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At This Rio Apartment, the View Steals the Show From the Provocative Art This Loft Is Designed for Maximum Family Fun Above-bed Decor Ideas to Enhance Your Room's Visual Appeal



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#### **CONTACT**

+62 817 551 414 info@mhllt.com

#### **LOCATION**

Jl. Gn. Tangkuban Perahu No.303, Padangsambian Klod, Denpasar Bar., Kabupaten Badung, Bali 80117



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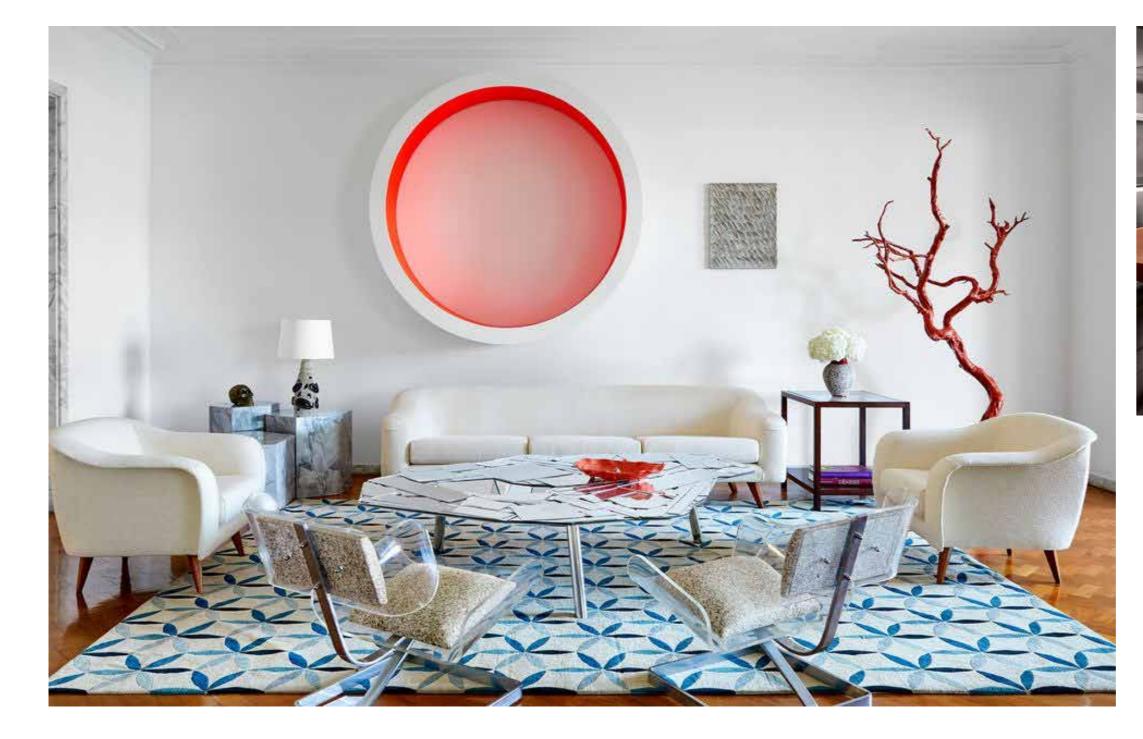
Visually Inspired

# PROVOCATIVE ART



An 18th-century sofa covered in a Fabricut fabric faces a wardrobe custom made from reclaimed wood and a Queen Anne corner chair in the bedroom of this Woodstock, NY home; the rug is vintage, the walls are painted in a custom C2 Paint color, and the ceiling and floors are of reclaimed wood.

Provocative Art — Provocative Art — Provocative Art





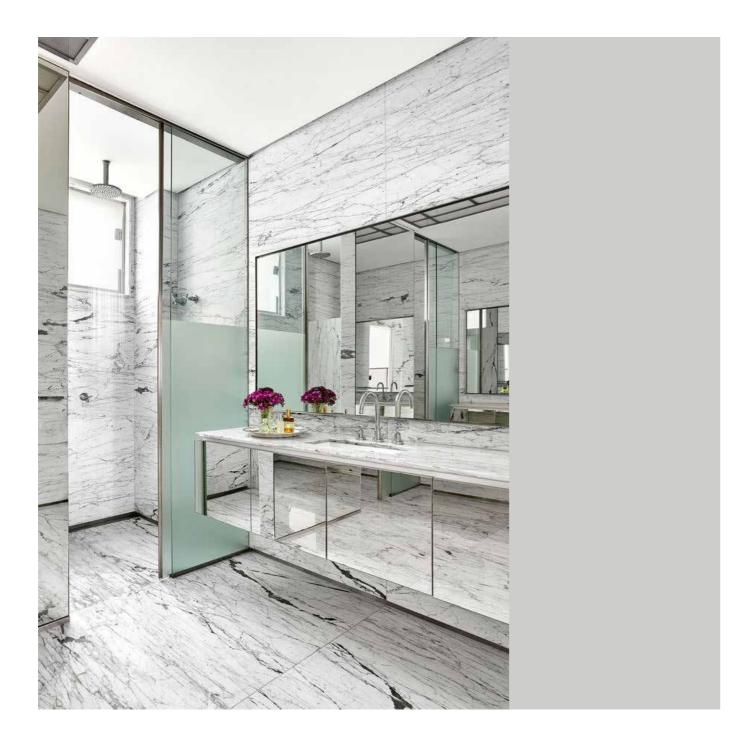
The kitchen table is by Hermes Erbanesteria, and the chairs are by Andrée Putman for Emeco.

When Brazilian designer Juliana Lima Vasconcellos was a child, she dreamed of being a painter. Then, for a time, it was a fashion designer. At age 11, she decided to pursue architecture. No one in her family was an artist, she says, but "I've always liked strange pieces of furniture, strange clothes—things that are different and potentially difficult to understand."

These days, Vasconcellos's design practice straddles architecture,

furniture, and interiors, and that desire to include something almost unknowable in her work often translates to a focus on contemporary art, which she passionately collects. But back in 2009, when she first stumbled upon the Rio de Janeiro apartment that is now one of her homes, Vasconcellos was initially drawn to something that wasn't mysterious at all. Through a bank of windows stretching the length of the apartment's eastern facade is a sweeping view of one of the most iconic

Provocative Art — Provocative Art — Provocative Art





landmarks in all of Rio: Sugarloaf Mountain, which rises like a thumb at the mouth of Guanabara Bay and colors, quite literally, everything in the apartment depending on the time of day.

