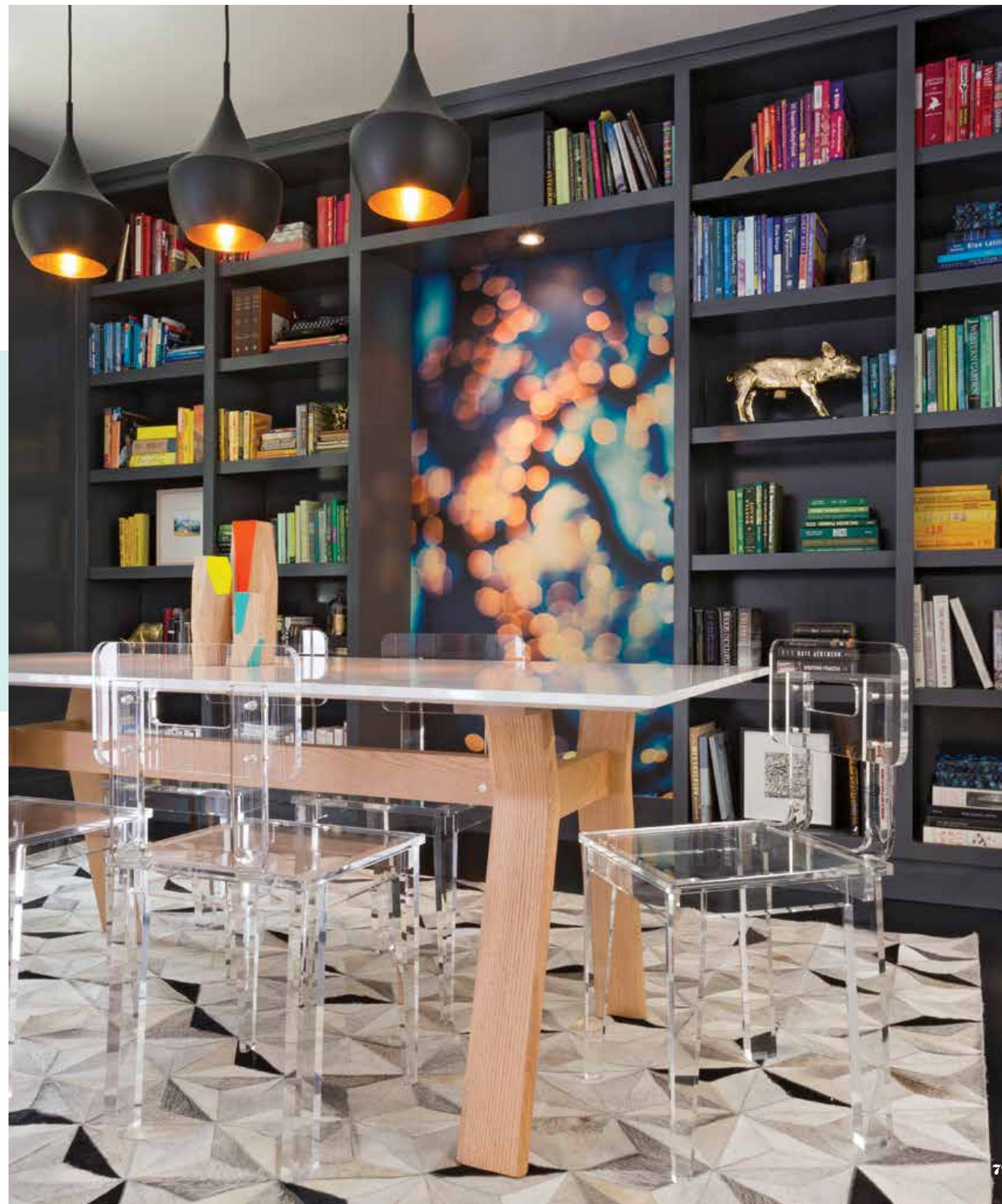


TIBURON REALYCHIC

A COOL COUPLE WITH
A PASSION FOR FASHION
AND DESIGN INSPIRED
ANN LOWENGART'S
RECENT INTERIORS
REMODEL IN TIBURON





COUNTER CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: THE VIBRANT WALLCOVERING CIRCUS MURAL BY COLE & SONS FROM LEE JOFA IS WELL LIT BY A PAIR OF PRUITT SCNCES BY ARTERIORS. NIGHT FALL HIGH GLOSS PAINT BY BENJAMIN MOORE COVERS THE CABINETS, BRINGING COLOR TO THE KITCHEN. A DREAMY EFFECT WAS CREATED IN THE MASTER BEDROOM BY THE FORNASETTI NUVOLE WALL MURAL BY COLE & SON.



