



AD

# the future of design

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defies gravity





**ABOVE** AN ARABESCATO MARBLE ISLAND COMMANDS THE KITCHEN. ON CABINETRY, CUSTOM MAGENTA SHADE BY PAPERS AND PAINTS; RANGEMASTER RANGE; DE GOURNAY EMBROIDERED SILK WALL COVERING; ANTIQUE BILLIARD TABLE PENDANTS.

outfitted in a completely bespoke wallpaper inspired by Hyde Park and the Carlyle hotel's legendary Bemelmans Bar. It features whimsical scenes such as squirrels skipping rope, foxes playing soccer, and mice pushing ice-cream carts. "It's completely adorable," Gurney coos. "I didn't think George would be particularly interested in it, but the day it went up he came home from school and said, 'Mummy! Mummy! Come check out my wallpaper! I was like, 'That's what it's all about!' It's so lovely seeing how enthralling it can be for a child. Every time he has a bath, he wants to role-play with the characters and makes me give him ice cream from the cart." She continues with a chuckle, "So maybe he's going to work for de Gournay one day and not drive tractors."

If the process of selecting and customizing each wall covering was meticulous, the actual furnishing of the home would better be described as hodgepodge. Wonderfully so. Gurney and Harden filled a car with Georgian heirlooms—drinks tables, occasional chairs—from Nanhoron. She also pinched bits and bobs from her father's house in Kent. An antique bed was sawed down to toddler size and covered in a Dedar stripe, while a prototype de Gournay neoclassical-style sofa was rescued from the barn and placed in the living room. The remaining holes were filled in with antique market finds, which Gurney reupholstered in "unsuspecting fabrics."

It was a lot of trial and error," she explains. "I like thinking that my house is a collection of rejected stuff that I managed to resuscitate in some way."

Friends enjoy it, too; the couple entertain almost every weekend. Gurney describes her husband, the cook in the family, as a "homebody—the opposite of me!" The kitchen, which they expanded with the help of Simon Smith and Michael Brooke Architects, was designed in a modern open style "so the chef isn't alone while all the guests are having fun next door." Although the kids do sometimes gravitate to the snug. "Yesterday we had friends over, left George alone for 30 minutes watching a Pixar film, and he found a pen and drew tattoos all over his body."

Which leads to the obvious question: Does she ever worry that his artwork might migrate to the exquisite de Gournay-wrapped walls? He wouldn't be the first to have a go at them, she says. The day installation of the wallpaper in the kitchen began, the couple went out to dinner only to return to a crime scene: Their two dogs had chewed off the still unattached corners. "The paste has got sugar in it," proving an irresistible temptation, Gurney notes. "Unbelievably, the workmen were able to patch bits in, and one of the designers painted over it. So now I'm pretty relaxed. I've seen how it can evolve." After all, what's another turtle in a sea of fish? **▲**





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“I used a lot of color  
throughout the house,  
and somehow it  
all pulled together.”



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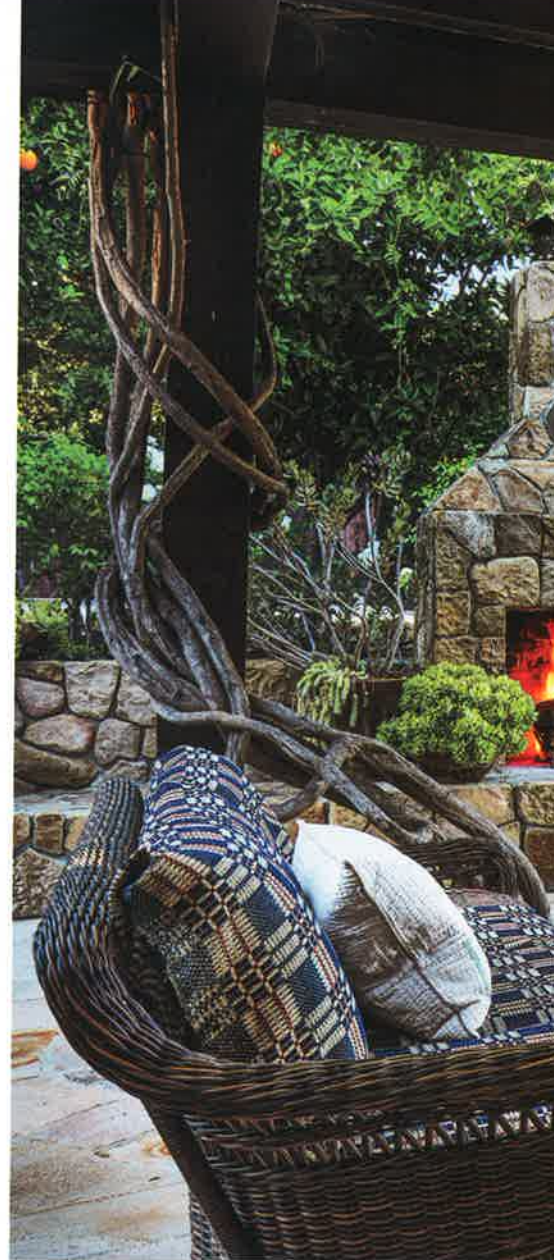
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s one might reasonably expect, the California country home of Oscar-winning actress Anne Hathaway and her husband, jewelry designer Adam Shulman, has an intriguing narrative. We'd be disappointed if it didn't. In the backstory they imagined for their enchanting 1906 Swiss chalet-style residence (which

