



THE RIGHT MIX

AGAINST A STATELY BACKDROP, A SEATTLE HOME'S INTERIORS COMBINE ACCENTS OF BOLD COLOR WITH A LIVELY ASSORTMENT OF ANTIQUE, VINTAGE AND CONTEMPORARY FURNISHINGS.

WRITTEN BY TERRI SAPIENZA / PHOTOGRAPHY BY AARON LEITZ





Interior designer Jessica Joers and her partner Bradley Huson grounded the living room of a Seattle home, renovated by architect Paul Moon, with a carpet from Stark and draperies fashioned from a Pindler silk. The walls are painted with Benjamin Moore's Amherst Gray. Kravet leather covers the ottomans between a pair of club chairs in a Larsen wool. The piano is by Steinway & Sons.

After living for a time in their newly renovated Seattle digs without furniture, designer Jessica Joers' clients turned to her for help settling in. "I walked into this blank traditional space, which I loved," says Joers, "but I wanted to make it more transitional for a young, stylish family." The house, situated in a historic neighborhood, had recently been remodeled by architect Paul Moon, and what it may have lacked in furnishings, it certainly made up for with a beautiful new interior backdrop.

Before the renovation, the house was in dire need of updating, says Moon, a longtime friend of the homeowners. "It had a very 1980s feel and dated detailing," he says. "The exterior property and French-style façade were stately, but the interior was plain by comparison, so there was a disconnect." Moon gutted the interiors, bumping out the back of the house. This made more room for the kitchen, aligning it with the foyer and the dining room and bringing in more natural light. He then added architectural detailing to elevate the interiors and visually unify the inside and outside. Formal paneling, tray and coffered ceilings, hefty crown molding, and wainscoting were installed throughout and painted a crisp white. Moon underscored the classic approach by pairing the white walls with dark-stained oak flooring, the contrast calling further attention to the detailed millwork. He opted for natural materials and a white and gray color scheme to establish a clean canvas for the décor. "If you introduce too many loud colors, the architecture ends up speaking loudly and diluting the furnishings," he says. "Our idea was to create a formal, neutral background to allow the furnishings and accents to pop."

For Joers, who worked on the project with her design partner, Bradley Huson, "the palette was our jumping-off point," she says. "We loved the gray walls and white trim."

Grass-cloth wallcovering from Phillip Jeffries serves as the backdrop in the dining room. The antique English dining table and buffet mingle with contemporary pieces, such as a chandelier from Porta Romana. The vintage dining chairs sport Kravet leather. The sconce is from Circa Lighting.



To fill the home with furnishings that reflected the lifestyle of her clients—a couple with children and a dog—Joers combined vibrant accent colors with pieces from different centuries and styles as well as myriad textures to render rooms that feel collected and polished without being fussy. “Our goal was to make the house beautiful yet functional for a growing family, so we counterbalanced the traditional architecture with a mix of antiques, and midcentury and contemporary pieces,” Joers says. “The result is chic while also being very comfortable and user-friendly.”

The careful play between the traditional architecture and the designer’s concept for the interiors begins in the entry. Although the previous space was dark with little

ornamentation, the revamped two-story iteration is grand and welcoming. It’s also flooded with natural light, thanks to the addition of side windows that let in sun from all directions. Joers treated the space as her canvas, placing a pair of petite consoles—their gilt neoclassical profiles modernized with smoked acrylic tops—opposite each other. Midcentury mirrors hang above them, acting almost as a second set of windows reflecting light, while a simple wood Queen Anne side chair quietly rounds out the room. Chinese vases, in an eye-catching canary yellow, infuse the space with color and energy. “The gray-and-white backdrop was the perfect foil for the yellow,” Joers says of the vibrant lemon, citron, bronze and gold hues she

In the family room, a cozy Stark shag carpet runs underfoot. The curvy sectional wears a Romo mohair, and the lounge chairs are dressed in a Glant fabric; a Circa Lighting pendant hangs above. A Schumacher floor lamp offers more illumination, while vintage artwork and a coffee table complete the vignette.



To match the elegant lines of the home, which is nestled on a tree-laden lot in a historic Seattle neighborhood, Moon made significant changes to the interior. The exterior French doors and wood-clad windows are from Sierra Pacific Windows.



Opposite: The banquette, in Pindler mohair, makes for a casual dining area in the kitchen. A series of botanical prints and Queen Anne-style chairs bestow more antique touches. Artistica counter stools pull up to the nearby island lit by pendants from Circa Lighting.

Below: Marble from Meta Marble & Granite faces the countertops and backsplash. A Waterstone Faucets plumbing fixture accents the Shaws of Darwen sink. The island cabinetry is by Northwest Custom Interiors; the range is Wolf.

“WE BALANCED THE TRADITIONAL ARCHITECTURE WITH A MIX OF ANTIQUES, AND MIDCENTURY AND CONTEMPORARY PIECES.”

—JESSICA JOERS



An Ambrose Patterson print above the fireplace overlooks the master suite, which Joers designed as a cloud-like retreat. The draperies and Louis XVI-style armchairs are in Pindler fabrics. A Romo wool garbs the Regal Furniture ottoman.

used throughout the house. “We are in Seattle; we have gray, cloudy days. Touches of yellow really brighten things up. We were looking for color here, not trying to be subtle.”

The living room, with its high ceilings, crisp moldings and paneled fireplace, called for a more formal turn: a 19th-century Japanese six-panel screen. “We love using screens because they’re elegant and have a timeless, enduring quality,” says Joers. “The wave design adds movement, and the paint has a shimmering effect. We installed lighting over each panel, and the paper just glows.” The antique screen is right at home with neoclassical chairs and a piano, which the designer balanced with the addition of a Milo Baughman sectional dressed in mohair and a pair of Edward Wormley club chairs flanking the fireplace. A petrified-wood side table “adds an earthy quality, which keeps it from being too precious,” explains Joers. The quatrefoil-pattern rug and marbled dove-gray leather on the chairs were carried into adjacent rooms for visual continuity.

The lively yellows in the main living spaces were traded for delicate shades upstairs in the master bedroom, where the statement is understated and serene. A bed upholstered in wool sits opposite the fireplace. Near it stand oversized Louis XVI-style chairs, yielding a comfortable spot for the family to gather together and read. “It’s the mix that makes the house beautiful, functional and fresh,” says Joers. “You need that balance to be successful.” ■