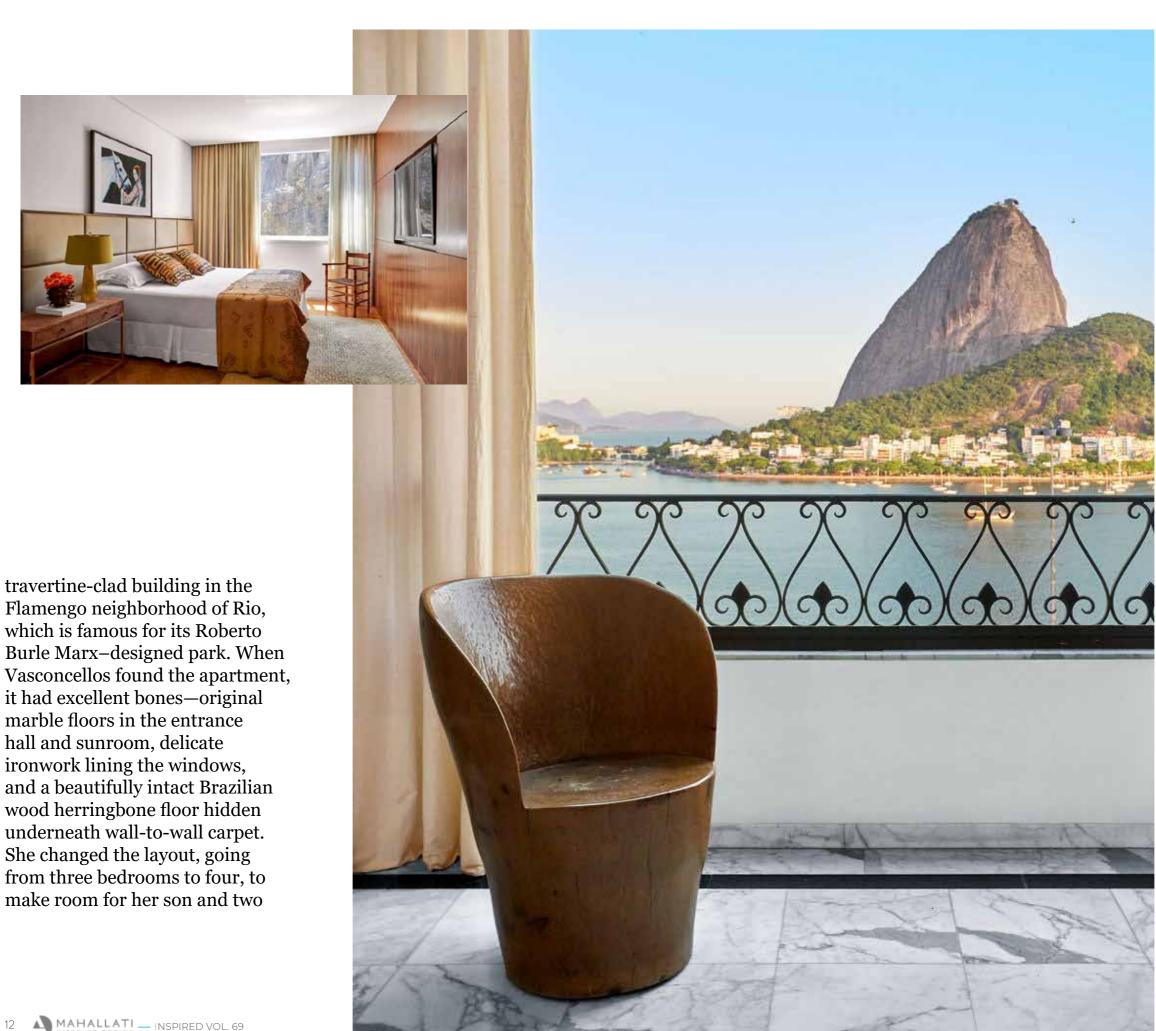
Because the view was such a protagonist in the apartment, Vasconcellos didn't want to overwhelm the interiors with too many objects when she

began renovating nearly a decade ago. The result is a spare, serene, contemplative space—punctuated by those scene-stealing and sometimes discomfiting moments of contemporary art—that acts as a pied-à-terre for her family

when they're not at their primary residence in Belo Horizonte, the city in southeastern Brazil where Vasconcellos grew up.

The 1940s-era apartment sits on the 14th floor of a late—Art Deco,

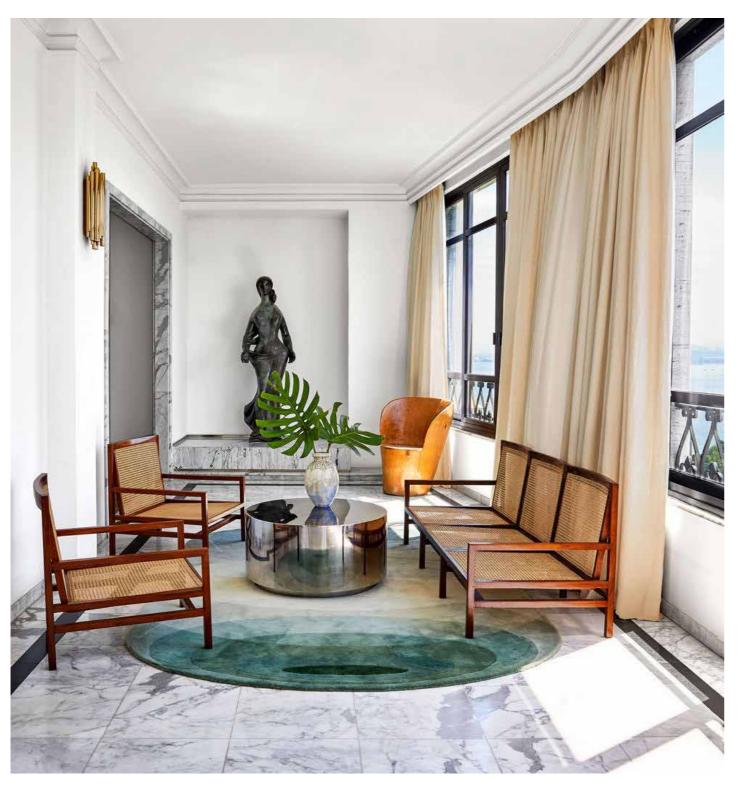
Provocative Art Provocative Art



stepdaughters, adding two bathrooms, and unifying a piecemeal kitchen into a single space. Decor-wise, she kept the walls white and the colors neutral, with an emphasis on warm woods; textures like bouclé, cane, and Kuba cloth (from the Democratic Republic of the Congo); and accents of natural stone.

Throughout the apartment, Vasconcellos added mirrors and other reflective surfaces Provocative Art Provocative Art

as a way to harness all the light and also to appease her husband, a nanotechnologist, who generally prefers cool metals. In the entryway, a mirrorpolished stainless steel console by the French designer Hervé Van der Straeten



sits perched beneath a Warhol print, while the Campana brothers' Brasilia coffee table, a mosaic of mirrored shards, acts as a foil to the more nature-inspired flourishes in the living room. In one area of the apartment, Vasconcellos even applied silver leaf to a wall of panels hiding the HVAC system.

The furniture in the apartment skews toward standouts from Brazilian modernism—designs from Joaquim Tenreiro, Carlo Hauner and Martin Eisler for the Brazilian company

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Forma, and Sergio Rodrigues. The exceptions are the pieces Vasconcellos created herself. A gradient rug she designed in collaboration with her former business partner Matheus Barreto echoes the blues of the nearby

sea, while a selection of her velvetupholstered Giraffe chairs, framing a green marble dining table, are meant, with their curved spines, to mimic a woman's embrace.



You'll see why designer Tatyana Miron Ahlers has always been the hostess with the mostest.



Shortly after graduating from college, **Tatyana Miron Ahlers moved from Boston** to Brooklyn and took up residence with four guys in their early 20s. "We could barely be bothered to kick the junk mail out of the doorway," says one of those roommates, Kelefa Sanneh, now a staff writer for the New Yorker. But Ahlers "embarked upon brave projects to try and upgrade the place," says Sanneh, recalling the arrival of "a beautiful pair of 1940s slipper chairs, which lived unhappily amid our postcollegiate crap like exotic animals in a shabby zoo."

At her next apartment, a miraculous space in Manhattan where a hidden deck was accessible via a kitchen window, she taught all her peers how to entertain effortlessly. Freshly arrived in the city, I remember climbing through that window and marveling at her world. While the rest of us were drinking Popov out of red Solo cups maybe dressed with a wedge of lemon, Ahlers served wine in crystal goblets, likely sourced from the Triple Pier Antiques Show. And she had enough of them to go around.

