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Interiors

BOSTON

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TRENDS**

PRETTY IN PASTEL

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TRADITIONAL YET DARING SPACE

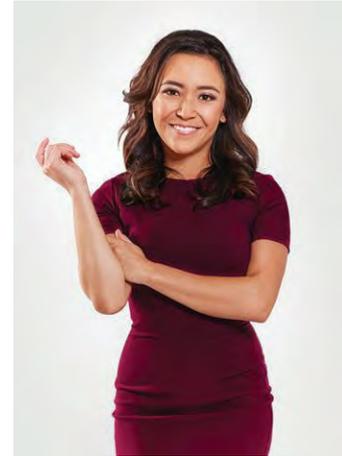
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BY THE PUBLISHERS OF BOSTON COMMON

GARDEN PARTY



Like many, I've completely neglected my outdoor space, but projects like this one (read "En Plein Air" inside) inspire me to start taking my interior design priorities alfresco.

upon TSP to update the lighting within the music room without disturbing the original features, and the team also prioritized using more sustainable fixtures for the space to save energy. Boston's most sustainable commercial and residential building Millennium Residences at Winthrop Center

Without any limits, how would you describe your dream backyard? For me, it would be inspired by Beatrix Potter's stories with plenty of wildflowers, vegetable gardens and a patio with fairy lights—a completely magical space to spend summer nights with family and friends or snuggle up with a good book. As I've begun to learn, however, there's a lot more to it than just gardening. And you will, too, thanks to this issue of *Modern Luxury Interiors Boston*.

Inside, we've dug even deeper into what it means to create that outdoor oasis that everyone so craves. Let me give you a sneak peek. Soake Pools chats about a recent Wellesley project, where homeowners opted for a saltwater plunge pool; outdoor and indoor living spaces become one with ZEN Associates, Inc.; and simpleHome dives deeper into outdoor tech trends from lighting to sound systems and beyond. It's truly impressive what you can create with more than just a green thumb. Of course, you'll find a nod to sustainable factors as well—one of my favorite articles within this issue finds itself within a historic Back Bay townhome that was built in 1884 and designed by architects Rotch & Tilden. The homeowners called

also found a place inside, where we call out some of the biggest facts and numbers behind the build.

It's truly amazing how far our outdoor design abilities have become. While planning this issue, I've become even more inspired to get started on my own outdoor oasis so that I can enjoy it with the beautiful weather. I'm sure you will too.

Happy designing,

Antonia DePace
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A POP OF Avant-Garde

By Antonia DePace // Photographed by Michael J. Lee

Traditional colonial mixes with dramatic modern touches in one August Interiors project.

From top: A floating Lacava vanity from Designer Bath adds a visual break in the otherwise pattern-centric bathroom; dark tile from Waterworks dots the shower. Opposite page: Fun pops of color within the office add a feminine touch.

