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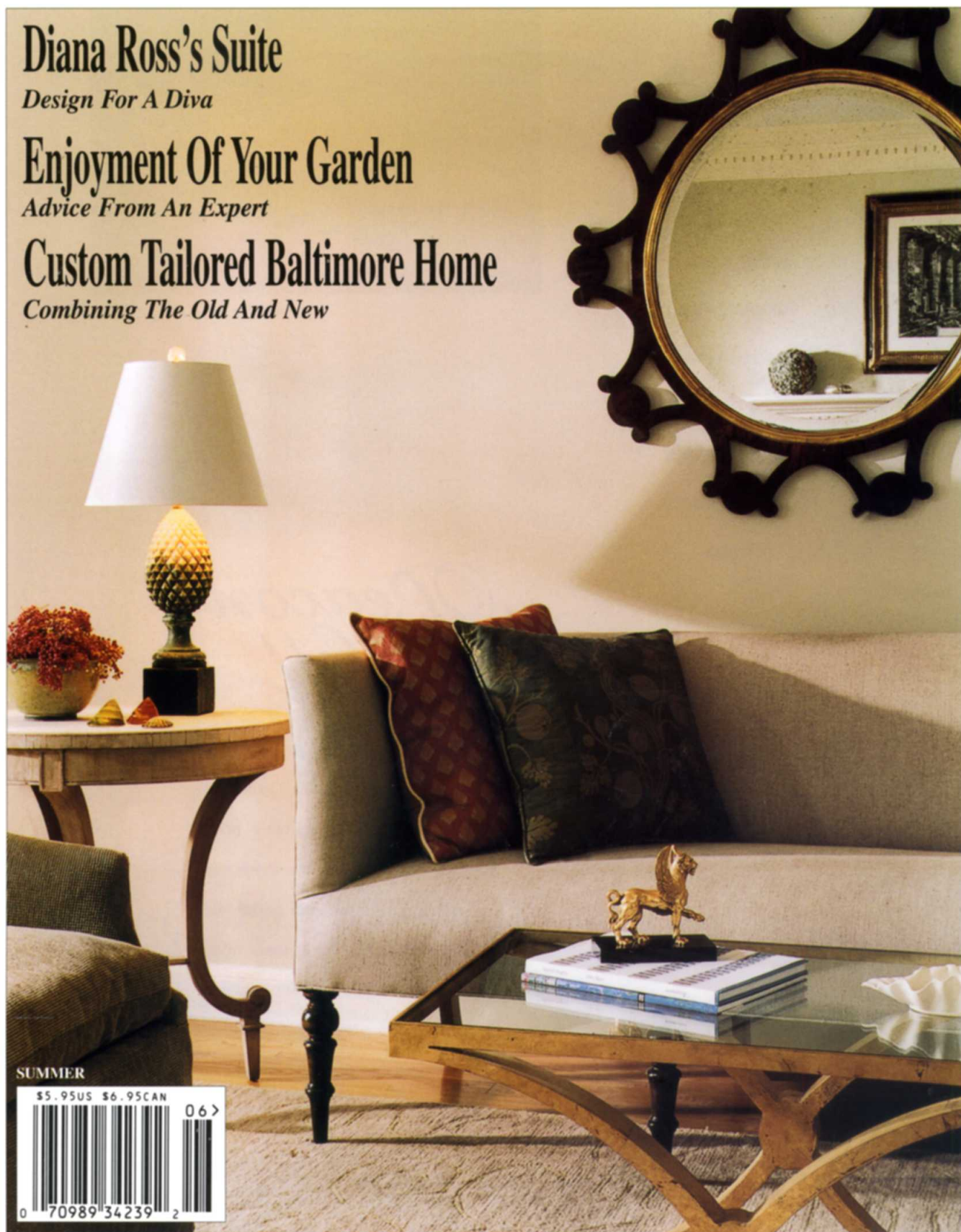
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CUSTOM TAILORED HOME

Weaving The Old With The New

INTERIOR DESIGN Jay Jenkins, Alexander Baer Associates, Baltimore, MD

ARCHITECTURE Jay Brown, Levin/Brown & Associates, Owings Mills, MD

BUILDER Richstone Custom Homes, Owings Mills, MD

TEXT Gwyn Walcoff, Crofton, MD

PHOTOGRAPHY Anne Gummerson, Baltimore, MD



Richard Livingston wore a different hat when he built his family's luxury custom home in Northwest Baltimore County. Along with the one he usually wears as president of Richstone Custom Homes, a successful estate home design/build management company in Baltimore, Mr. Livingston donned a "customer cap" and got a personal perspective on being both builder and buyer.

