Before & After: REVIVING A SPANISH COLONIAL

TRADITIONAL HOME

Kitchen Crush
BLUE & WHITE DONE RIGHT!

PRIME SEATS
CHAIRS THAT MAKE THE ROOM

MODERN LOVE
DECORATING IDEAS FROM OUR PALM SPRINGS SHOWHOUSE
Spring is a time to pause and focus on nature’s subtleties: tender crocuses, budding branches, temperate breezes that coax us into deep inhales and cathartic exhalations. The season of verdant rebirth is just as compelling within the home, where the transformative powers of a thoughtful remodel spark a similar awe and the power of decorating can be equally cathartic.

As you leaf through these pages and learn from each home’s story, pause to appreciate the subtle moments in addition to the grand strokes. Measure for measure, they’re equally compelling and speak to the owners’ sensibilities, the locale, the history, and the talent of the designers. You’ll discover upholstery and walls covered in sumptuous suede, window sheers that rustle with a whisper, paint colors as veiled as nearby ocean mist, and finishes charmingly patinated over time. Some ideas wink at glamour, including sublime celadon silks and shimmering crystal balusters on an elegantly sweeping staircase. There’s a bathroom proclaimed by its designer to have been “dipped in marble” and another featuring a freestanding tub that gleams as it reflects city lights from its high-rise view.

The sumptuousness within the moody nature of spring—lamb or lion, right?—appears in a few moody spaces in this issue. A slate gray library and a dining room with gray suede walls evoke the drama of a spring thunderstorm. Another library wrapped in warm wood paneling offers all the coziness of a bird’s nest. It’s a fair comparison considering the home is a triplex perched over Central Park that boasts better-than-bird’s-eye views. Sumptuousness emanates from antiques and warm brass, patinated finishes, and an antique canvas covering a ceiling.

Subtleties also can be found in a thoughtful remodeling. In “Make Good,” page 80, the owners preserved much of the original 1923 Spanish Colonial character and focused instead on pulling in the decor and details that shape the home’s rebirth from the inside. Like appreciating a slow bloom, these homeowners acquire pieces they find beautiful. And they trust that over time, the home will continue to flourish.

A masterfully designed home is compelling at every turn. Use this season to notice—and create—those moments.

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