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OUTSIDE THE BOX

MANHATTAN DRAMA ENLIVENS A NEW CONNECTICUT COLONIAL

MY CLIENTS KNEW THEY WANTED to furnish their home with pieces that told a story and were distinctive. Through a combination of their interests and my knowledge, their sense of connoisseurship developed along with their passion for the decorative arts. The luxurious silk rugs, as well as many of the upholstered pieces of furniture, were designed especially for the house. The luxurious wall coverings and the unusual ceiling treatments convey the “wow factor” that my clients desired. When all of these elements are carefully layered together, they create a truly dramatic effect.



BY DAVID SCOTT | PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANTOINE BOOTZ

EXCERPTED FROM *OUTSIDE THE BOX* (POINTED LEAF PRESS, 2012)

Case Study (RIGHT) “In most residences, I like to design a dark, atmospheric room,” said David of the study, which is located just off the living room. The burnished gold-tortoise wall covering from F. Schumacher & Co., the custom-made cowhide rug by Kyle Bunting at Holly Hunt, and the Osborne & Little grey chenille-covered sofa, with leather piping in the style of Jean-Michel Frank, lend the room its masculine look. The Bergamo wool draperies are the same color as the walls. In this room, the red accent is provided by the 1960s lacquered goatskin coffee table by Aldo Tura from Duane Antiques in New York. *Gypsy Red*, a 2011 painting by Tokyo-born artist Kikuo Saito, is a lively addition. See *Resources*.





Grand Entrance (ABOVE) The front door opens onto a double ceiling-height entrance foyer. To balance the formality of the space, David chose Sisal, a grasscloth wall covering from Stark Fabric in a rich Prussian blue, contrasting it with the crisp white-painted door frames, wainscoting and moldings. He commissioned Carolina Sardi, a Miami-based Argentinean artist, to create the enameled steel installation that hangs over the fireplace. *See Resources.*

Rock Star (TOP, LEFT) The covered terrace at the back of the house has a view of a large rock that was on the property. The teak outdoor seating is all from Kingsley Bate. The teak-topped square table is from Holly Hunt; the polished concrete table was made by Bradley Hughes. *See Resources.*

Floor Show (LEFT) In the foyer, a round, custom-made silk carpet by Carini Lang echoes the grain of the antique cherry tabletop of an early nineteenth-century Biedermeier center table from Ritter Antik in New York. *See Resources.*



My favorite clients are the ones that engage me in everything from the very beginning. I do my best work when I can be involved with the entirety of the project. This was the case when a couple—he is a builder and developer, and she is in the fashion business—and their two daughters decided to leave Manhattan and move to a newly built 10,000-square-foot Georgian Colonial house in Greenwich. Both of the clients have strong personalities and wanted the feeling of a glamorous New York townhouse, but were not sure how this would translate in the suburbs. As much as it was a learning process for

them, it was invigorating and wonderful to work with such energetic people, who were thrilled about the process. It made the collaboration that much more rewarding. Even though they didn't know what they wanted specifically, they were willing to take risks and were interested in making strong statements. They wanted the interiors to be sensational and trusted me implicitly—understanding the costs involved, what was available in the marketplace, and the craftsmanship of the pieces I was showing them. We were on an exciting journey together.



Dine in Style (ABOVE) *Reds and Blacks*, March 26, 2008, a print by contemporary American artist Donald Sultan, offers a vibrant counterpoint to the neutral-hued dining room. The grass-cloth wall covering is by Phillip Jeffries. The 1970s sculptural floor lamp, with its three illuminated leaves, is by the Italian artist Tommaso Barbi, and came from Lobel Modern, in New York. The polished chrome starburst chandelier is from MSK Illuminations, also in New York. The draperies were custom-made in a Calvin Klein silk from Kravet. See Resources.



Beautiful Curves (LEFT) David decided to choose a series of sensuous curved shapes to offset the classic straight lines of the living room fireplace. A pair of 1950s armchairs by the Italian designer Marco Zanuso, covered in a chocolate brown velvet, which came from Bernd Goeckler Antiques in New York, have been placed across from a curved, tufted sofa upholstered in a velvet from Romo. *The Muse*, a 2008 mixed-media painting by James Kennedy, a young contemporary artist, hangs above the fireplace. A Murano glass knot and a gilded bronze leaf dish, both from Mecox Gardens, and an amber glass vase, from H.B. Home, are arranged on an oval 1940s Hungarian Art Deco cocktail table from Szalon Antiques in Los Angeles. The Tibetan wool-and-silk rug was custom-made by Stark Carpet. See Resources.

Master Plan To express both the clients' and the designer's shared love of Italy, David selected a fabric from Fortuny for the two-tone draperies in the master bedroom. The same pattern was continued as a stenciled frieze, painted by Dean Barger, along the wall. David designed the wood-and-leather custom-made headboard. The cut velvet is from Clarence House, as is the leopard print fabric on the long pillow. All of the linens were custom-made by Casa del Bianco in New York. See *Resources*.

