# ARCHITECTURAL DIGEST

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# GUDING LIGHTS

Fashion entrepreneurs Louise and Vince Camuto restore Villa Maria—one of Long Island's most majestic manors, with an enchanting waterfront setting—to its original Jazz Age grandeur

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PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT FRANCES
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or shipyard magnate Edward P. Morse, the late 1910s were very good years. Buoyed by a fortune amassed during World War I, he constructed the world's largest floating dry dock on the Brooklyn waterfront, where his triumphs included refurbishing the USS George Washington's interiors in just 76 hours so President Woodrow Wilson could sail to the post-armistice talks in Paris. And in 1919, Morse and his wife, Ada, began a breathtaking expansion of their Victorian summer house in the Long Island, New York, hamlet of Water Mill, jettisoning its creaking charms in favor of noble monumentality.

Architect Frank Freeman, a Brooklynite known for vigorous mansions and imperial civic buildings, enlarged the shingled retreat into a 21,000-square-foot stuccoed Xanadu decked out with leafy stone capitals copied from an ancient Greek clock tower and a ballroom crowned by deep coffers. Rising boldly alongside the main road at the entrance to the village and overlooking Mecox Bay, the sprawling residence was a tribute to Morse's riches and to his taste for conversation pieces—his stables, as all his neighbors knew, housed another prized acquisition: General Ruxton, the late Theodore Roosevelt's beloved saddle horse.

Glory days often tarnish, of course. The Morses tired of their pleasure dome barely a decade after its completion and decided to sell. It eventually ended up in the hands of Roman Catholic nuns, who occupied the 15-acre estate, which they dubbed Villa Maria, for most of the next 70-odd years—first using it as a school, then as

a retirement home, and, finally, as a spiritual center. Handsome rooms were subdivided into dormitory-style accommodations. Purely practical alterations, such as the installation of aluminumframe windows and asphalt roof tiles, undermined the building's refined character. Decay took hold, too, with rot opening a gaping hole in the entrance hall ceiling.

By the time the property was put on the market in 2005, it had fallen squarely on hard times. Nonetheless, fashion entrepreneur Vince Camuto and his wife and business partner, Louise, were smitten, even after they were informed that roughly one quarter of the structure—the kitchen wing and an adjoining section of the house—was so water damaged it would have to be largely rebuilt.

"There was something magical about the place. Though the nuns couldn't afford the upkeep or the taxes, they wanted a buyer who would take care of it," says Vince, who launched the popular footwear brand Nine West in the 1970s and is now CEO of the Camuto Group, a privately held lifestyle firm. (In addition to the Vince Camuto line of clothing, accessories, and fragrances, the

Below: An aerial view of the estate (lower left) and its lush grounds alongside Mecox Bay on Long Island's South Fork. Opposite, clockwise from top: The sandstone-paved pool terrace is outfitted with furniture by Janus et Cie. The west terrace, ornamented with carved stone urns. looks out to a limestone fountain framed by hydrangeas. Louise and Vince Camuto take a stroll on the lawn.



# SOURCES

For a more detailed version of Sources, go to archdigest\_com/sources/jul13.

Items pictured but not listed here or on archdigest.com are not sourceable. Items similar to vintage and antique pieces shown are often available from the dealers listed,

(T) means item available only to the trade.

## DESKSIDE: AARON SORKIN

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Interior design by Martyn Lawrence Bullard; martynlawrencebullard.com.

Office: On sofa, Gainsborough Velvet cotton by F. Schumacher & Co. (T); fschumacher.com. Warren magnifying glass and Montgomery Three Nut candy dish by Ralph Lauren Home; ralphlaurenhome.com. Club chairs from Jean de Merry (T); jeandemerry.com Waiting area: Templeton Apartment sofa and Louis armchairs by Jonathan Adler; jonathanadler.com. Ikat pillow from Nathan Turner; nathanturner.com