"It was a very valuable experience for me," he said. "It gave me an even greater appreciation for how we do business. Richstone Custom Homes has always emphasized the importance of selecting the right professional team for each new home. But, whether you are the builder or the buyer, using the right builder-architect-interior designer team is critical to the delivery of a home that is custom tailored to fit the homeowner family—in this case, my own."

ABOVE: The sweeping Country French exterior wrapped in natural field stone and dark wood beams contributes to the architectural appeal and commanding presence of the Livingston residence.

FACING: The living room captures the first light of morning, dramatically illuminating the faux limestone treatment on the chimney wall that replicates an antique limestone mantel from the Loire Valley in France.

FOLLOWING PAGES: The main level family room is a hub for entertaining. Conversation converges around a massive coffee table especially designed for the home by McLean Weisand. Jones Lighting highlighted the custom millwork created by Wolff Woodworking including the illuminated display shelves for the antique miniature rooms created by Richard Livingston's grandmother.







Principal architect Jay Brown of Levin/Brown & Associates began the architectural design with the same approach he takes with all clients even though he was working with his builder colleague, Mr. Livingston. He began by gathering information from Mr. Livingston and his wife Janet to establish the aesthetic and functional goals of the house. For example, they are very involved in charitable endeavors. Giving back to the community is a big part of who they are. So, he created interior spaces to entertain groups from twelve to two hundred. A catering kitchen is located adjacent to the main family kitchen, and part of the homesite was graded to accommodate a tent for extended entertaining space.

When the floorplan was established, Mr. Brown added furnishings to the blueprint to show the scale of each room and how it would accommodate future items such as a grand piano for Janet. As for Richard, he needed illuminated display cabinetry for an heirloom collection of furnished miniature rooms created by his grandmother. Enter Jay Jenkins, an interior designer with Alexander Baer & Associates.

Truly unique about this builder-architect-interior design team, is that the architect completely released the interior space to the recommendations and supervision of the interior designer. From developing the form and function of each room, to lighting and custom built-in cabinetry, Mr. Jenkins oversaw the entire interior of

RIGHT: The family-centered kitchen contrasts the soft finishes of country French pine furniture and a blend of maple and cherry cabinetry with rustic limestone flooring and the mirror like finish of granite countertops and backsplashes. The magnificent Delft porcelain chandelier that captures the focal point of the room is a family heirloom.

FOLLOWING PAGES: Elegant master bathroom features include a centered sink and vanity milled by Wolff Woodworking, then faux antiqued by The Valley Craftsmen, as well as a dramatic window treatment around the over-sized spa tub by Drapery Contractors. Marble tile by Floors Etc.











*An elegant powder room with custom vanity
by Wolff Woodworking and The Valley Craftsmen,
and a granite counter by Hilgartner Natural Stone,
is well located just off the main entry hall
and the family room and kitchen corridor.*

the home. Working from his own palette, he created a seamless flow from the exterior concept of the home to its interior living spaces.

For example, from Richstone Custom Home sources the Livingstons chose an exterior of natural field stone in sandy brown tones from southern Pennsylvania. Dark wood beams and trim accent the architect's classic country French facade. Designer Jay Jenkins carried this theme inside the home with a Durango limestone floor in the main kitchen and a commanding faux limestone treatment on the chimney wall and mantel of the living room fireplace. Richly seasoned random plank chestnut flooring milled from aged barn beams flows throughout the first floor entry hall, living room and dining room.

