formal person, now that my kids are older, I can actually enjoy nicer things and not worry about them taking a crayon to them. I’m also from New York, so there’s a little more formality in this house. It feels more like a Manhattan apartment.” In other words, this residence suggests a more “adult” vibe, which





In an upstairs hallway, a niche with a cushion upholstered in fabric from Donghia offers a cozy spot to sit as well as built-in storage. It centers around a signed John Lennon lithograph, one of many music-related artworks in the home.



Photos of notable musicians, including Janis Joplin, Bob Marley and Leonard Bernstein, preside over the stylish dining room. Beneath the collection is a Ralph Lauren Home bar in a rosewood veneer. Holly Hunt chairs pull up to the custom Macassar ebony dining table. Above is a Jean de Merry chandelier with custom silk shades; underfoot is a Holly Hunt rug.

Fabricated by The D Group and featuring Carter Hardware pulls, the curving cabinets create a yacht-like effect in the kitchen. A Franke sink from Nina's Kitchen, Bath, Hardware and Tile is accented by a Waterstone faucet. The custom windows are by Torrance Steel Window Co.; tile from Ann Sacks graces the floor.



manifests in many pieces that recall the sophistication of French Art Deco and, what Price calls, “jewels”—a Liaigre sofa she placed in the living room and a Donghia crocodile-patterned cabinet for the family room, as well as custom pieces, such as a pair of Deco-inspired lounge chairs also in the living room and a Macassar ebony table in the dining room. “The first piece we bought for the other house was an Art Deco desk for his office,” recalls Price of her and her client’s first go-round. “When we built the last house, he appeared so casual and all his art was packed away so I had no idea he had such formal taste. The desk was the first indication that he wanted a more refined interior.” New to this project, she notes, were organic rugs that play to the owner’s casual side, balancing the formality with unpretentiousness. These vary from a pattern of stripes in the living room and a linked key weave in the family room, to Moroccan rugs in the office and his daughter’s room and a hand-knotted Indian rug in the master bedroom.

While the house brings together a diverse assortment of decorative genres—traditional woodwork, tribal rugs, contemporary and Deco furniture silhouettes, and industrial black-steel frames for the doors and windows—“My job is making sure it all blends,” says Price. Indeed, despite the disparate inspirations at work, calmness and consistency suffuse the entire composition. “I make sure I carry elements throughout the house so rooms talk to one another,” explains Price. “I don’t jump around.” Every room boasts a similar stylistic mix, though one space might lean more exotic, as in the daughter’s room, while another might lean more clean-lined modern, as in the dining room.

Uniting the mix is a soothing, primarily gray-and-white palette, warmed with rich woods and given a dose of sophistication with polished metal surfaces. “The homeowner wanted to keep what he had to achieve the feel of the old house,” Price says. “But seven years later, color preferences had changed. Back then, we were

The kitchen island boasts a leather-finish Black Absolute Zimbabwe granite top from Tristone & Tile; hovering above are Ralph Lauren Home pendants from Visual Comfort & Co. On the backsplash is honed Statuary marble from Mission Tile West; the perimeter countertops and wall behind the Wolf range are in a Calacatta marble from Southland Stone USA. In the foreground, the midcentury table is encircled by Janus et Cie chairs.

Perennials fabric from David Sutherland covers the sofa in the sun room off the master suite. Ralph Lauren Home rattan chairs with cushions in a fabric from David Sutherland provide a casual counterpoint to the faux-shagreen coffee table from HD Buttercup, which also supplied the carpet, table lamp and floor lamp. The Roman shades are in Rubelli fabric from Donghia.



working with earth tones, so we made it cooler this time with grays and whites.” That meant walls were painted in smoky shades with white wainscoting, and some spaces, such as the kitchen and master bathroom, gleam with glossy white surfaces.

As befitting the home of a composer, the owner’s love of music appears most literally in instruments that show up in many rooms. It also takes shape in a substantial collection of musician-focused photography: Elliott Landy’s concert photo of Bob Dylan in the family room and a grouping of rock luminaries in the dining room including Janis Joplin, Robert Plant, Keith Richards, Mick Jagger and Bob Marley, as well as Henri Cartier-Bresson’s photo of Leonard Bernstein. However, the art collection isn’t limited to just musicians. A photo by Ansel Adams makes an appearance at the foot of the stairs and lithographs by Pablo Picasso and Robert Motherwell hang in the living room while an Andy Warhol print and other works adorn spaces throughout the home.

Of course, as surely as the client will continue to grow and change, the interiors of this house will also evolve to reflect his process. It is not unlike a series of movements in a composition whose grand finale is yet to be composed. ■



Above: The powder room is clad in Nero Marquina marble tile on the walls and a Beau Monde mosaic design on the floor—both from Ann Sacks. A Kallista sink with California Faucets fixtures from Carter Hardware sits in a custom vanity below a Barclay Butera mirror from Mirror Image Home and a pair of Jonathan Browning Studios pendants from David Sutherland. On the walls, above the marble tile, is a Phillip Jeffries grass cloth from Holly Hunt.

Left: In the master suite, a custom bed and bedside tables rest on an Indian rug from Marc Phillips. At the foot of the bed is a bench from Plantation. A mid-20th-century desk from Dragonette and a Holly Hunt desk chair are grounded with a lambskin from Aga John Oriental Rugs. Price used Benjamin Moore's Silver Satin on the walls.



Above: A pair of Janus et Cie lounge chairs, with pillows in a Holly Hunt fabric, face out from under the shaded front porch toward the garden, which was designed by Agua Landscape. Price calls the exterior look "a fusion of Hamptons meadow and Los Angeles beach." Lighting the space is a lantern from Foundry.

Left: Gathered around a welcoming fire pit, a sofa and lounge chairs from David Sutherland make up the poolside seating area; the lantern is by Ralph Lauren Home. Adjacent is a dining area with a pedestal table and adjustable chairs from Summit.