

# california

HOME+DESIGN

californiahomedesign.com

## THE HIT LIST

Our  
readers'  
favorite  
picks, p. 47

# the evolution of tradition

FIND A NEW STYLE  
ENTERTAIN WITH EASE  
REIMAGINE THE CLASSICS

CHDRESOURCE.COM NOV/DEC 2010 \$4.99



MCEVOY MEDIA



the new  
gold  
standard

The secret to mixing up the new and old can be as elusive as the art of alchemy, but here are four homes that we believe have the Midas touch.



The first thing seen when guests enter the front door is a vignette with furniture by Massar for Gregorius Pineo accented with statues from their collection of Ming Dynasty antiques.

Mann added life to a rarely used living room by making the entrance accessible and replacing a bank of windows with a long row of doors that let in light and make it easy to move the party outside. Angus added a card table that's used for family game nights.

**“THE NEW TRADITIONAL STYLE IS YOUNGER AND FRESHER, WITH SIMPLER LINES AND WARMER, MORE INVITING COLORS.”**



The homeowners insisted that the light fixture over the dining table be "de-electrified" and replaced lightbulbs with candles. "There is nothing more romantic than dining by candlelight," says Steve. "It gives a tabletop a lovely glow."



great use of natural light. He started by straightening out the geometry in the foyer and living room. "Before the remodel, the large entry was drum-shaped, and the heavy balcony on the mezzanine bisected the area," he says. "We simplified the rounded form by squaring it off and removing the mezzanine, which was really just dead space."

The demise of the balcony, along with the thick columns that supported it, opened up the space between the upper and lower levels. By installing a bank of windows near the ceiling, two sets of French doors on the lower level and windows in the upper and lower corners of the far wall, Mann created a wall of glass that takes in the new backyard vista and allows light to flood the space on the lower floor. "When we took over the neighbor's lot, we made our own view," says Steve. "Now the house takes advantage of that."

To make the foyer's new volume work, Mann installed molding and paneling above the living room entry and between the French doors and the upper windows. "The ceilings are 20 feet high, and before, there was a diminutive crown molding that was under-scaled. We added a much more substantial trim. The large panels vastly improved the look of the room and now the proportions make sense."

The living room off the foyer had always been a problem for the family. "The entrance to the room was off-center, making it hard to get to," says Sharon. "We just never used it."

Mann moved the doorway (surrounding the space with more of the substantial molding and paneling), replaced the windows with French doors that open onto the patio and installed a cove ceiling where there had been a tray ceiling. "By removing the awkward angles, we made the room more gracious," says Mann. "The clean, composed lines give the couple the traditional look they love."

RIGHT: The key to making classic forms fresh in this home is the application of warm, spicy colors such as the bright curry-red walls in a powder room on the main floor. BELOW: While in India, the couple invested in several pieces of modern art that decorate the walls today. The bold mix of abstract paintings with very traditional furniture gives this sitting room a youthful appeal.