The masterful look of antique wood continues in the first-floor family room's beam ceiling, custom cabinetry and entertainment center, as well as the impressive paneling surrounding the room's oversized wood-burning fireplace. Other focal points in the home include the lavishly marbled and mirrored master bathroom which features a custom made freestanding vanity with a marble top and a two-sided pedestaled mirror. Cathedral ceilings and elegant sheered window accents around an oversized Jacuzzi spa tub make this room an extraordinary way to begin and end the day.

New furnishings and accessories were carefully chosen to work well with favorite antiques as well as future heirlooms that will be conveyed to the Livingstons over time. In the vestibule of Richard and Janet's first floor master bedroom, a beautiful 19th Century mirrored shaving stand is magnificently accented by one of the many artfully decorated faux finished walls in the home created by The Valley Craftsmen. Further, special lighting and display areas were threaded throughout to highlight the beautiful antique clock collection from Janet's childhood home.

Weaving the old with the new was also a consideration in the children's

RIGHT: The 18th century Louis XVI French day bed in the daughter's room once belonged to Richard Livingston's grandmother. Upholstery colors set the tone for creamy colors throughout the bedroom suite.





rooms. While each child's suite fulfilled every wish for a place to play, a place to study and a place to rest, the rooms were architecturally and decoratively planned to 'grow up' with the children. The focal point of Amy's room is a feminine Louis XVI French day bed dating to the late 1700s that once belonged to Richard's grandmother. The headboard and frame, sweetly upholstered in pale lime and pink, set the tone for the creamy colors that carry throughout Amy's dressing area and bathroom.

Sam's room is handsome and ageless in rich blues and browns with classic wood window shades and two antique four-poster beds. But, a built-in desk scaled for a child, a well-lighted play table and custom cabinets displaying a favorite snow dome collection, definitely say that a little boy lives here.

"It's all about personal relationship and professional experience," says Mr. Livingston on the importance of selecting a good design/build team. "The architect, builder and designer materialize the buyer's dreams, dealing with what's personally important in his lifestyle now and in the foreseeable future. It's the difference between just building a home and building the buyer's dream home."

Gwyn Walcoff is president of IMPR, Inc., Information Marketing Public Relations, in Crofton, Maryland. She is an author and a journalist on the subjects of food, travel and home.

SOURCES

LIVING ROOM

Gas Fireplace: Heat N'Glo, Thulman Eastern, Annapolis Junction, MD

Limestone Hearth & Surround: Hilgartner Natural Stone, Baltimore, MD

Mantel Moldings: Milton G. Bosley Moldings, Glen Burnie, MD

Faux Limestone: The Valley Craftsmen, Baltimore, MD

Chestnut Wood Floors: Ross Lumber & Mastercare Wood Floors.

Aubison Area Rug: Alex Cooper Oriental Rugs, Towson, MD

RIGHT: Two handsome four-poster beds and special built-in shelves for the son's snow dome collection, a play table and a custom-sized desk, all announce that a little boy lives here.





FAMILY ROOM

Custom Carpet: Floors Etc., Pikesville, MD
Masonry Fireplace: Andrew Boyer Masonry, Hanover, PA
Limestone Fireplace Hearth & Surround:
Hilgartner Natural Stone, Baltimore, MD
Fireplace Mantel and Ceiling Moldings:
Milton G. Bosley Moldings, Glen Burnie, MD
Cabinetry, Bookshelves, & Entertainment Center:
Wolff Woodworking, Owings Mills, MD
Home Theater and Whole House Audio:
Directors Chair Entertainment, Timonium, MD
Faux painting: The Valley Craftsmen, Baltimore, MD
Light Fixtures: Jones Lighting, Timonium, MD

