

LIVABLE Written by RACHEL GALLAHER Hadremunical IntROGER BROOKS



INTERIOR DESIGNER

Patricia Gray

FILLS A VANCOUVER, B.C., HOME WITH PERSONALIZED SPACES FOR EACH MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

or working professionals with children, free time can be hard to find. So when a busy Vancouver, B.C., couple wanted to decorate their new home, they turned to interior designer Patricia Gray to help create livable spaces with an elegant flair.

The husband is a physician and the wife is a lawyer, and they have two young daughters," Gray says. "They have a large family and entertain a lot, so it was very important that I make the house friendly for their daughters and easy for the wife as far as entertaining goes."

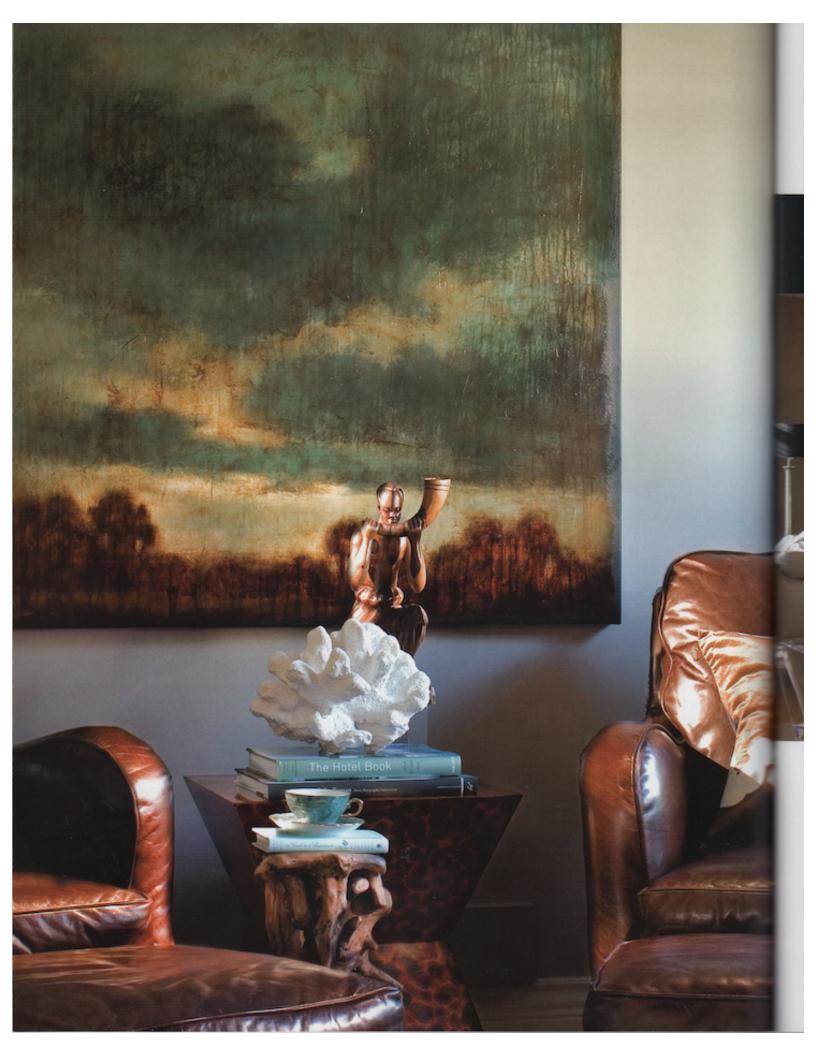
For entertaining, the wife wanted a glamorous look in public areas. In the living room, where the couple often hosts cocktail parties. Gray opted for light-colored custom furnishings to contrast with dark wood accents. Sumptuous dark-brown silk taffeta drapery serves as the perfect backdrop for any gettogether. The sofa and chairs in the living room are also custom designs by Gray and finished in off-white velour. Rather than anchoring the room with a typical coffee table, the designer chose to use two smaller tables so that they could be moved around easily to accommodate entertaining.

Adjacent to the living room is the formal dining area, where white-leather chairs with nailhead detailing and a large, dark wood dining table reflect the color palette in the adjoining room. To enlarge the generous look of the dining area, Gray added a large mirror, which reflects the gorgeous Giogali light fixture made from hand-blown Murano glass by Vistosi, a true standout piece.

"The living room and dining room are like the little black dress," Gray says, "and that chandelier is the perfect piece of jewelry to set it off."







A yellow-and-green abstract painting hangs above a sofa in the living room, where a Jonathan Adler ceramic bowl sits on the custom ottoman. OPPOSITE: Personal pieces, such as a gold statue and crisp white coral, pump character into the library.





If the wife received her glamour in the living room, the husband got a dose of masculinity in his library. Gray said he wanted his own space as well-a place where he could relax with a book or escape with his friends while his wife chatted with hers. French doors from the living room lead into the space where a large bookcase lines one wall, and two brown-leather chairs provide comfortable, rustic seating. A landscape painting by Canadian artist David Edwards catches the brown color palette in the room, while infusing the space with calm blue tones.

In a second, less-formal living room and dining area, the focus was the family. Relaxed sofas flank a custom Patricia Gray Inc., faux-ostrich ottoman that was made large enough for the girls to spread out art projects. A TV above the fireplace allows for movie nights, and family photos adorn the walls. In the dining nook, Philippe Starck Ghost chairs and a glass-topped table sit under a whimsical Ingo Maurer lamp with attached paper that allows family members to leave notes and drawings when inspiration strikes.

The true retreat is the aqua-accented master suite, which feels like a breath of fresh air. Luxurious white-velvet curtains and sky-blue paint help achieve the "fresh, light" look requested by the wife. Pops of aqua blue add visual depth, and a reclaimed vintage Louis chair was upholstered in white leather and painted silver for an updated feminine flair.

"This was such a fun project for me," Gray says. "The most important thing is that people are comfortable and happy in their homes. If their spaces are designed for them, then their life becomes more fulfilled."