“The husband wore these chic green pants and beautiful bespoke pieces and his wife has an unbelievable fashion sense,” Lowengart says. “But their love of all things edgy had to complement their real-life needs of raising two young children.”

Luckily, the couple approached Lowengart with the desire to have it all, looking to push creative boundaries while leaving room for the charming chaos of family life. “They are totally okay with breaking out the Swiffer every day,” Lowengart says.

Discovering Lowengart’s work on HOUZZ, the clients initially tapped the designer to remodel their kitchen. However, the scope quickly expanded to the entire house. “The collaboration kept getting better and better,” Lowengart says. “They got it right away.”

Built in the 1990s, the 3700-square-foot home boasted a generous footprint, soaring ceilings, and gracious light, but the architecture lacked character, and the finishes and fixtures were badly dated.

To begin, Lowengart created a simple yet sophisticated backdrop that wasn’t too stark. “We wanted to be clean and modern without being modernist,” the husband explains.

The textured walls were smoothed while the window and door casings, trim, and baseboards were all updated. To lose the ’90s feel, the designer also changed more than 50 radius corners throughout the house to straight. She chose gleaming polished chrome hardware for the baths and oil-rubbed bronze for the remaining rooms. A base palette of dark, ebonized wood floors paired with white walls in Benjamin Moore Decorators White was established throughout.

For the furnishings, Lowengart looked for showcase pieces from sources such as The NWBLK and The Future Perfect, but balanced these with more workhorse options.

“Ann really helped us translate our style into the space. She highlighted areas where we could get the most impact and other spaces where we could dial down a bit,” says the husband, who notes that the couple “went all out on lighting fixtures,” including the oversize helix-like Phasmida chandelier over the master staircase by designer Christopher Boots.

Since the couple loves to entertain family and friends, the kitchen was a focal point. First, the space was gutted to remove several awkward walls and angles. Lowengart then added a cozy banquette, built-in custom cabinets, and a countertop in highly honed PentalQuartz Super White for “a super contemporary vibe,” she says. The kitchen’s show-stopping central feature is an inset bar in rich macassar ebony that was converted from a former fireplace. A colorful punch of Monaco gold foil wallpaper from Flavor Paper lines the bar interior.

As Lowengart extended the interiors program throughout the house she “looked to expand the center of gravity,” she says. “A kitchen is such a welcoming space that people often gravitate there. We wanted to make all the spaces fun and chic by injecting livability throughout the home.”

One way to accomplish this was to move away from the previous choppy layout by widening the openings between the rooms and introducing comfortable furniture and eye-catching details at every turn. One example is the dining room, where a wall was removed and a polished brass and ebonized wood handrail added to create a sweeping view into the living room, feeding one entertaining space into another. Unexpectedly, the

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dining room also moonlights as a library. Custom shelves flank a niche that’s boldly wallpapered with Glow, another design by Flavor Paper. The color-coded book spines add pops of color. “The family loves to read, so it’s very functional and at the same time it becomes its own work of art,” says Lowengart.

While Lowengart brought openness to some spaces, she also added definition to others. The living room, which is anchored by a stunning marble fireplace surround, had cavernous ceilings that needed to be brought down to size. Lowengart added a simple contemporary fretwork pattern to create interest. A dramatic Christopher Boots Prometheus II chandelier, plush upholstered sofas, and a shaggy faux Mongolian fur pouf round out the look.

While notes of high fashion exist throughout, such as the breakfast nook pillows upholstered in Jean Paul Gaultier Fishnet fabric, this is tempered by a sense of approachability. For example, a playful feeling was created in the kids’ room where colorful items from IKEA and Serena & Lily add whimsy without feeling too precious. Framed Hermès scarves above the children’s beds double as graphic artworks.

Though the remodel lasted one year, the family has no regrets. “You don’t really want to tear apart your house more than once,” says the husband. “We figured that we should do what we really wanted to do since the Dumpster was already sitting out front.”



CHANDELIER: “PROMETHEUS II” BY CHRISTOPHER BOOTS - THE NEW BLACK; **PAINTING:** KIM FORD KITZ; **FIREPLACE MARBLE:** ASHER BY ANN SACKS TILE; **OCCASIONAL TABLE (L):** “DEAN” RECTANGULAR SIDE TABLE BY GABRIEL SCOTT FROM CAVALIER BY JAY JEFFERS; **OCCASIONAL TABLE (R):** SIX SIDED MODERN NICKEL TABLE FROM MECOX GARDENS, LOS ANGELES