



TIMELESS APPEAL

A 1914 RESIDENCE IN SAN FRANCISCO IS MADE CURRENT WITH AN ARTFUL MIX OF BOLD COLORS, FAMILY HEIRLOOMS AND WHIMSICAL TOUCHES.

WRITTEN BY JENNIE NUNN PHOTOGRAPHY BY MATTHEW MILLMAN

INTERIOR DESIGN Dara Rosenfeld, Dara Rosenfeld Design

HOME BUILDER Justine Sears, Moroso Construction

BEDROOMS 4 | BATHROOMS 4 | SQUARE FEET 3,450



Designer Dara Rosenfeld appointed the entry of a San Francisco house with a Todd Hase Antoinette pouf. *Opposite top:* Milo Baughman chairs are covered with a Holland & Sherry velvet in the living room. *Opposite bottom:* A custom argyle stair runner from Mark Nelson Designs offers an unexpected touch.



When San Francisco-based designer Dara Rosenfeld was hired to transform a residence in the city's Cow Hollow neighborhood into a sophisticated Parisian-inspired dwelling for a couple and their two children, it wasn't exactly a random coincidence. "I had designed their second home in Hawaii," says Rosenfeld, who studied art history at Boston University and spent time at Christie's, Peter Marino Architect and The Wiseman Group before launching her own firm in 2007. "Usually it's the other way around: You design a first home and then do the vacation home, but we just hit it off. They called me right away when they bought this house and said, 'Come help!'"

Though designed in 1914 by architect Albert L. Farr, the distinguished house wasn't without a set of design challenges. "The whole place was so dated," says Rosenfeld of interiors marked by dusty rose-hued carpet, ballerina-pink wallpaper and lots of chintz. "I wanted to come in with a fresh vision and make it modern for today." She found inspiration in the couple's



In the dining room, a silk wallcovering by Fromental, purchased through Sloan Miyasato, serves as a dramatic backdrop. The owners' French dining table and chairs stand beneath a chandelier by Hélène Aumont from Johanna Spilman. The shagreen console is by Ironies.



Designed in 1914 by architect Albert L. Farr, the Cow Hollow home boasts a backyard complete with walkways that meander between mature trees and flowering plants. A terrace offers a place for casual alfresco dining.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 135

pendant for Paris and built an orange-and-charcoal gray palette around a vintage Hermès box and an Hermès blanket the wife had. “The husband is more of a traditionalist,” says Rosenfeld, noting the English and French antiques he had inherited. “And the wife is more modern. The idea was to combine those styles and make the space feel timeless.”

Rosenfeld started things off by creating a glamorous yet inviting setting reminiscent of an elegant hotel lobby for the entry, which she appointed with the client’s antique French chest of drawers and an upholstered pouf by Todd Hase. It was also important to the couple that the interiors incorporate unexpected elements to keep it from feeling too serious. An adjacent staircase lined with a custom orange-and-gray argyle carpet accomplishes all of those goals. “I wanted something that one wouldn’t usually see on stairs,” adds the wife.

The owners worked with designer Beth Daecher of BD Home Design + Interiors on the kitchen, which features Christopher Peacock cabinetry and a backsplash made with tiles the couple found at a Paris flea market. Moroso Construction handled the construction.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 139

In the adjacent dining room, the mix of old and new continues with a chandelier by Hélène Aumont suspended above a French provincial dining table. Rosenfeld wrapped the room with a hand-embroidered and hand-painted singerie wallcovering. “We wanted it to be fun,” says Rosenfeld of the silk Fromental design depicting day-to-day life in a monkey village. “It’s also beautiful, and the workmanship is exquisite.” Likewise, in the living room, Rosenfeld paired velvet-covered Milo Baughman chairs with a vintage Lucite table and the owner’s antique armchairs and table. “It’s always a delicate balance to mix old and new,” the designer says. “In this room, all of the seating pieces have soft curves, and the house’s color palette unifies the look.”

Upstairs in the master bedroom, the designer placed a sinuous Corbin Bronze bench at the foot of a four-poster canopy bed, where she hung a 19th-century Portuguese embroidered coverlet. “It adds texture, pattern and visual interest to the clean-lined bed,” says Rosenfeld. “And it’s so beautiful to see as you walk into the room.” In the adjoining master bathroom, Rosenfeld

Bold orange Venetian plaster walls, by decorative painter Philippe Grandvoinet, define the study. Roman shades made with fabric from Claremont play off the bright hue as does the Casamance textile covering two tufted armchairs.



A leather pillow by Lance Wovens from Cavalier by Jay Jeffers rests on a sofa from Restoration Hardware in the study. The clients had the portraits and English coffee table, and the rug is custom-colored through Mark Nelson Designs.



For the serene master bedroom, Rosenfeld flanked a four-poster canopy bed by Thos. Moser with Lucite lamps from Epoca and then dressed it with shams made from a Holland & Sherry embroidered wool and a coverlet made with Etro fabric. The hanging textile is from Kathleen Taylor-The Lotus Collection.



In the master bathroom, Rosenfeld hung a pair of midcentury nickel-and-crystal pendants from Paul Marra above a custom vanity appointed with Kallista sinks. The bath accessories and towels are by Waterworks.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 140

redesigned and updated the space in a soothing gray palette. Builder Justine Sears carried out the renovation, which included adding a floor made with Waterworks mosaic tile highlighted with custom quatrefoil designs.

Perhaps the best illustration of the house's updated sensibility is in the study, where Rosenfeld placed a leather Chesterfield sofa against bright orange Venetian plaster walls finished by decorative painter Philippe Grandvoinet. "You feel like you're in an Hermès box," says Rosenfeld, who picked up the hue again in the fabric covering two armchairs and the Roman shades. "It also complements the Golden Gate Bridge, which you see from the window."

She may have started with a collection of traditional furnishings, but Rosenfeld ended up with a design that feels current and inviting. "Although there are beautiful antiques throughout, it doesn't feel pretentious," she says, noting her clients' willingness to try bolder elements—such as the argyle rug and orange study. "As a designer, it's fun to work with daring clients. It makes you think out of the box because they're looking to you to show them something unexpected. I welcome the challenge." **L**

A calming gray palette marks the master bathroom, where the tub is crowned with Carrara marble and wrapped with custom millwork. The faucet is from Lefroy Brooks, and a custom quatrefoil pattern highlights the mosaic floor by Waterworks.