### A NEW WAVE

PAGES 74-81

Architecture and interior design by Piccione Architecture & Design; russellpiccione.com Select furnishings from Cristina Grajales Gallery: cristinagrajalesinc.com. Tile murals by Chelsea Arts Tile + Stone (T); chelseaartstileandstone.com. Bath fittings by Lefroy Brooks; lefroybrooks.com. Living room: Armchairs from John Salibello Antiques; johnsalibello.com, Christina side table from Liz O'Brien (T); lizobrien.com. Throw by Hermès; hermes.com. 9040 grass-cloth wall covering by Roger Arlington (T); rogerarlington.com Philippe Hiquily end tables from Galerie Yves Gastou; galerieyvesgastou.com. Husband's study: Diamond rug by Doris Leslie Blau (T); dorisleslieblau.com Kitchen: Cabinetry and sink fittings by Boffi; boffi.com, Biomorphic Bubble pendant lights by Jeff Zimmerman from R 20th Century; r20thcentury.com. Cooktop by Viking; vikingrange.com. Bleus d'Ailleurs porcelain by Hermès; hermes.com. Breakfast area: Lens table by Patricia Urquiola for B&B Italia; bebitalia it. Warren chairs by Barton-Sharpe; bartonsharpe.com Dining room: Venini fixture from Bernd Goeckler Antiques; bgoecklerantiques.com. Minguren II table and Conoid chairs by Mira Nakashima; nakashimawoodworker.com Bedroom: Portica bed by Room & Board; roomandboard.com. Amanda bed linens and curtains by Roberta Roller Rabbit; robertarollerrabbit.com. Frances Elkins stool from Liz O'Brien (T); lizobrien.com. Rug from ABC Carpet & Home; abccarpet.com Bath: Candide tub by Waterworks; waterworks.com Master bath: Tub by Urban Archaeology: urbanarchaeology.com, Saturn wall lights by Vaughan (T); vaughandesigns.com

### **GUIDING LIGHTS**

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Interior design by CarolEgan Interiors; caroleganinteriors.com. Architecture by Andre Tchelistcheff Architects; tchelistcheff.com. Decorative painting by Jerzy Kubina; jurekkubina com Entrance half: Gilded Maison chandelier by Mecox: mecox.com

Gallery: Curtains of Edelweiss wool by Rogers & Goffigon (T); 212-888-3242 Madagascar sisal by Merida Meridian; meridameridian.com

Living room: On sofas and ottoman, Bennett linen by Calvin Fabrics (T); calvinfabrics.com. Cocktail table and side table by Carole Gratale; carolegratale.com. Lasa tables by Lucca & Co.: luccany.com. Mirrors by APF Munn; apfmunn.com Atrium: Sculpture by Mario Dal Fabbro from Maison Gerard; maisongerard.com. Media room: Chandeliers from English Country Antiques; ecantiques.com. McGill sofas by Montauk Sofa; montauksofa.com. Kitchen: Eggshell and White Dove paints by Benjamin Moore; benjaminmoore.com Halophane lights by Ann-Morris Antiques; annmorrisantiques.com. Range by Wolf; subzero-wolf.com. Pot filler and sink fittings by Waterworks; waterworks.com. Breakfast room: Chandelier from English Country Antiques; ecantiques.com. Lion table by Lars Bolander; larsbolander.com. Settee by Roark Modern; roarkmodern.com On chairs, Alto linen by Holland & Sherry (T); hollandsherry.com

Master suite: Corona from Dienst + Dotter Antikviteter; dienstanddotter.com. Cannes bed and daybed by Ralph Lauren Home; ralphlaurenhome.com. X-Bench stools by Jonathan Adler; jonathanadler.com. On armchair, Voyage en Chine linen-cotton by Old World Weavers (T); starkcarpet.com Master bath: Tub fittings by Waterworks; waterworks.com Pool terrace: Amalfi furniture by Janus et

### REMEMBRANCE OF THINGS PAST

PAGES 94-103

Cie; janusetcie com

Interior design by Studio Peregalli; studioperegalli.com. Kitchen: Range and hood by La Cornue; lacornueusa.com