THE CLIENTS

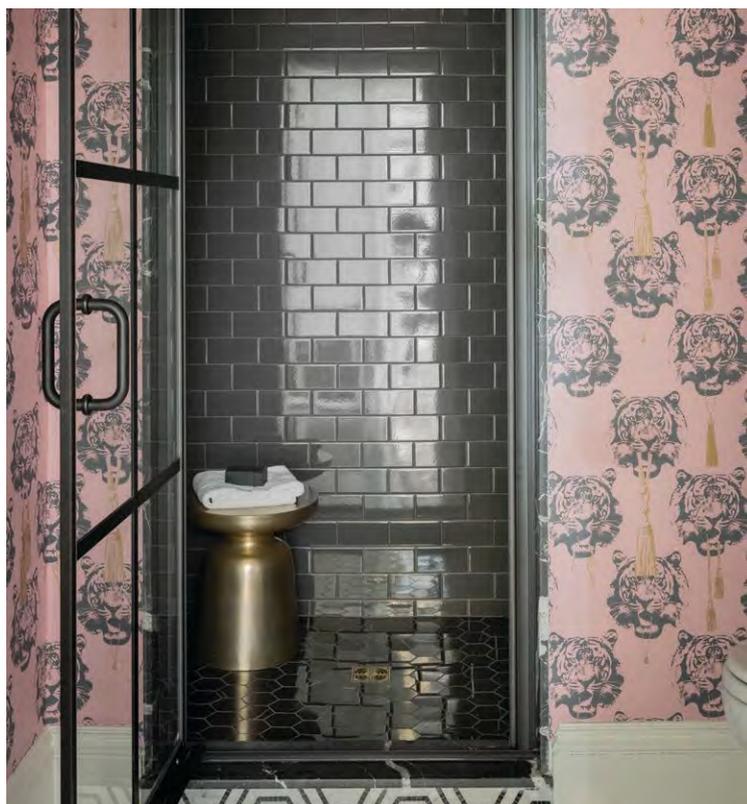
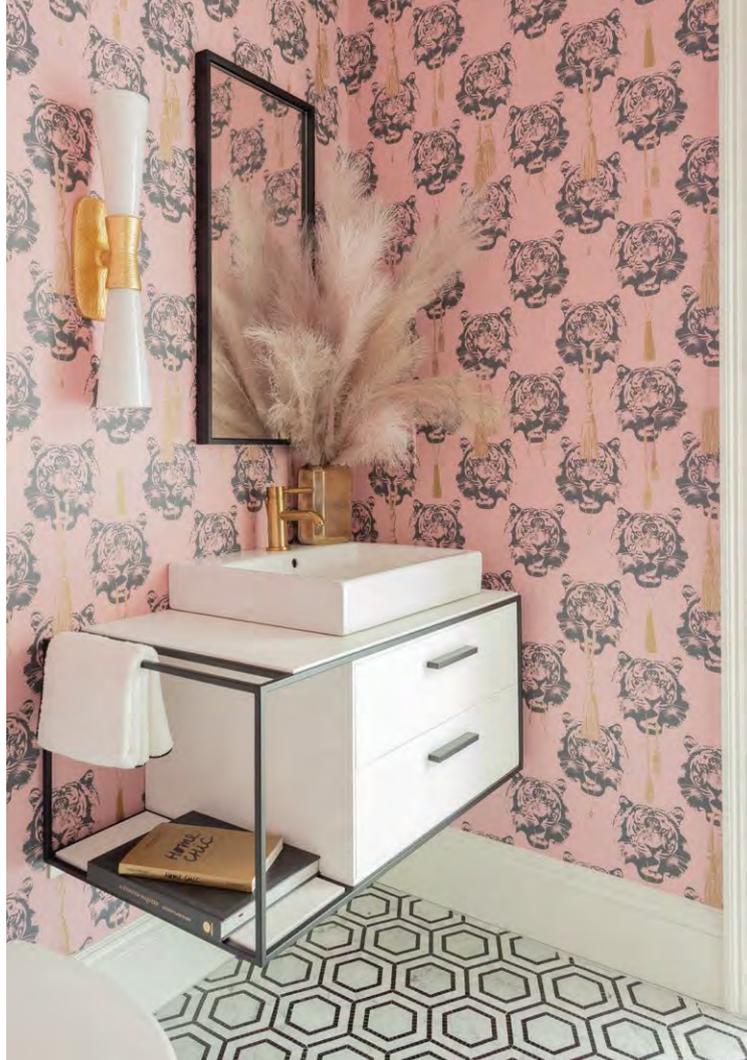
Trust, camaraderie and the desire to do something different were at the center of these returning clients for August Interiors (augustinteriorsboston.com). “They are daring, and they’re trusting. And so that... gave us the ability to create something we hadn’t created before,” explains Deb Berger, principal at the design firm.

THE GOALS

While the outside of the Wellesley home was rooted in traditional colonial architecture, the client wanted to accomplish a completely different and unexpected interior that would impress anyone who walked through the doors. This is illustrated immediately in the foyer, where custom blue lacquered walls by Catchlight Painting (catchlightpainting.com), preexisting black and white marble floors, and cherry marble floors, and cherry sculptures from JANUS et Cie (janusetcie.com) greet the clients on their day-to-day.