In the living room of Tatyana Miron Ahlers's Manhattan apartment, a 1970s sofa from Ahlers's father's former office, re-covered in a Fortuny fabric, is paired with Edwardian library chairs. The vintage cocktail table has a petrified wood top, the Reinaldo Sanguino ceramic stool is from the Future Perfect, the side table (right) is a vintage Dunhill humidor, and the iron floor lamps are from David Bell Antiques.

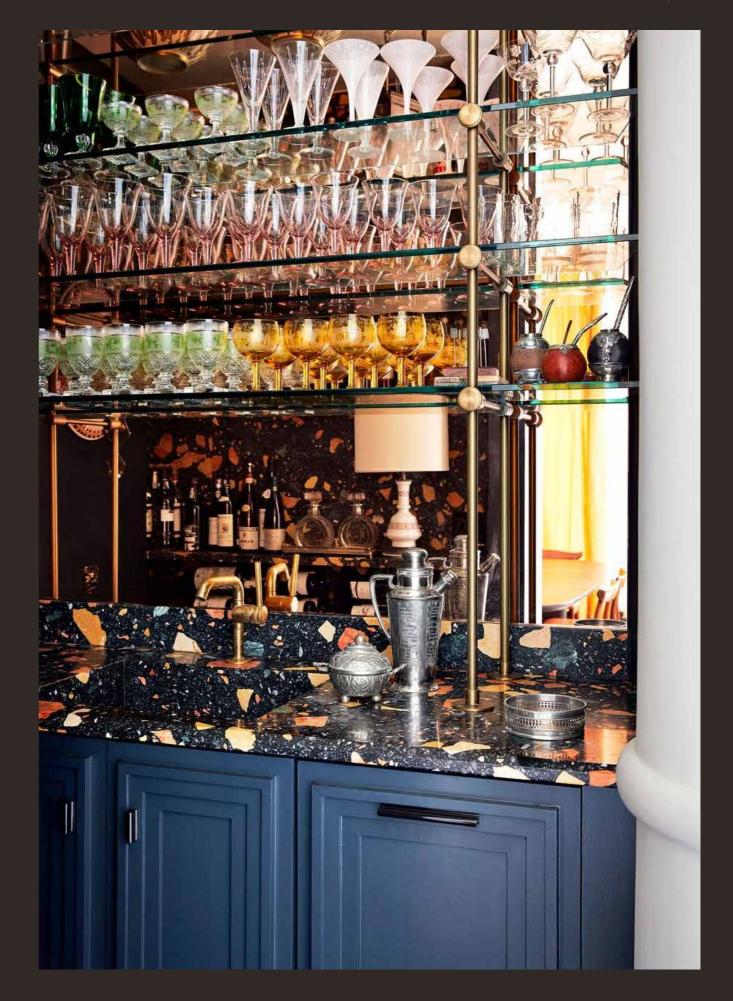
"I don't care about provenance or preciousness," she says. "Besides art, I don't collect things of value—I'd put something from a junkyard on my coffee table. And I never try to make it 'all go together.' I like the juxtaposition of the modern and the old, because if each of the things is something I love, somehow they're united."

To decorate in this way requires skill and faith, an enduring belief that the way a room resonates has as much to do with its contents as with the kind of life it allows. "Clients never get the full expression of Tatyana's vision because they're never as daring," Pappas observes. "They pick the safer choice. And Tatyana never picks the safer choice."

In the dining room, the table is by Edward Barber and Jay Osgerby for B&B Italia, the Erik Worts chairs are vintage, the pendant is by RW Guild, the flooring is Max Lamb's Marmoreal, and the lithograph is by Joan Miró.







Maximum Family Fun Maximum Family Fun



In the kitchen, the custom table is in Max Lamb's Marmoreal through Dzek, the chairs are by Modernica, the industrial pendant is vintage, and the artwork is by Ahlers's mother-in-law, María José Zamora Solórzano. A Shaws sink is inset into an Ikea cabinet, and the backsplash tile is from Mosaic House.



**Just one example: When Ahlers** needed a piece of art big enough to hold a large wall in her living room, she commissioned the outsider artist Earl Swanigan to paint a family portrait, sending only a snapshot as inspiration. The resulting canvas depicting her family as a group of cats pulls the room together. "That was risky," she admits, "but I didn't want to tell him what to do. And he gave me a great price. I love it."

**According to Pappas, Ahlers has** "X-ray vision" when it comes to reimagining space. "She sees through bad built-ins and hideous paint jobs," Pappas says. This talent came in handy when Ahlers and her lawyer husband rented a loft in an 1880s cast-iron building across from New York's City Hall. **Upon seeing walls in primary** colors and Formica cabinetry, some would have walked away. **But Ahlers noticed the soaring** ceilings and large windows and grabbed it.

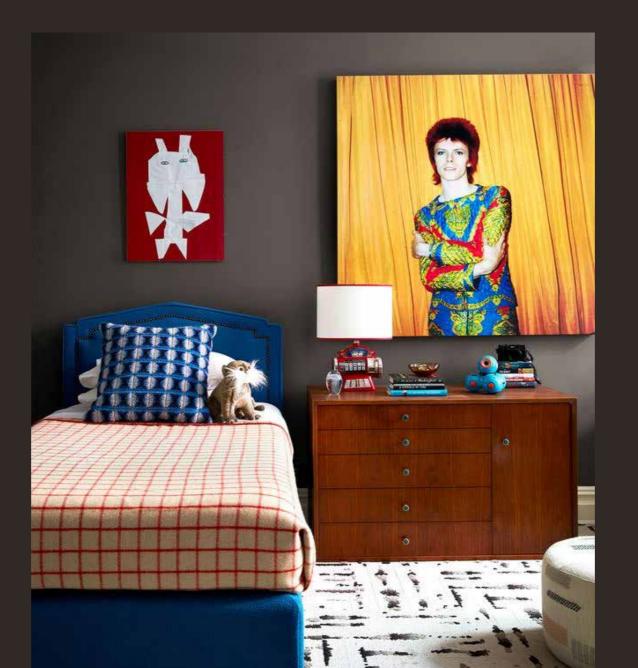






When the owners decided not to move back from **Europe, the couple bought** the space and began raising their family there. But then **Ahlers learned she was** pregnant with her third child, and she and her husband

realized they'd need more than two bedrooms to accommodate their growing brood. "It was either try to make enough noise to get the neighbors out," she jokes, "or find someplace else to live."





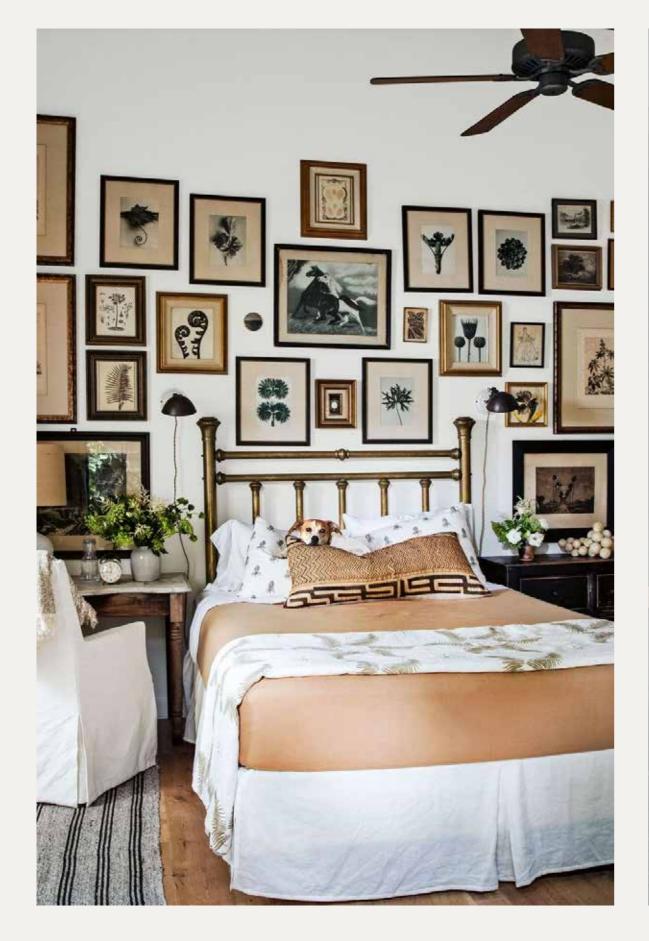
The one space in your bedroom that shouldn't be overlooked.

