

retreat HOME



The Jewel Box

A PACIFIC HEIGHTS TOWNHOUSE IS TRANSFORMED INTO A LUXE AND CONTEMPORARY MASTERPIECE.

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHY
PHOTOGRAPHED BY HELYNN OSPINA



THE PROJECT

Falling in love with a historic Edwardian townhouse is easy. Bringing it into the 21st century is a different story—and challenge. Which is where a local pathologist found herself. She fell hard for the 1,200-square-foot Edwardian in Pacific Heights and adored its overall architectural feel. But she wanted the entire home to be updated with a feminine and luxurious vibe. The kitchen was dated, as were all the light fixtures, paint colors and many of the materials. In short, the home required a significant face-lift to perfectly blend old and new.

THE TEAM

Kress Jack at Home (kressjackathome.com) was selected to transform nearly every inch of the house, including a kitchen renovation, selecting custom paint finishes and furnishing all spaces. “Our aesthetic is eclectic with a love for color and vintage touches,” says Kress Jack. “Our relationship with our clients is very important. Because this is such a personal process, we always want to make sure we can communicate respectfully and productively from the beginning. Many of our clients find us through referrals, so we have a good sense of who they are, and they have a good sense of who we are.”

THE GOALS

“Our client wanted to make this home her sanctuary,” says Jack. “She works hard and wants to have a place to come home and relax in an environment that’s serene with glamorous touches. She also likes to entertain and wants a comfortable and functional space for friends.”

Jack also notes that one of the biggest challenges she and her team faced was the narrow stairwell leading from the front

The hue of the living room is a dusty rose, offering a calm and luxe palette. Opposite page: The dining room features a table and chairs from Redford House, along with jewel tones.



door. Which meant that all of the furniture had to be scaled accordingly. “Luckily, with this client, we were on the same page aesthetically, and she encouraged us to have fun with color and pattern to create a seductive home.”

LIVING ROOM AND DEN

The homeowner wanted her living room to be more formal, a space for friends to convene for cocktails and to showcase her collection of books and memorabilia. “We encased the room in a gorgeous dusty rose to create a calm and luxurious palette,” says Jack, whose team crafted custom sofas and selected a vintage coffee table.

A Turkish rug from SummerHouse (summerhousemillvalley.com) serves as the room’s colorful foundation, along with paintings from Denise Carletta (denisecarletta.com) and Sheryl Daane Chesnut (sheryldaane.com) via Simon Breitbard Gallery (sbfinearts.com). A cozy den, which holds a Nathan Anthony (nafurniture.com) sofa, Made Goods (madegoods.com) coffee table and Oly (olystudio.com) mirror, offers another sanctuary for relaxing after a long day.

The so-called fainting room, a Victorian-era space typically on the first floor, is where Jack says she and her team truly let their imaginations run wild. “The only requirement was a bed large

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—DESIGNER KRESS JACK



Designer Kress Jack layered in lots of patterns and textures into the bedrooms. Opposite page: A Nathan Anthony coffee table and Oly mirror accent the home’s cozy den.



enough for a guest, but mostly this room would be a reading nook and afternoon nap area," says Jack. "The black chinoiserie on the walls by artist Caroline Lizarraga (carolinelizarraga.com) set the tone of whimsy and fantasy, and the pink

velvet daybed by Kress Jack at Home beckons you in for an afternoon's indulgence." Vintage lighting and a plaster eye mirror from Los Angeles boutique Salvare (salvaregoods.com) add to the allure of the room.



The Kress Jack team painted the original cabinets to add drama to the kitchen.

DINING ROOM

“As this room is a pass-through to several spaces, a round table was key, and the jewel tones in the paint colors and wallpaper created the drama,” says Jack. The team opted for a table and

chairs from Redford House (redfordhouse.com), sconces by CB2 (cb2.com), a custom rug by Art Hide (arthide.co), wallpaper behind the bar by Abnormal Anonymous (abnormalanonymous.com) and an abstract painting by Monika Steiner (monikasteiner.com) from Simon Breitbard Gallery.

KITCHEN

Since the homeowner didn’t want to move the main cabinets, Jack and her team painted the originals and added a large custom hutch for a bit of drama. The also used black—in the form of a custom cowhide banquette and the new floor-to-ceiling cabinet—which played nicely off the Kelly Wearstler (kellywearstler.com) tile and pendants above the island.

“We added a dark gray chevron floor tile for some interest and texture,” says Jack. “The painting hanging above the banquette, by local artist Denise Carletta, is hauntingly beautiful, especially as the sun comes in late afternoon.” Other standout pieces include Circa Lighting (circalighting.com) sconces, Kelly Wearstler pendants, a Made Goods table, Interlude (interludehome.com) stools and a custom banquette by Kress Jack at Home.

PRIMARY SUITE

The ceilings are particularly high, which can result in square footage that feels empty. Jack combatted this by adding texture and color, especially a custom wall finish by artist Caroline Lizarraga. Whimsy was added with a custom bubble light fixture, and touches of gold leaf provided a little glam. “The butterfly canvas was a much-needed pop on the otherwise jewel-toned room,” says Jack, who layered in an antique bed, rug by CB2, vintage wall art and a bedside table from Summer House. CONTINUED...

A custom cowhide banquette offers exceptional views of the city.



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HOW THE HOME IS LIVING

"Our client is thrilled, and the space reflects who she is," says Jack, who also notes that her client's boyfriend adores the home and its allure. "The jewel tones throughout the house create a cohesiveness and allow a romantic palette." ■

DESIGN DETAILS

HOME TYPE

Townhome

LOCATION

Pacific Heights

DESIGNER

Kress Jack at Home
kressjackathome.com

RESOURCES

Abnormal Anonymous

Wallpaper, dining room
abnormalanonymous.com

Allied Maker

Sconces and pendants
alliedmaker.com

Art Hide

Rug, dining room
arthide.co

Article

Bar stools, kitchen
article.com

Caroline Lizarraga

Art, fainting room
carolinelizarraga.com

CB2

Sconces, dining room
cb2.com

Denise Carletta

Art, living room
deniseacarletta.com

Interlude

Stools, kitchen
interludehome.com

Kelly Wearstler

Tile and pendants, kitchen
kellywearstler.com

Made Goods

Coffee table, den
madegoods.com

Monika Steiner

Art, dining room
monikasteiner.com

Nathan Anthony

Sofa, den
nafurniture.com

Oly

Mirror, den
olystudio.com

Redford House

Table and chairs,
dining room
redfordhouse.com

Sheryl Daane Chesnut

Art, living room
sheryldaane.com

SummerHouse

Rug, living room
summerhousemillvalley.com