DETAILS, DETAILS

“Even within daring design



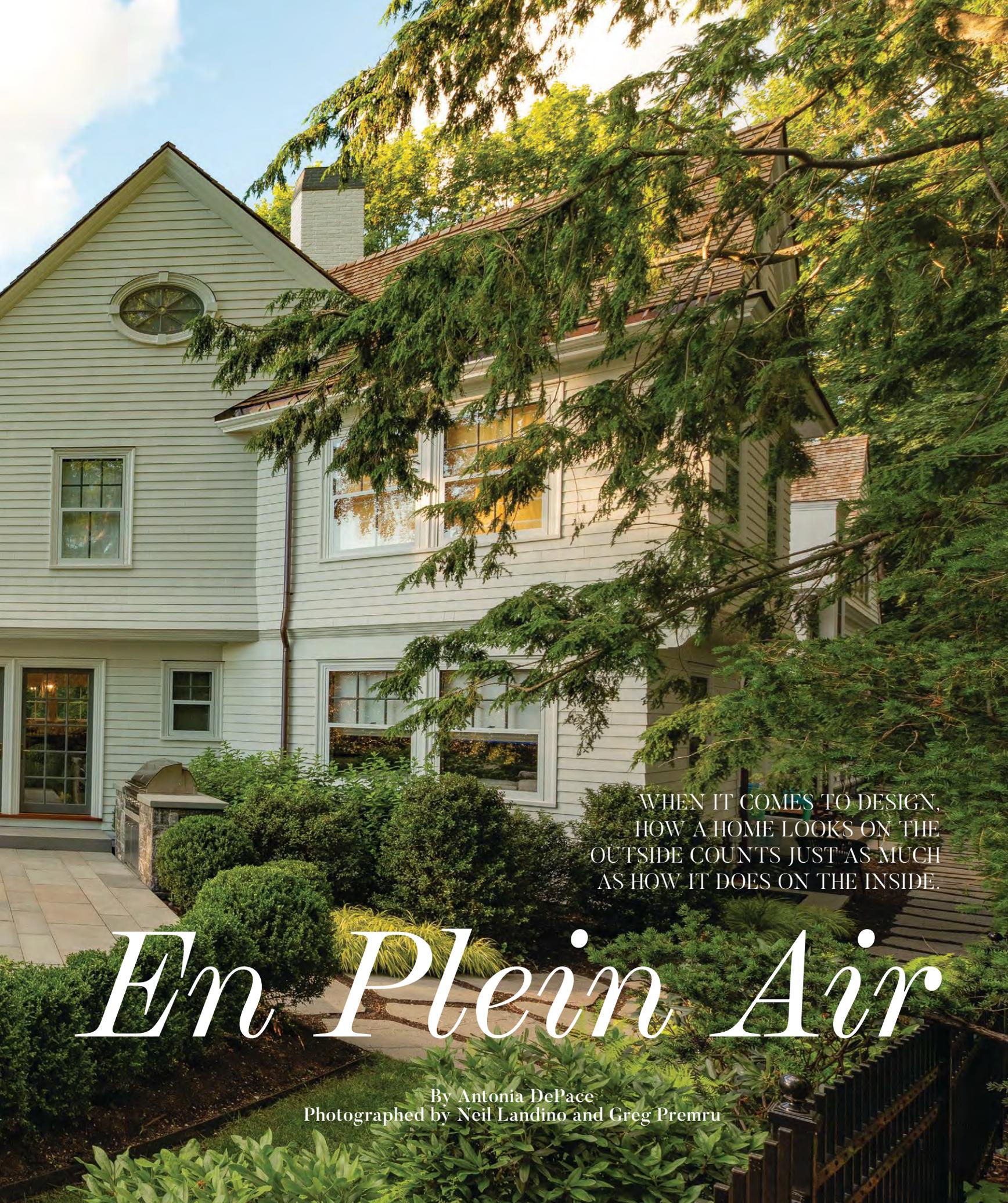
moments, [the aesthetic] still leaves so much room for the family to live and have it feel like their home,” says Lauren Hamilton, principal at August Interiors. Within the colorful foyer, this was done by adding a collection of family photos—rooting the overall design. The two first-floor bathrooms required a revamp, but the powder bath in the foyer received a special touch thanks to custom graffiti art on the walls by artist Renda Writer (@rendawriter). Inside, a glistening blue Bunny Williams Home (bunnywilliamshome.com) mirror adds reflection to the petite space, which also includes a more traditional vanity and art deco-like sconces from Visual Comfort (visualcomfort.com). “That was a really fun mix of traditional, transitional and contemporary street art,” Hamilton adds. The family bathroom also exists on this floor, where cool Studio Lisa Bengtsson (studiolisabengtsson.se) wallpaper portrays a pop of pink with tigers. A darker tile juxtaposes on the floor and shower. “The tile floor that we installed in there harkens back to the marble that’s in the foyer and also is that classic element to balance out the really forward or fashion-forward paper,” Hamilton explains.