You may have settled on the perfect bed design, but there's another element that can play a significant role in giving your space a fashionable look. Abovebed decor—whether it's a standout painting, a collection of china, or a vintage brass mirror—is the finishing touch that can take your bedroom to the next level.

#### ABOVE-BED DECOR IDEAS TO



# ENHANCE YOUR ROOM'S VISUAL APPEAL





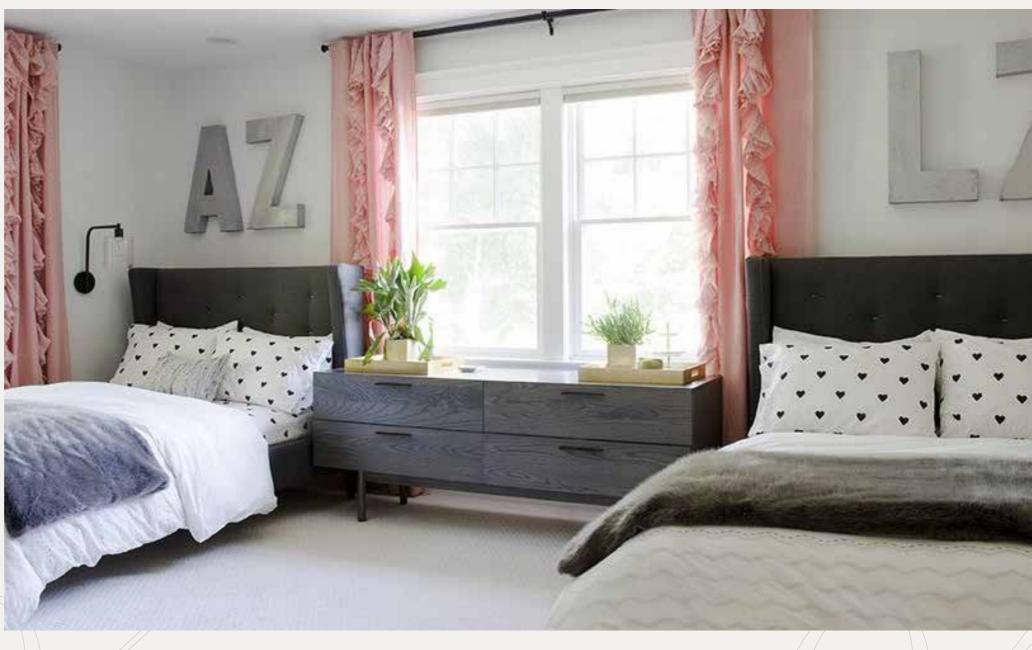
#### **GALLERY WALL**

A gallery wall is an easy way to add a personalized touch to a bedroom. Here, botanical prints in tan, black, and white, prove that choosing a specific theme and color can pay off in a major way.

#### METALLIC **SCULPTURE**

A striking metallic sculpture is flanked by a pair of 1950s sconces from Ignazio Gardella in a Chicago guest bedroom designed by Steven Gambrel.



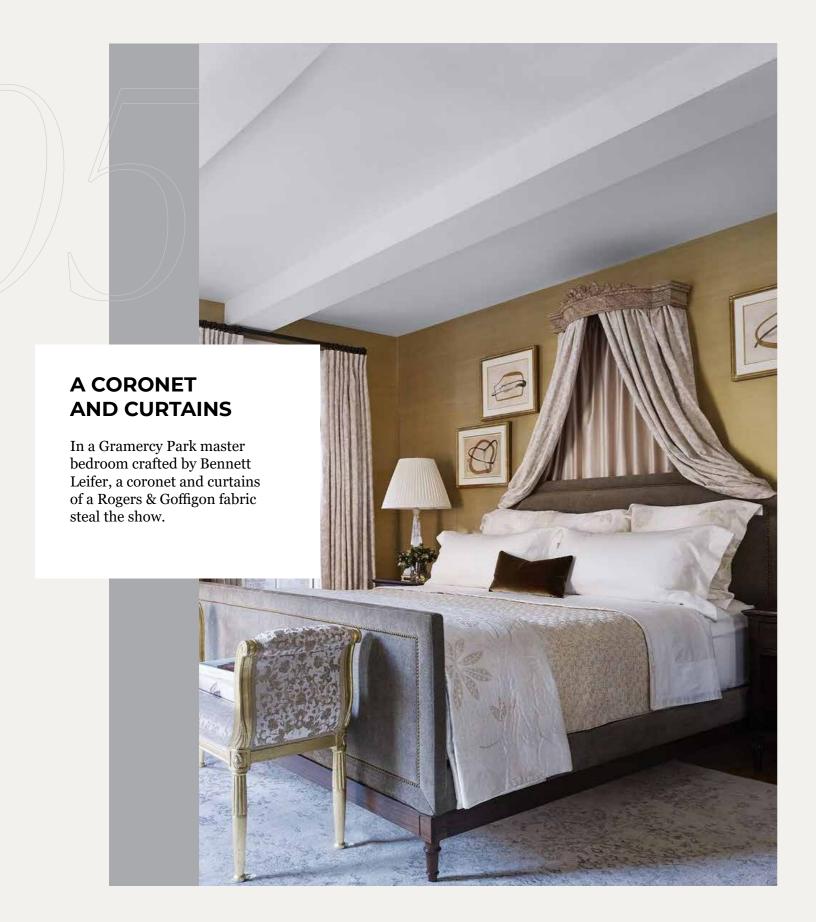


#### **FRAMED MAP**

A colorful framed map, paired with a light fixture by Claire Norcross for Luminosity, adds a playful touch to this girl's bedroom in a Marrakech home.

#### **MONOGRAM WALL DECALS**

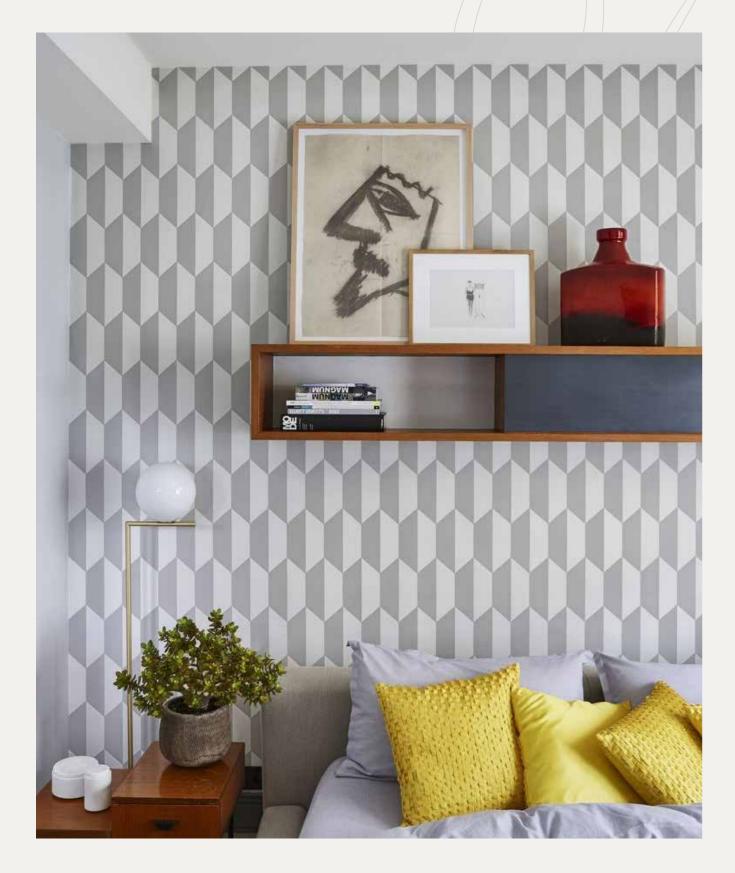
Thanks to silver monogram wall decals, symmetry is at work in this girls' bedroom designed by Kristina Crestin.