KITCHEN

Omega Cabinetry: Stuart Kitchens, Pikesville, MD
Pewter cabinet hardware: Designers Hardware,
Baltimore, MD
Granite Countertops: Hilgartner Natural Stone,
Baltimore, MD
Kohler Sinks and Faucets: Ferguson Gallery,
Woodlawn, MD
Viking, Asko, Best, & Subzero Appliances:
Zamoiski Distributing, Baltimore, MD
Durango Limestone Floors: Floors, Etc., Pikesville, MD
Light Fixtures: Jones Lighting, Towson, MD
Draperies: Drapery Contractors, Baltimore, MD
Pella Windows & Patio Doors: KC Company,
Timonium, MD

MASTER BATHROOM

Marble Tile and Flooring: Floors Etc., Baltimore, MD
Custom Cabinetry: Wolff Woodworking, Owings Mills, MD
Marble Countertop: Hilgartner Natural Stone,
Baltimore, MD
Cabinet Antique Painting: The Valley Craftsmen,
Baltimore, MD
Custom Mirror and Frame: McLean Wiesand,
Baltimore, MD
Gold Rim Sinks: Kallista, The Ferguson Gallery,
Woodlawn, MD
Rat-Tail Brass Faucets: St. Thomas from
Thomas Somerville
Frameless Shower Doors and Mirrors: Mirrors and More,
Randallstown, MD
Plumbing: Catons Plumbing, Catonsville, MD
Whirlpool Tub: American Whirlpool, The Ferguson Gallery,
Woodlawn, MD

MASTER BEDROOM VESTIBULE

Furniture Restoration: Nelson and Adajian,
Baltimore, MD
Faux Wall Treatment: The Valley Craftsmen,
Baltimore, MD
Light Fixtures: Jones Lighting, Baltimore, MD
Marble Tile Floors: Floors Etc., Pikesville, MD

POWDER ROOM

Custom Vanity: Wolff Woodworking, Owings Mills, MD
Vanity Faux Paint: The Valley Craftsmen, Baltimore, MD
Granite Countertop: Hilgartner Natural Stone,
Baltimore, MD





Tobacco Leaf Sink: Kallista, The Ferguson Gallery, Woodlawn, MD

Beaded Faucet: Andre, The Ferguson Gallery, Woodlawn, MD

Light Fixtures: Jones Lighting, Towson, MD

Mirror: Alexander Baer Associates, Baltimore, MD

DAUGHTER'S ROOM

Draperies: Drapery Contractors, Baltimore, MD

Bed Linens: Linens and Lingerie, Baltimore, MD

Paint: Sherwyn Williams, D&B Painting, Reisterstown, MD

SON'S ROOM

Bed Woodwork Refinishing: Baltimore Paint Removal, Baltimore, MD

Custom Bookshelves & Desk: Wolff Woodworking, Owings Mills, MD

EXTERIOR

Landscape Design: Eric Friedman, Friedman Associates, Baltimore, MD

Landscape Plantings: Maxalea Nurseries, Baltimore, MD

Stone & Brick Masonry Contractor: Andrew Boyer Masonry, Hanover, PA

Barn Foundation Stones: Ross Lumber, Hanover, PA

Brick Pavers: Endicott Brick, L&L Supply, Lutherville, MD

Bluestone Pavers: Luck Stone, Sterling, VA

Pella Windows: KC Co., Timonium, MD

Siding & Siding Contractor: Cemplank, Schaefer Siding, Sykesville, MD

Roofing & Roof Contractor: Tampko, Columbia Roofing, Columbia, MD

Gutter & Downspout Contractor: J & J Hopkins, Baltimore, MD

Light Fixtures: Jones Lighting, Baltimore, MD

Exterior Millwork: PermaTrim, Jarvis Steel & Lumber, Baltimore, MD

Custom Wood Entrance Gate: MacLea Architectural Wood Products, Riderwood, MD

Entrance Gate Controls Contractor: GateTech Security Systems, Columbia, MD

Driveway Paving Contractor: M.T. Laney, Sykesville, MD

LEFT: From developing the form and function of each room, to lighting and custom built-in cabinetry, Jay Jenkins oversaw the entire interior of the home. Working from his own palette, he created a seamless flow from the exterior concept of the home to its interior living spaces. A surrealism inspired contemporary oil painting boldly anchors the confluence of the entry hall and the family room-kitchen corridor.