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Designing Personal Spaces

"Beautiful spaces make people feel happy and that is what I create; joy for others." Robert Reeder's eloquent words capture how he creates spaces that are more than breathtakingly gorgeous, they become a source of delight and pleasure for his clients.

As a consummate interior designer with extensive formal training Reeder makes spaces reach their functional and stylistic goals. DesignNY asked him to share his knowledge and expertise on designing personal spaces. He opened up about a specific project and offered valuable advice.

A SUMPTUOUS HAVEN

Feminine, opulent, and private – soft colors and graceful curves with luxurious treatments and furniture turn a master suite into a uniquely personal space. "Man caves have are dark with strong angles, this is the opposite," explains Reeder. "It's functional, comfortable, and deeply beautiful."

A spacious sitting room with a fireplace and visually supportive cabinets against a curved wall graces the master bedroom. Wall coverings are a selection of patterns with glass beads and Venetian light fixtures. The drapery window treatment embraces the bay



window. Portraits of the homeowner's children in a pastel medium adorn the walls.

To achieve such lavishness Reeder assembled what he calls the main cast members. The upholstered and tufted bed, nightstand, dressers and wing chairs were already owned. Reeder changed the upholstery in the wing chairs from navy blue velvet to white mattelaise with button tufting and slipper satin for the outside and sides.

Such luxury lets the homeowner feel poised to face the day or the elegance of the evening. The adjoining master bathroom and boudoir are part of the ritual. A free floating tub and marble-floored shower continue the theme of distinguished femininity. The marble wall hosts a damask pattern. The drawer pulls have Versace crystal details. The wall coverings are a Wetzner design with light gray background with a silver leaf over printing.

CREATING A RETREAT OF YOUR OWN

Reeder created spacious rooms and delicious architecture for his client but he offers key tips for creating your own private sanctuary.

Small rooms can feel spacious. Furniture should be selected in scale to the proportion of the room. A focal point does not have to consume space. Artwork, a stunning piece of furniture, and creative window treatments can anchor the style.

Furniture layouts and composition is critical. Avoid overcrowding a room. Gracious living space mean being able to move around freely. Spend your budget on key pieces,





adding slowly over time to main-tain quality. Keep furniture in relation to the area rug.

Artwork does not have to be hung at eye level. “Eye level is different for everyone!” exclaims Reeder. Focus on centering artwork in proportion with the room’s space and size of the art itself.

Wall coverings are a useful tool. Wall coverings can bring warmth to a cold space, detail to a drab room, or transform a cavernous space into an intimate retreat. Apply it to the ceiling or behind a bookcase to create an unexpected moment.

A professional designer is a wise investment. A trained eye will bring new life to pieces you currently own, unearth the great find in an old antique store, or create a long-term plan so you can slowly invest in high quality while finding long-term joy in your space today, tomorrow, and 10 years from now. Discover your happiness in good design by calling Robert Reeder Interiors for a consultation at 716-634-9134.