#### **SLEEK SHELVING**

A large drawing by Joe Bradley sits on top of a sleek 1950s wall unit in the guest room of this Monaco apartment.







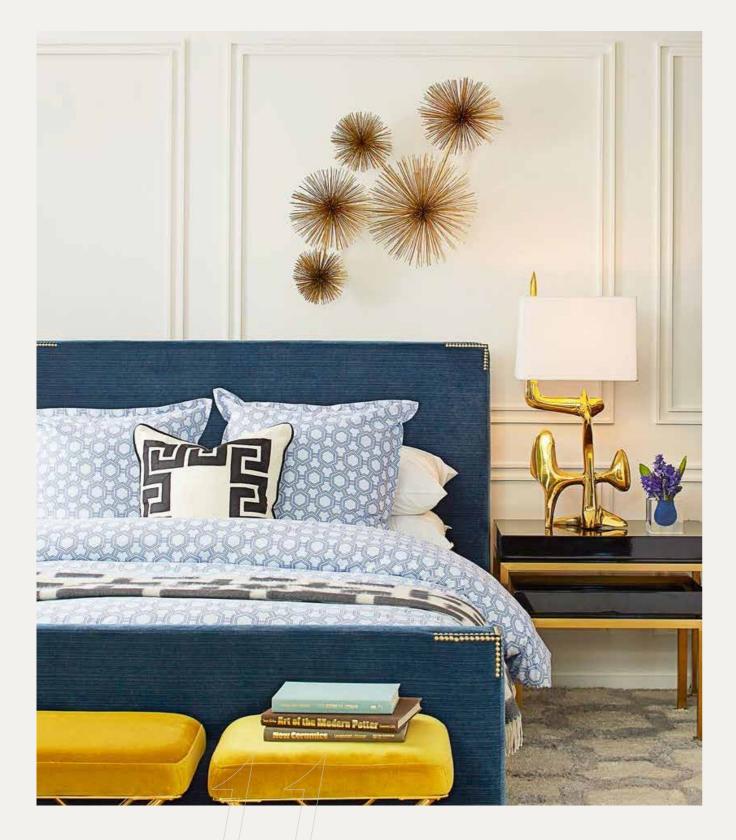


#### **OVERSIZED MIRROR**

Ralph Lauren executive Buffy Birrittella relied on a mirror to amp up the decor in her cozy Hamptons bedroom.

#### **COLORFUL PAINTING**

A colorful painting by Ivon Hitchens creates a focal point in retail guru Patricia Greene Isen's polished master bedroom in New York's Upper East Side.





For this glam bedroom, renowned designer and potter Jonathan Adler positioned a collection of brass urchins above the bed.



#### **ANTIQUE** CHINA

In addition to papier-mâché plates from John Derian, a grouping of antique English china lend charm to this blue master bedroom in a Lisbon apartment.





#### **18TH-CENTURY ITALIAN MIRROR**

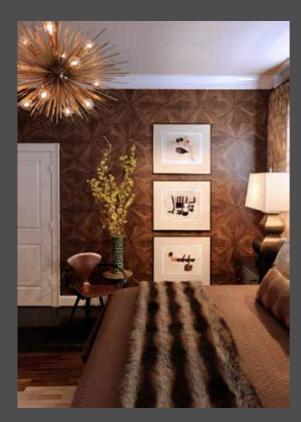
In a Greenwich Village bedroom, an 18th-century Italian mirror above the bed is balanced with an eye-catching collection of paintings against walls in Farrow & Ball's Off-White.

#### **STATEMENT LIGHT FIXTURE**

Thoughtful lighting choices, including a fixture above the bed by Elizabeth Garouste and Ralph Lauren Home table lamps, make for an elegant master bedroom in a Miami beachfront property.



Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep -– Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep



#### **EARTHY HUES**

Earthy tones and textures unite in this bedroom design scheme by Ben Johnston, who is known for his classic, visually appealing spaces.



#### **SULTRY REDS**

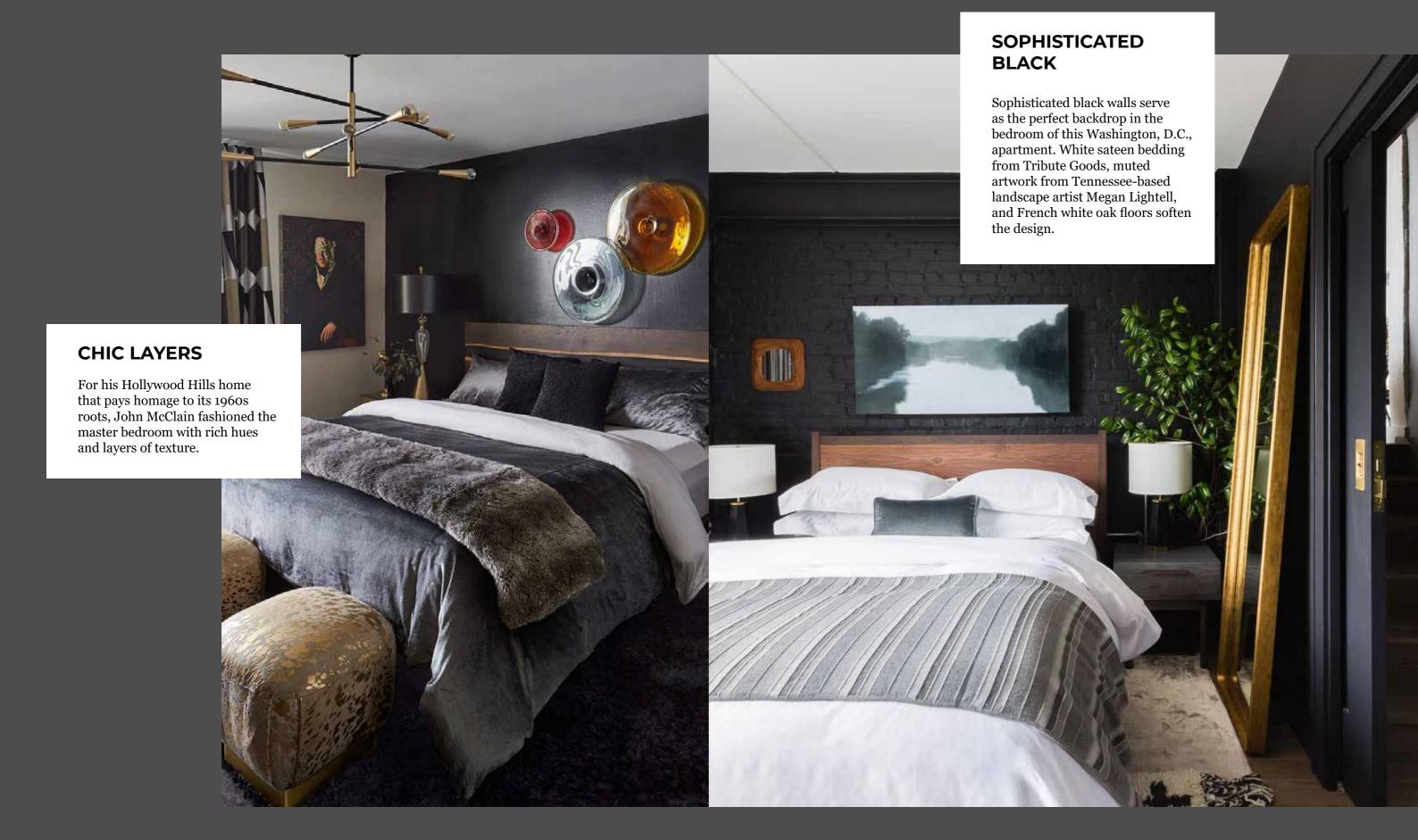
In this bedroom in designer Lorenzo Castillo's home, a deep red palette lends a sophisticated, sensuous flair to the space. The wallpaper is by Sanderson, the headboard is upholstered in a Valentino velvet, the bench is Louis XV-style and the Spanish mirrors are 17th- and 18thcentury. Paintings by Yturralde finish the look.