To the left of the foyer, a long living room serves as the perfect parlor for the client and her friends, who enjoy





A look at the outdoor living space, which is surrounded in lush, evergreen landscaping



WHEN IT COMES TO DESIGN,
HOW A HOME LOOKS ON THE
OUTSIDE COUNTS JUST AS MUCH
AS HOW IT DOES ON THE INSIDE.

En Plein Air

By Antonia DePace
Photographed by Neil Landino and Greg Premru

Just 30 minutes outside of Boston sits one 100-year-old home in Chestnut Hill.

“It definitely needed to be renovated to be brought up to speed,” explains Dan Gordon of Dan Gordon Landscape Architects (dangordon.com). This included the outdoor space, which had remained original to the home with the exception of a terrace. He adds, “The way people live in properties today is very different than it was 100 years ago. People want to enjoy their landscapes, live outdoors and enjoy their outdoor space.” The new homeowners agreed, which led them to hire Gordon and his team to recreate an outdoor oasis that would serve as both a great place to raise their blossoming family and entertain friends.

The challenge? The eccentric home sat far from the street with the backyard facing the front—leading to a vast amount of underdeveloped land and not much curb appeal. Gordon navigated this in a variety of ways, mainly by adding more shrubbery and trees, along with an outdoor living space and hardscaping that added dimension to the sloping area. “They had this beautiful, big beech tree that was probably planted when the house was built, which was really in its prime. ... [It] was a signature piece on the property,” Gordon says. He notes that he and his team strove to tie the home into the neighborhood, all while making the best out of the natural beauty that already existed on the site. This started



From top: A pedestrian gate adds separation from the front and backyard landscapes on the property; walking through the front door, clients and guests are greeted by a vision of the outdoor fireplace. Opposite page: For cool summer nights or fall festivities, an outdoor stone fireplace by Michael S. Coffin was installed.







Gordon and his team worked with the given landscape, rather than against it, by building steps within a hilly area. Opposite page: To give different outdoor living elements, the team worked with Su Casa Designs to divide the spaces with furniture from JANUS et Cie and other elements.



with the front-facing backyard, where the landscape architect opted for more of a transitional aesthetic for the otherwise traditional home. There, he added a large terrace that connected the indoor space of the house to the outdoors. Divvied into three different areas, the terrace includes an alfresco dining space, as well as a living area that overlooked the lawn and another family room-inspired area with a stone fireplace by Michael S. Coffin LLC (michaelscoffin.com). A burner and log set by Warming Trends (warming-trends.com) sits inside, with custom andirons by Paradise Metals (paradisemetals.com). Nearby, a grill from Lynx Grills (lynxgrills.com) serves as the perfect outdoor kitchen.

For furniture, a variety of neutral and modern pieces were chosen from JANUS et Cie (shopjanusetcie.com). “[The owner] had a bit of a traditional taste but with a modern execution, and I think we found the right mix,” says Vicki Baker, interior designer at Su Casa Designs (sucasa-designs.com).

Surrounding the outdoor living areas are an abundance of Delaware Valley white azaleas, common boxwoods, red oaks, Japanese forest grass and more. Headed down the hardscaped steps, homeowners are encapsulated in a variety of hydrangeas, as well as rhododendrons, ostrich ferns and English ivy. “We’re trying to create a framework that really just blends and







DESIGN DETAILS

TYPE

Single-family

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Dan Gordon Landscape Architects
dangordon.com

LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR

Michael S. Coffin LLC
michaelscoffin.com

INTERIOR DESIGNER

Su Casa Designs
sucasa-designs.com

ARCHITECT

LDa Architecture & Interiors
lda-architects.com

BUILDER

Youngblood Builders
youngbloodbuilders.com

With the help of multiple teams, the young family turned the previously underdeveloped area into a perfect place to host family and friends for years to come.