### UNCOMMON VISION

PAGES 104-13

Interior design by Pamplemousse Design Inc.; pamplemoussedesign.com, Renovation consulting by Oliver Cope Architect; olivercope.com. Bedding by Leontine Linens; leontinelinens.com. Bath fittings by Waterworks: waterworks.com. Flooring by Exquisite Surfaces; xsurfaces.com. Elevator cabin: Cocoa floor mat by Patterson, Flynn & Martin (T); pattersonflynnmartin.com, Staircase: Decorator's White paint by Benjamin Moore; benjaminmoore.com. Family room: Yo-Yo table by Mattia Bonetti from David Gill Galleries: davidgillgalleries.com. Moroccan carpet by Didier Benichou; dbenichou.com Living room: Nuage cocktail table by Guy de Rougemont from Galerie du Passage galeriedupassage.com. Curtains of Artigny cotton by Pierre Frey (T); pierrefrey.com. Study: Blossom chandeliers by Studio Tord Boontje for Swarovski; swarovski.com. Biscuit sofa by Vladimir Kagan (T); vladimirkagan com; in Flannel Cloth polyester by Clarence House (T); clarencehouse.com. Desk by Mattia Bonetti from David Gill Galleries; davidgillgalleries.com. Kapuas rug by Beauvais Carpets (T); beauvaiscarpets.com. Screening room: Omnibus sectionals by Vladimir Kagan (T); vladimirkagan.com. Silk

shag carpeting by Beauvais Carpets (T); beauvaiscarpets.com. Kitchen: Fold barstools by Derin; derindesign.com, Cabinets, counters, and island by Boffi; boffi.com, Sink fittings by

Bulthaup; bulthaup.com. Kitchen dining area: On banquette, Marrakesh fabric by Great Plains (T); hollyhunt.com. Ball pendant light by Tom

Dixon for Swarovski; swarovski.com Child's room 1: Shades of Sconset Madras Patchwork cotton and Windsor Chalk Stripe wall covering by Ralph Lauren Home; ralphlaurenhome.com. San Francisco rug by Denis Colomb Lifestyle; deniscolomb com-Child's room 2: Butterflies desk by Fornasetti; fornasetti.com. On bed. Artigny cotton by Pierre Frey (T); pierrefrey.com. Zebra rug by Denis Colomb Lifestyle; deniscolomb.com Guest bath: Opus Romano tile by Bisazza; bisazza.com Kathryn sink by Kohler; kohler.com Master suite: On bed, Shaker d'Argent linen by Rogers & Goffigon (T); 212-888-3242 Low chair by Eric Schmitt; ericschmitt.com. Blanket

from Trove; trovegallery.com. On sofa, Silk &

Sexy mohair by Great Plains (T); hollyhunt.com

Master bath: Iceland tub by Boffi; boffi.com.

### SEA CHANGE

PAGES 114-21

Architecture and interior design by Thierry Despont Ltd.; despont.com. Front entrance: Cloud White paint by

Benjamin Moore: benjaminmoore.com Bungalow lanterns by Urban Archaeology; urbanarchaeology.com

Great room: Vine light fixture custom made by Jeff Zimmerman through R 20th Century: r20thcentury.com. On ottoman/cocktail table, Cow Hide by Soane Britain (T); soane.com. Guglielmo Ulrich armchairs from Craig Van Den Brulle; craigvandenbrulle.com; in Gand polyester by Pierre Frey (T); pierrefrey.com. Slab table by BDDW; bddw.com, Rue de Seine console table by Holly Hunt (T): hollyhunt.com. Bridgewater sofa, club chair, and footstool by Anthony Lawrence-Belfair; anthonylawrence-belfair.com. On sofa, Flare and Square linen-viscose by Gretchen Bellinger (T); gretchenbellinger.com. Ribbed carpet by Marc Phillips Decorative Rugs (T); marcphillipsrugs.com.