was destroyed by a fire in 1917 and rebuilt), Yves Saint Laurent once owned the property before director Wes Anderson moved in and put his own hipster-twee spin on the house. The fictional origin tale also includes something about Anderson and David Bowie cohosting an annual New Year's Eve party there. That's a lot of imagery to process, but Hathaway, Shulman, and their partner in drama, AD100 designer Pamela Shamshiri of Los Angeles's Studio Shamshiri, embraced the challenge with gusto.

"Pam really leaned into it," Hathaway says of the extraordinarily collaborative process of renovating her historic home, which was designed by architects Myron Hunt and Elmer Grey, authors of the San Marino residence of Henry and Arabella Huntington (now the main art gallery of the Huntington Library) and other prominent Southern California landmarks. "This house inspired lots of crazy creative discussions, but Pam wasn't thrown by any of it," Shulman adds. "She brought a sense of sophistication, magic, and fun to the whole process."

Hathaway and Shulman describe the allure of their picturesque property in terms of a love affair. "The minute we came up the driveway and saw this incredible panoramic view unfold in front of us, we were hooked," Shulman recalls.



Says Hathaway, "It was the ideal combination of romance and great design. Our initial instinct was that this was going to be a very important place in our lives. I could really see raising a family here."

For Shamshiri, the fairy-tale architecture provided a jumping-off point for the fanciful, decades-spanning interiors. "We were dealing with a California fantasy of a Swiss chalet, built as a hunting lodge and a winter getaway, so we looked at a lot of historical Swiss imagery," she explains. "We tried to maintain the sweetness that made the house so special while adding new layers of color, texture, and furnishings from different eras that reflect the evolution of the home over time and the warm, generous spirit of Annie and Adam."

That layering exercise comes to life with particular drama in the capacious music room, originally designed as a dance hall for young people from the surrounding community. Crowned with an early-20th century disco ball from a Turkish spa, the celebratory space hosts a piano, naturally; a sparkly Yves Klein Monogold table; and a broad array of cozy seating for Hathaway and Shulman's frequent guests. "This room has





LEFT ON A FIREPLACE-  
WARMED TERRACE,  
A PAIR OF JANUS ET CIE  
SOFAS WEAR 19TH-  
CENTURY COVERLETS.  
FRENCH 18TH-CENTURY  
COCKTAIL TABLE;  
CUSTOM LANTERN.  
OPPOSITE HATHAWAY.

been a long-held fantasy of ours—a place where the people we love can gather and our musician friends can play. It's the heart of the house," Hathaway says.

That same communal spirit animates the kitchen, where a long, slender island provides a perfect spot for guests to partake in the rituals of food preparation. Bathed in soothing shades of robin's-egg blue and pale green, the kitchen opens directly onto a dreamy breakfast room, detailed with a scenic wallpaper set into the board-and-batten architectural details and, for a dash of Continental élan, a set of spruce modern chairs by the midcentury Italian designer Carlo di Carli. Shulman sums up the vibe, here and throughout the home, in one word: "Gemütlich."

"Annie and Adam have a very adventurous sense of color, which I wholeheartedly supported," Shamshiri says, noting the proliferation of peach and burgundy tones in the entry vestibule and music room, which were inspired by a favorite Gucci shirt. In another nod to fashion, Rihanna's unforgettable imperial-yellow cape from the 2015 Met gala provided a touchstone for some of the golden fabrics and carpet in

the music room and den. As for the soft pink that blankets the master bedroom, the designer notes matter-of-factly, "They're very into pink. They embrace it!"

Yet for all the sprightly details and eccentric juxtapositions of contemporary and vintage furnishings, Hathaway and Shulman insist the true alchemy of their home rests in its less tangible assets—the scale of its rooms, the idiosyncratic circular floor plan, and its subtle connections to the landscape. "This is a house that expands and contracts based on how many people are here. When it's just us and the baby, it feels very quiet and contemplative—the house feels like it holds you. When there are lots of people around, it opens up with energy and fun," Shulman explains.

Hathaway, whose new anthology series *Modern Love* debuts in October on Amazon, seconds the notion: "This is a place that balances the needs for isolation and community. When I have to concentrate intensely on a project, I can escape from the distractions of the outside world and find inspiration in the glorious mountains and the birds singing in the thicket. There's music inside and out." ▀