

CALIFORNIA HOMES

THE MAGAZINE OF ARCHITECTURE
THE ARTS & DISTINCTIVE DESIGN

OUTDOOR LIVING

MARIN COUNTY
PACIFIC PALISADES
PASADENA
SUNSET BEACH

2018
+ *Kitchen
Design*

In the living room a bronze mesh fireplace screen dresses up the stone mantle. A pair of woven hassocks placed in front allows for casual seating on cool nights.

OPPOSITE The charming cottage is located in bucolic San Anselmo and provides the homeowners a tranquil get away from their busy corporate lives.



MARIN RETREAT

DESIGNER ANN LOWENGART CREATES
A TRANQUIL AMBIANCE

TEXT BY KENDRA BOUTELL | PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID DUNCAN LIVINGSTON

FOR A 1930'S BUNGALOW IN SAN ANSELMO, interior designer Ann Lowengart created a tranquil ambiance with a sand and sea color palette. The subtle hues remind her client, a San Francisco native, of childhood summers spent at Stinson Beach. With busy careers as housewares executives, she and her husband needed a casually elegant retreat for weekends and holidays. Marin County-based Ann Lowengart Interiors, founded in 2000, was the perfect firm for the project.

Details like this make her happy client smile, "Annie listens to your ideas on style and them makes them better."

Starting with a blank slate, Lowengart set the tone in the entry with a hand block printed wallpaper from Galbraith & Paul. The Indian motif pattern features muted shades of sky, fog, and earth. As a counterpoint, the designer painted the living room cloud white. A gray stone mantel acts as the focal point of the room. Lowengart flanked this with mid-century styled bureaus covered in faux raffia and surmounted by sunburst mirrors. Across from the fireplace, she placed a sofa upholstered in a neutral textile along with a pair of English club chairs. To illuminate the space, Lowengart hung Ochre's glass drop chandelier from the trey ceiling.

The living room transitions into an open plan kitchen, dining and sitting room where the couple entertains family and friends. For lounging, Lowengart installed a banquette, and ottoman upholstered in Zak + Fox's Tibetan inspired printed linen Khaden. She juxtaposed the sofa with two different side tables, one fabricated from hammered antique brass and the other hand-forged iron. When dining the homeowners choose between a button tufted bench with bistro chairs around a canted corner table or rustic counter stools at the kitchen island.

Upstairs, in the master bedroom, Lowengart continued the coastal color story with tints of ivory, aqua, and seal. Luxurious window treatments cocoon the room, horizontally striped curtains frame Roman shades made from Sandra Jordan's Prima Alpaca. A pair of side tables in a driftwood finish accompanies the tailored upholstered bed. Indulging in morning coffee or an evening glass of wine, her clients recline in armchairs covered with a flame stitched Ikat. A hand-loomed area rug from Stark Carpet anchors the room.

Lowengart added a touch of whimsy to the bathroom with Romo's Fougere Beatrix wallpaper. The designer contrasted the café noir floral design with a linear patterned fabric at the window. Details like this make her happy client smile, "Annie listens to your ideas on style and them makes them better. My husband loves everything that we have done!" ❧



Lowengart incorporated the client's vintage wood drop leaf table into the room's design. On it, a pair of candlestick lamps flank the moody landscape painting.



ABOVE From the white kitchen, the windows look out to the pastoral back yard where the clients like to sit outside on warm days enjoying white sangria.

LEFT Throughout, the designer accessorized with timeless celadon and white ceramics reflecting the home's causal atmosphere.



ABOVE In the entry, the foliate patterned wall covering echoes the foliage viewed from outside the window. A two-tiered wood and metal console table provides practical storage with its lower drawers.



ABOVE For the master bedroom, a flower shaped ot-toman reflects the natural motifs in the house. It is upholstered in a linen blend textile from Mokum and finished with feather gimp.

LEFT For the powder room, Lowengart selected a quatrefoil patterned wallcovering with cream background outlined in spring green. The cut corner mirror echoes the geometric shape of the wallpaper.