#### **TEXTURED BEAUTY**

A mix of classic and modern aesthetics are at work in this New York guest bedroom designed by Thom Filicia. The room is outfitted with layers of texture, including a custom rug from Patterson Flynn & Martin and drapery fabric by Mila Blake.

Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep - Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep







For the master bedroom in her 1920s Chicago penthouse, Alisa Bloom embraced a dark palette, choosing walls sheathed in a black Holland & Sherry fabric. Along with unsigned artwork from Redefined Chicago, the space features a B&B Italia bed in a Holland & Sherry wool, a desk by Lucien Rollin, and a chair by Oscar de la Renta for Century. The 1940s console was purchased in Paris.



**FLOOR TO** CEILING

Decorator Alisa Bloom outfitted her blue Chicago penthouse guest bedroom with a headboard in a vintage French fabric, and a pillow and coverlet in a Lee Jofa silk. Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep – – Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep



#### **GLAM BLUE**

A rancher in Upstate New York benefits from glam blue walls—upholstered in a Ralph Lauren wool suiting— along with a ceiling covered in a Stark tea-leaf paper, custom wool carpet by Hokanson, and artwork (over the bed) by Richard Serra.



#### **DEEP GRAY**

In Andy Cohen's Greenwich Village apartment, gray Ralph Lauren Home wallpaper complements the shades on the vintage Pierre Giraudon green-resin nightstand lamps from John Salibello. The bed is upholstered in a Maharam plaid by Paul Smith and dressed with Pratesi linens.

Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep – Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep



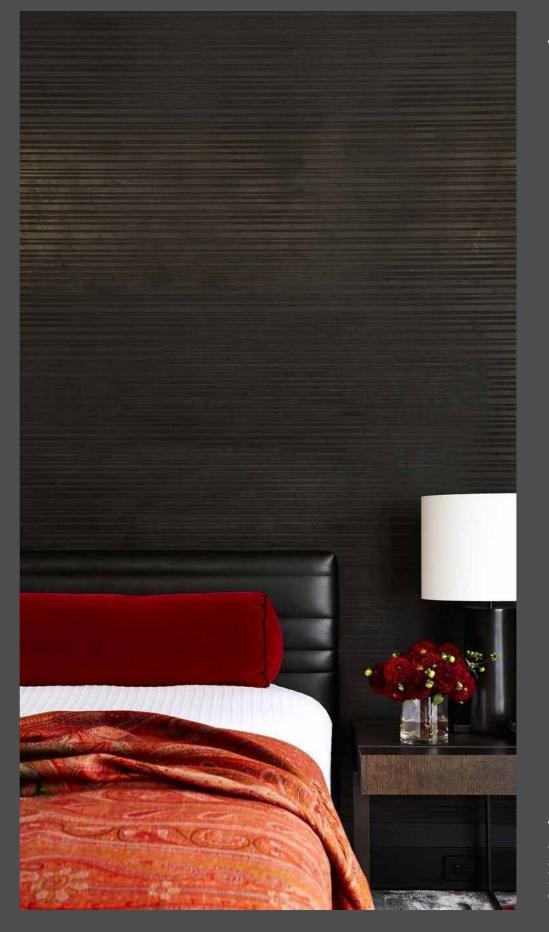
#### **DRAMATIC** BLUE

Carol Fertig transformed this Manhattan apartment with deep blue walls, an antique suzani, ivory linen pillows by Calvin Klein Home, and a Swedish inlaid wood table from the 1950s.

#### **EARTH TONES**

In this Manhattan home by Steven Gambrel, the children's bedroom showcases the power of color to transform a room. Rich browns and pops of orange tie the playful space together. The trundle bed is painted in Benjamin Moore's Ravishing Red, and the ceiling is painted in the company's Rust. The nightstand, featuring stylish nailheads, is by Restoration Hardware, the side table is by Jonathan Adler, the photographs are by Lynn Davis, and the raffia wallcovering is by Phillip Jeffries.





#### **LUXE TEXTURES**

Textured black walls, along with a combination of deep browns and reds, steal the show in the luxurious master bedroom of a Central Park apartment.

Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep -– Dark Bedrooms for a Restful Sleep





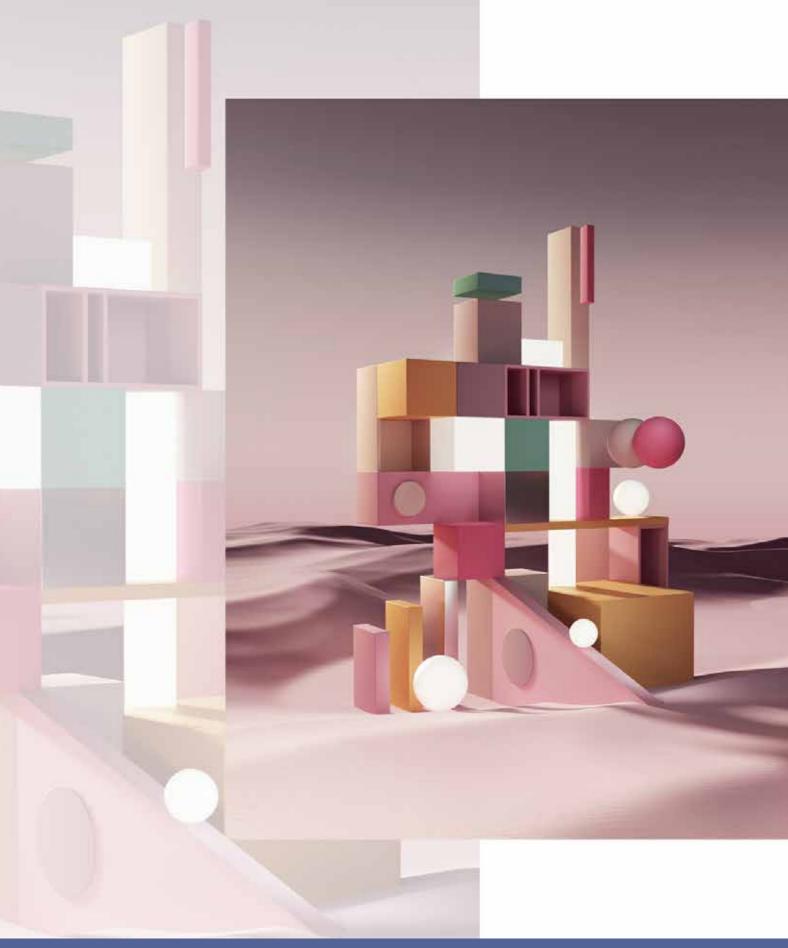
**BLACK MEETS GRAY**  An elegant combination of black and gray tones finish this bedroom design by Mark Cunningham. Cozy fabrics and doses of chrome add to the modern, elevated aesthetic.

