

Fresh Look

San Francisco designer Patti McAdaragh of Clement Mac worked with the owner of this stunning Telegraph Hill penthouse to infuse the space with sleek city style, without breaking the bank. CH&D reports.

TEXT BY COURTNEY CARTER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT SONDGRATH

INTERIOR DESIGN BY PATTY MCADARAGH, IIDA, OF CLEMENT MAC, SAN FRANCISCO

In the Viewing Room, McAdaragh used a sheer fabric Roman shade lined with special silver fabric, which blocks fifty percent of the sunlight and is translucent when closed. McAdaragh did not want the furniture to compete with the view, so she gave the room a very neutral, textural look. She recovered plaid chairs in puckered chenille fabric and linen striped fabric. To add warmth to the wood floors, she used a neutral wool carpet with a subtle pattern. The chairs face the windows to take full advantage of the view and are gathered around Chinese dowry chests, which double as a coffee table.



Left: The terrace is a great space for entertaining and designer Patti McAdaragh made it more usable by adding an ironwork railing to the parapet wall and installing a limestone floor. The plants scattered around give a backyard feel to the urban setting.

Below: The living room is a prime example of McAdaragh's non-formulaic approach to design. "What makes a great room is to be able to combine many elements," McAdaragh remarks. She used warm grays, tans, and bright whites to enhance the rich wood tones and creamy fabrics used throughout. The painted beams were re-veneered in cherry wood to create a more rustic, Mediterranean feel that is more conducive to the building's architecture.

Right: The living room features small bucket chairs from Argentina, which were recovered in linen with double piping to enhance and capture the detail in the chair. The matching sideboard is cherry wood with inlay.



When the owner of this Mediterranean-style penthouse on Telegraph Hill first saw the property, she fell in love with it. There was only one hitch. She had just made a significant investment in new furnishings for her last home. The style there had been traditional English—complete with chintz upholstered pieces. Thus, she wanted to utilize her existing furnishings but update their look to work in the new space. Additionally, the homeowner had a lovely collection of furniture from China, Argentina, and England that she want-

ed to incorporate. Designer Patti McAdaragh of Clement Mac was called in to transform the space. McAdaragh's finished product is an apartment that combines old and new while creating a design that blends with the architecture.

The existing English-style furniture consisted of multi-colored plaids, green gingham, purple floral chintzes, button tufting, and ruffled skirts that were re-used and recovered in warm neutral linens, herringbones, and chenille. The ruffles and tufting were eliminated, and wood turned legs, brass casters, and tailored skirts were used in their place. The homeowner was able to retain her favorite pieces but change their look to match the style of the house. McAdaragh also changed the lighting throughout the

home because as she asserts, "lighting is critical to design." McAdaragh created different lighting effects in each room that are both functional and decorative.

McAdaragh used neutral fabrics in the living room, leaving the viewer to focus on the art and furniture bought abroad. "I wanted to create a warm and inviting room where the furniture blends with the other key elements," she notes. The furniture highlights are the Chinese altar table and the 17th-century French armoire the homeowner purchased abroad. McAdaragh and the homeowner went on a buying trip to Santa Fe, where they purchased accessories like the various pots scattered throughout the room as well as the wool-faced Indian rug. The owner has an extensive collection of Latin American artwork and plein air landscapes from various American artists. McAdaragh reframed most of the artwork and changed the room's lighting, creating a gallery effect to enhance the works.

The highlight of the house is the Viewing Room, which boasts amazing city views and is a prime entertaining spot. The previous owners did not incorporate down lighting, so the room was either light or dark. McAdaragh installed new lighting to enhance the room. The room faces west, so sun protection was necessary, but the homeowner did not want to lose the view.

A dining nook is conveniently located just steps down from the Viewing Room. McAdaragh decided that a heavy wooden table would weigh the room down, so she employed a custom iron base table with a glass top and wooden chairs to emphasize the space's architecture and texture.

Beyond of the Viewing Room is a delightful terrace. The existing outdoor parapet wall had been too low and unsafe for entertaining, and the terrace was worn out. McAdaragh solved the safety and aesthetic problems by adding custom ironwork railing to the parapet wall. The terrace floor was replaced with limestone floor tiles and a mosaic border. Rustic pots along the wall are brimming with plants, completing the Mediterranean look. In keeping with the rest of the home, the pots are an eclectic international assortment, the largest of which is centuries old from Greece.

The penthouse is now a delightful retreat for the homeowner, her friends, and family. ■

Right: The master bedroom is less eclectic than the other rooms in the home. The green gingham headboard was replaced with a neutral textured fabric. The walls were painted silver gray with alabaster-colored molding, to create an environment of formal elegance. The curtains and bedding were custom designed using silk fabric. The only break from the neutral tone in the room is the Chinese footstool in front of the puckered chair.

