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BOLD STROKES

DARING PATTERNS, A RESTRAINED PALETTE, AND A TOUCH OF PIZZAZZ BRING A WESTLAKE VILLAGE HOUSE ALIVE.

BY JOAN TAPPER PHOTOGRAPHS BY GARY MOSS



A Kelly Wearstler chandelier illuminates the already light, bright entryway of a newly renovated Westlake residence.



For Rosa Van Parys, cofounder and principal designer at Van Parys Architecture + Design (vparc.com), the renovation of a lakeside house in Westlake Village was a project dear to her heart. “We’d been seeing the house for years,” she says. “It was built in 1976 and had good bones but was greatly in need of an updating.”

Some time ago, she and her husband and partner, architect Michael Van Parys, had even envisioned how the 2,417-square-foot residence might be reimagined. But they never had a chance to act on their ideas until an investment group asked them to redesign the house at the end of 2015.

“We wanted to bring a midcentury feel to it, midcentury with glam,” Rosa says. Structurally, that meant giving a new look



Midas touches (clockwise from left): Solid as a tree trunk and shimmering in gold, a small table brings a whimsical touch to the lounge area of the living room; a metallic starburst in the kitchen contributes to the midcentury atmosphere; books and bibelots on a pair of ladder-like shelves attest to the owners’ stylish interests.





High ceilings and an open plan enhance the living room's modern feeling, while texture and glam accents are provided by the furnishings—a cowhide patchwork Kravet rug, a luxe throw, and angular lamps on the credenza.

to the awkward old-school atrium at the entrance, making the dramatic staircase appear to float, eliminating a wall between the kitchen and living room, and moving the cramped upstairs master bath to give it a larger and more luxurious look. For décor, they came up with a black-and-white color scheme accentuated with pops of gold and walnut finishes.

As construction was progressing, a buyer for the house entered the scene. She signed on to the design ideas, requested upgrades in finishes and appliances, and asked the

Van Parys team to carry out their plans for the interior. "This was an opportunity for us to have fun," Rosa says.

They certainly made a graphic impression. In the living room, an eye-catching zigzag black-and-white rug from Kravet lies under a custom couch and defines the space. Nearby, black lounge chairs with gold accents surround a low table in the same metallic hue.

In the kitchen, a backsplash and one wall are covered in matte white ceramic tiles outlined in dark grout to emphasize their



Hexagonal tiles pattern two walls in the kitchen, a visual contrast to the streamlined manmade quartz surface of the counters.



hexagonal shapes. Gold light fixtures hang above a white Caesarstone island, and luxe Missoni fabric in another zigzag pattern upholsters a bench that hugs one side of a dining table.

The play of black and white continues upstairs in the newly relocated master bath, which is energized by striking op art cement tiles by Clé on the floor. “Once you have those floors,” says Rosa, “the rest has to be more restrained in color.” So white penny-round tiles were used in an elongated wall niche, and, above and beneath that, subway tiles were set in a chevron design. “It’s the same tone—all white—but a mix of textures,” Rosa says.

As for the gold touches throughout the house, in addition to light fixtures, they

appear in cabinet hardware, furniture legs, shelves in the office area, mirrors, and in many accessories. “It’s not overdone, however,” Rosa adds, “because there’s so much white.”

The house is a second home for the owners, who couldn’t be more pleased with the results. That simply adds to the pleasure that the designers have gotten from the entire project. “Seeing this come together to perfection is our satisfaction,” says Rosa, who appreciates that someone loves their bold ideas. “We’ve seen the house empty and sad, so to finish it for the client is great. She loves the house.” ♦

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The checkerboard wall covering from Cole & Sons in the master bedroom (right) stimulates the eye; furry chair cushions soothe the body. A similarly covered stool is an inviting touch in the master bath (above), where painted cement floor tiles present an optical illusion around the oval tub.





Curves and angles abound in the swirling designs that define the bedclothes, angular woodwork that details the dresser, and Lucite legs that add a novel quality to the bench.