Kitchen: Clock by Lumichron; lumichron.com. Kalmar Admont chandelier by Jonathan Browning Studios (T); jonathanbrowninginc.com Sink fittings by Kallista; kallista.com. Oven and cooktop by Wolf; subzero-wolf.com. Microwave by Miele; miele.com. Refrigerator and freezer by Sub-Zero; subzero-wolf.com. Guest room: Lowell bed linens by E. Braun & Co; ebraunandco com-

Master suite: TV cabinet by VCA Inc.; vca-inc.com. Television by Samsung; samsung.com. Valiant chandelier by Barovier & Toso; barovier.com

Terrace: Furniture by McKinnon and Harris (T); mckinnonharris.com Cushions of Sail Cloth acrylic by Perennials (T); perennialsfabrics.com

### GRACE AND FLAVOR

PAGES 128-35

Interior design by Suzanne Kasler Interiors; suzannekasler.com. Architectural design by William T. Baker & Assoc. Ltd.; wtbaker.com. Paint by Benjamin Moore; benjaminmoore.com. Select furnishings by Dennis & Leen (T); dennisandleen.com. Great room: Duveaux chandelier by Dessin

Fournir (T): dessinfournir.com, Tuscan sofa by Saladino Furniture (T); saladinostyle.com Tavolino low table by Formations (T); formationsusa.com. Curtains of Tashkent silk by Robert Kime (T); robertkime.com. Natura sisal by Stark (T); starkcarpet.com. Family room: French Upholstered wing chair and Vintage French Round Upholstered armchair by RH; rh.com, Chastain Slipcover armchair by Suzanne Kasler for the Hickory Chair Furniture Co.; hickorychair.com Bluestone-top table from Mecox; mecoxcom. Curtains of Montagre hemp by Rose Tarlow Melrose House (T); rosetarlow.com Kitchen: Range by Wolf; subzero-wolf.com. Sink fittings by Rohl; rohlhome com Dining room: Regency table by Michael Taylor Designs (T): michaeltaylordesigns.com. Chairs from Lief; liefalmont.com Powder room: Leaf wallpaper by Katie Ridder (T); hollandsherry.com. Ceiling light from Circa Lighting; circalighting.com Guest room: Print by Suzanne Kasler for Soicher Marin (T); soicher-marin.com Guest bath: Aspen wall sconce by Circa Lighting; circalighting com. Pieced Oval mirrors by RH; rh.com

Master bedroom: Grace bedding and Windsor pillow by Leontine Linens; leontinelinens.com. Percival chandelier and Austell floor lamp by Suzanne Kasler for Circa Lighting; circalighting com. Aurora lamp by Christopher Spitzmiller; christopherspitzmiller.com. Curtains of Silk Tapis fabric by J. Robert Scott (T); jrobertscott.com Master bath: Easton tub fittings by Waterworks; waterworks.com Covered terrace: Wicker chairs from South of Market; southofmarket.biz; with cushions of Canvas acrylic by Sunbrella; sunbrella.com. Salvaged Wood Gun Barrel

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

PAGES 136-47

Interior design by Mario Buatta; 212-988-6811 SOUTHAMPTON HOUSE

table and Madeleine chairs by RH; rh.com

Architecture by Muse Architecture musearchitecture.com, Wicker chairs by Bielecky Brothers (T); bieleckybrothers.com, Select items from John Rosselli Antiques (T); johnrosselliantiques.com.

Living room: On settees, Verrières cotton by Brunschwig & Fils (T); brunschwig.com. Dining room: Villandry carpet by Stark (T); starkcarpet.com. Table by Wood & Hogan; woodandhogan.com. On chairs, Montage Avocado acrylic by Giati Designs; giati.com. Playroom: Hand-painted ceiling and walls by Haleh Atabeigi; halehpaint.com, Venetian hanging lantern by John Rosselli & Assoc. (T); johnrosselliassociates.com. On pillowback ottoman, Firefly linen by GP & J Baker from Lee Jofa (T); leejofa.com

Master suite: Chain bed linens by Pratesi; pratesi.com. Coeurs Blue coverlet by D. Porthault; dporthault.com. Curtains and upholstery of Glorious Morning linen-cotton by Brunschwig & Fils (T); brunschwig.com. On walls, Henri cotton-viscose by Manuel Canovas (T); cowtan.com

Pool: Bamboo Sun chaise longues by Michael Taylor Designs (T); michaeltaylordesigns.com. PALM BEACH PAVILION Architecture by Thomas M. Kirchhoff;

kirchhoffarchitects.com.

Ballroom: Chairs by Oscar de la Renta Home for Century Furniture; centuryfurniture.com. □

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