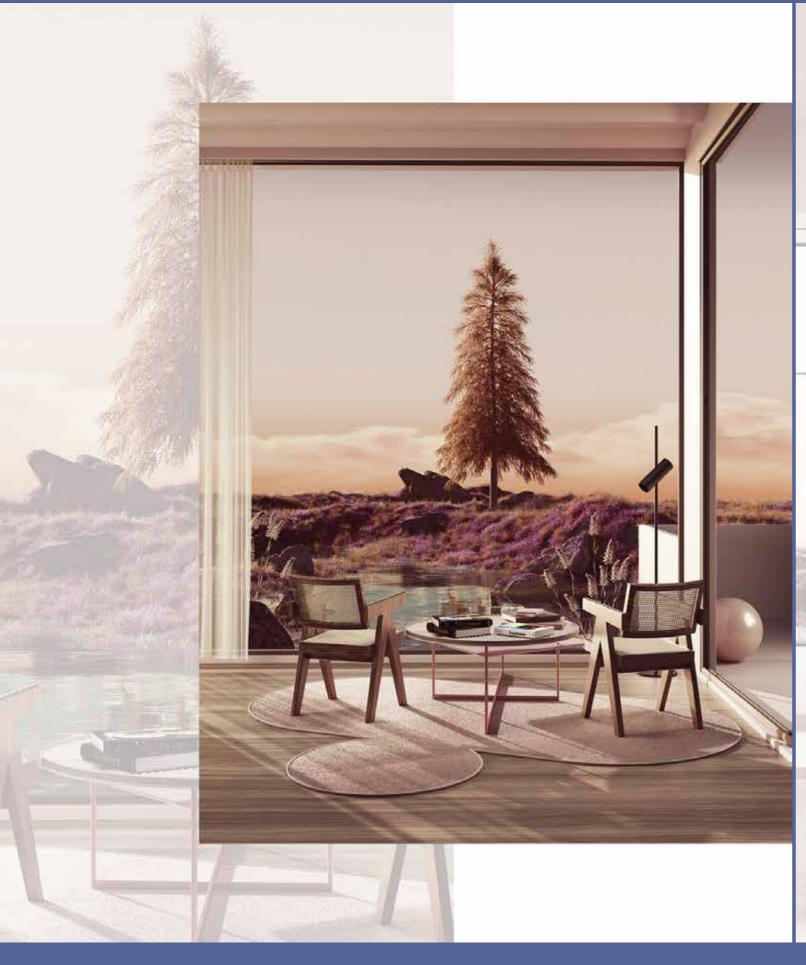
**STATEMENT FLORALS** 

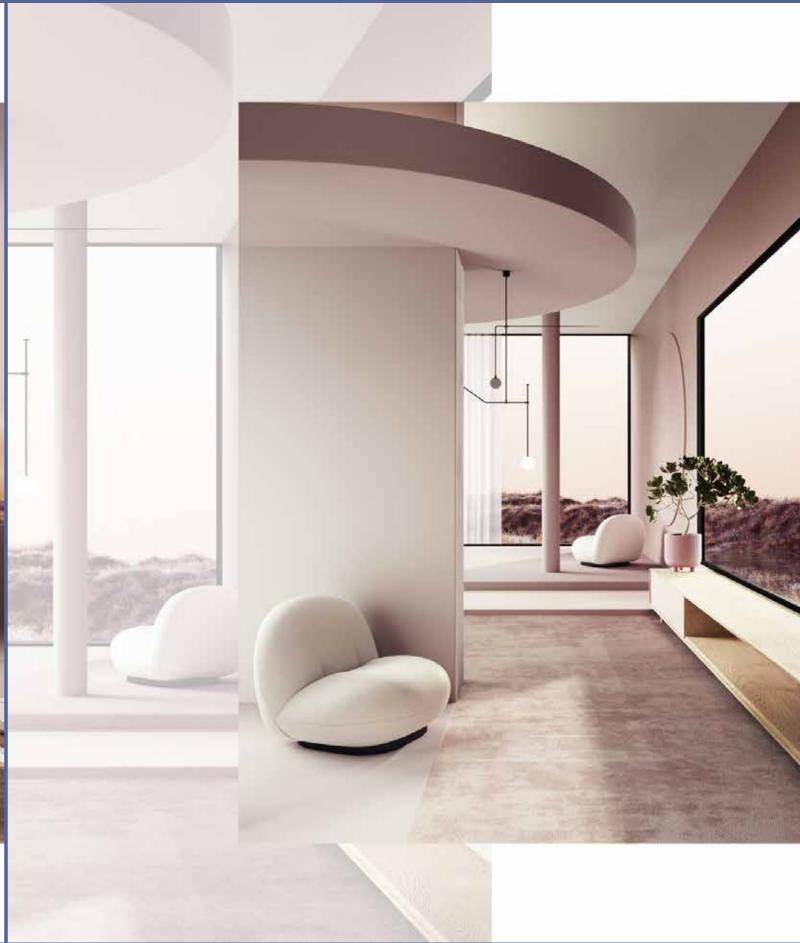
Interior designer Mary McDonald relied on a riot of florals to create a maximalist bedroom in the California home of TooFaced co-founders, Jerrod Blandino and Jeremy Johnson. The design also features curtains in Schumacher's Bermuda Blossoms fabric, a black and ivory rug from Loloi's Kahelo Collection, and Greek Key bedding in black from Williams-Sonoma Home.



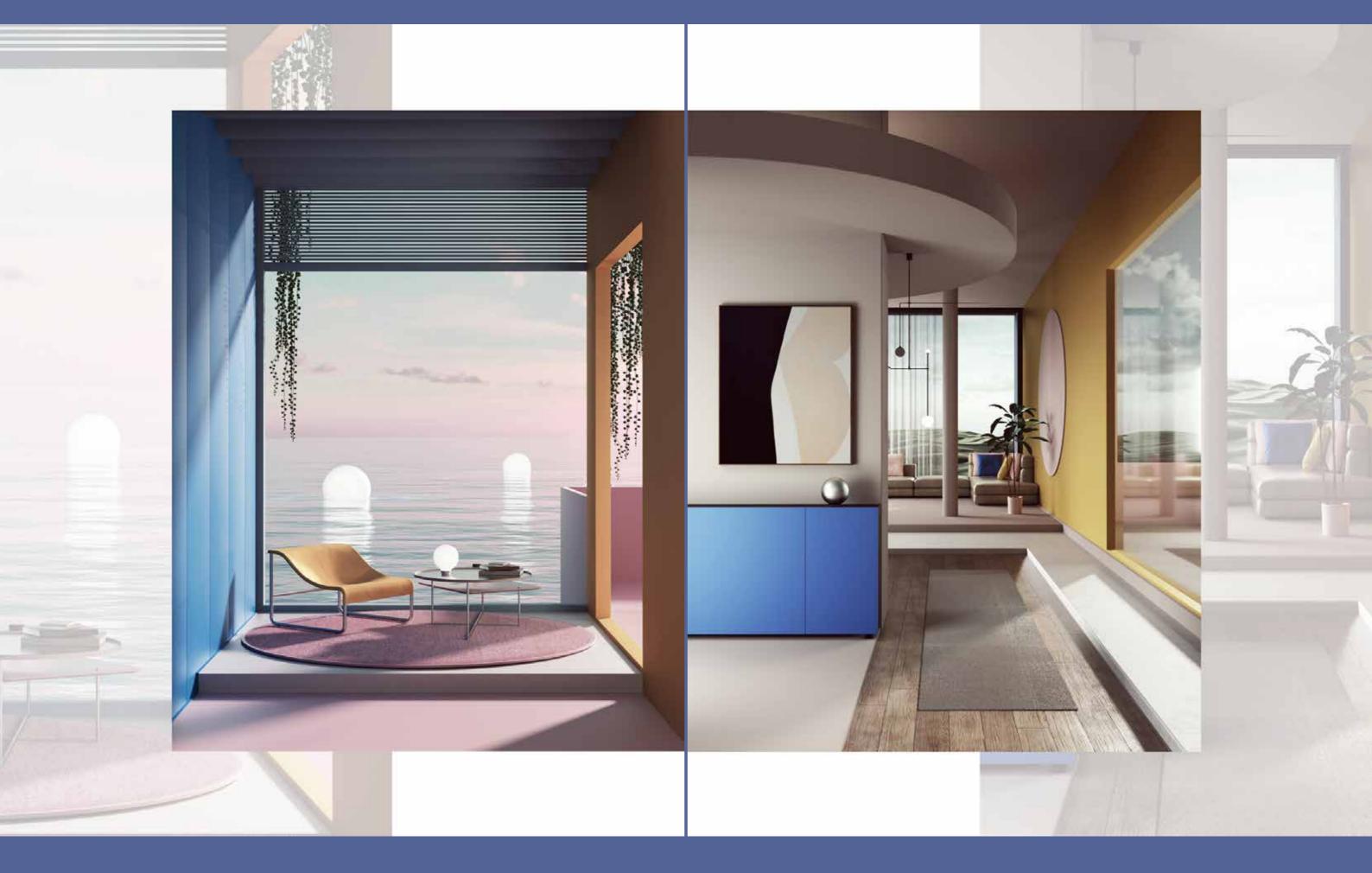




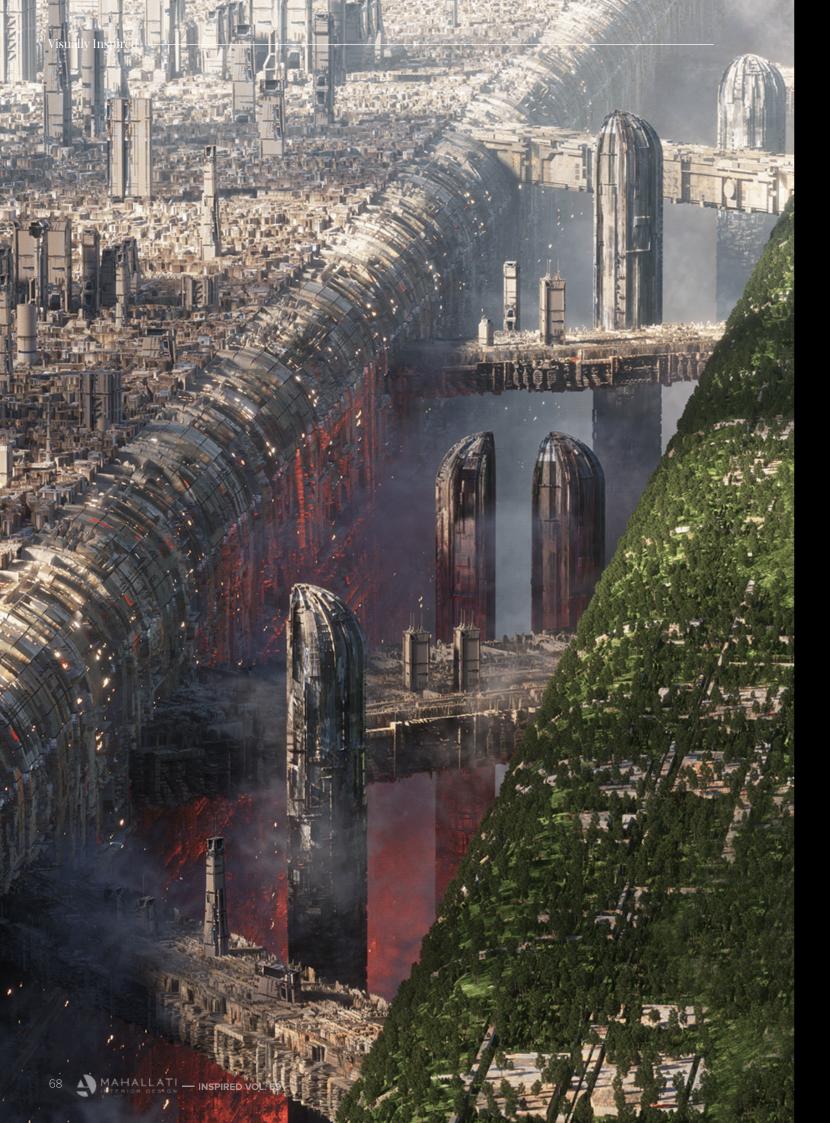


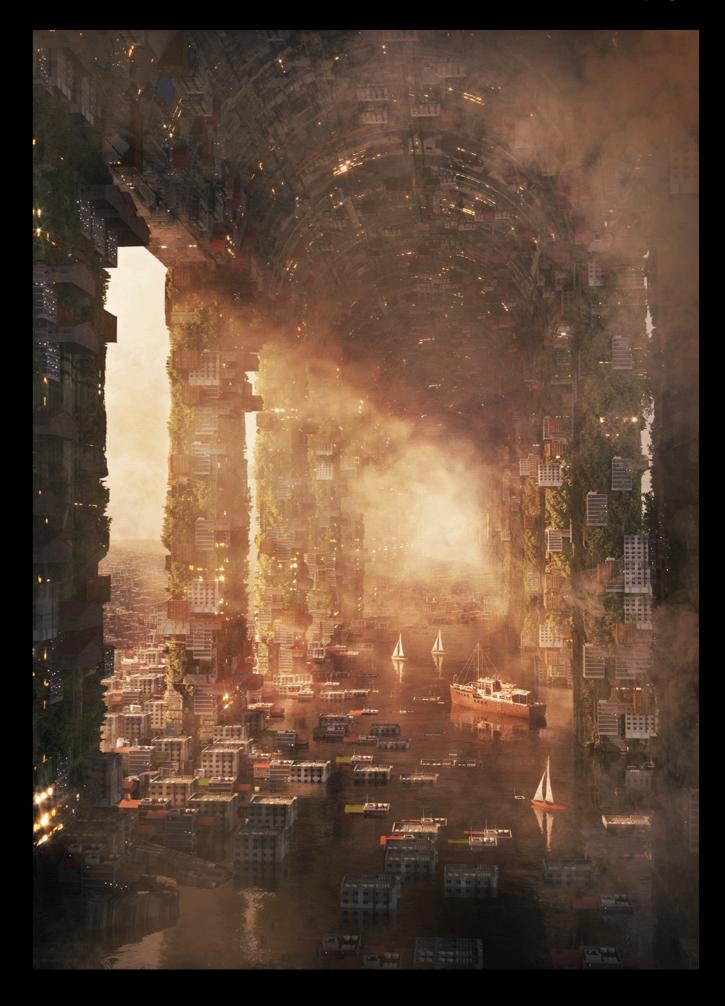


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