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TRADITIONAL HOME[®]

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COLOR

SET A RESTFUL
MOOD WITH
SILVERY BLUES
p44

WHAT MAKES
DREW BARRYMORE
TRADITIONAL?
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spring
fresh &
fabulous

BE INSPIRED!
DECORATING IDEAS
FOR EVERY ROOM
IN YOUR HOME

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STYLISH STRATEGIES
FOR A CLUTTER-FREE
KITCHEN AND BATH

make *mine* modern

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PRODUCED BY LISA MOWRY





AN ATLANTA HOME PICKS UP ITS GAME
WITH FASHION-FORWARD PATTERNS
AND BOLD, SATURATED COLORS





Great room A bold floral fabric updates a previously fringed and formal ottoman. The painting by Helen Durant above the mantel is from Pryor Fine Art. The camelback sofa was rebuilt and wood finials were replaced with acrylic on the sofa's ratchet-style arms. Modern art and a "Gilded Ring Table" from Interlude add a contemporary vibe. **Preceding pages** The dining room ceiling is papered in "Modern Trellis" from Schumacher. A starburst mirror reflects colors from artwork in the keeping room.

After several years of living in a home layered with heavy fabrics and dark finishes, Kim Holifield was ready to change things up. Good-bye heavy and formal; hello calm, clean, and clutter-free. "Kim originally hired me to update the kitchen and a bath," recalls Atlanta interior designer Tish Mills. "What she wanted was to push more light through the house."

As Mills planned those rooms, Kim and her husband, Mark, considered how the newly designed, modern-leaning kitchen would blend with existing formal rooms on the main floor. One room redo led to another, and the first level to the second. "You know the story, right?" Mills says. "By the time we were finished, we'd done the entire house. Things just kept rolling."

Kim and Mark had moved to Atlanta for Mark's career several years ago from South Florida, where they had built a Spanish-Mediterranean-style home—"our dream home," Kim says. Atlanta was somewhat of a culture shock. "We're from Texas and built three houses in South Florida. We'd never had a traditional-style home like what you

see here. It was really different for me," Kim says. But she and Mark found a lovely brick-and-stone house under construction and worked with Atlanta builder Tony Reaves to fine-tune the design.

Kim furnished the house with layers of fabric and deep vibrant colors, similar to what was in her Florida home. "The interiors were much more in keeping with the Tuscan or Mediterranean feel when we did the house originally," Kim says. "However, after living here for seven years it was time to brighten things up and create a much more transitional feel." Plus, with two children and eight pets, the furnishings were starting to show their age.

"Kim loves edgy fashion and happy colors," Mills says. "During our first conversation, I figured out she really wanted her house to reflect her fashion and style."

Turquoise and yellow are two of Kim's favorite colors, so Mills built a lively scheme around those hues, adding in pops of pink (another favorite), shots of chartreuse (to enliven the yellow), and to ground them all, doses of chocolate brown.

"The palette really grew organically out of the keeping room," Mills says. "Those fabrics were the first I pulled, and everything

Keeping room Lee Industries chairs in a turquoise and chocolate stripe with a sliver of chartreuse jump-started the home's palette. The "Twig" pendant above the table is from Global Views. **Kitchen** A traditional hood by Francois & Co. blends with glossy white cabinets, highly reflective glass backsplash tiles, and water-drop pendant lights from AllModern. **Table** A custom artisan-made Arte de Mexico table is centered in the keeping room.



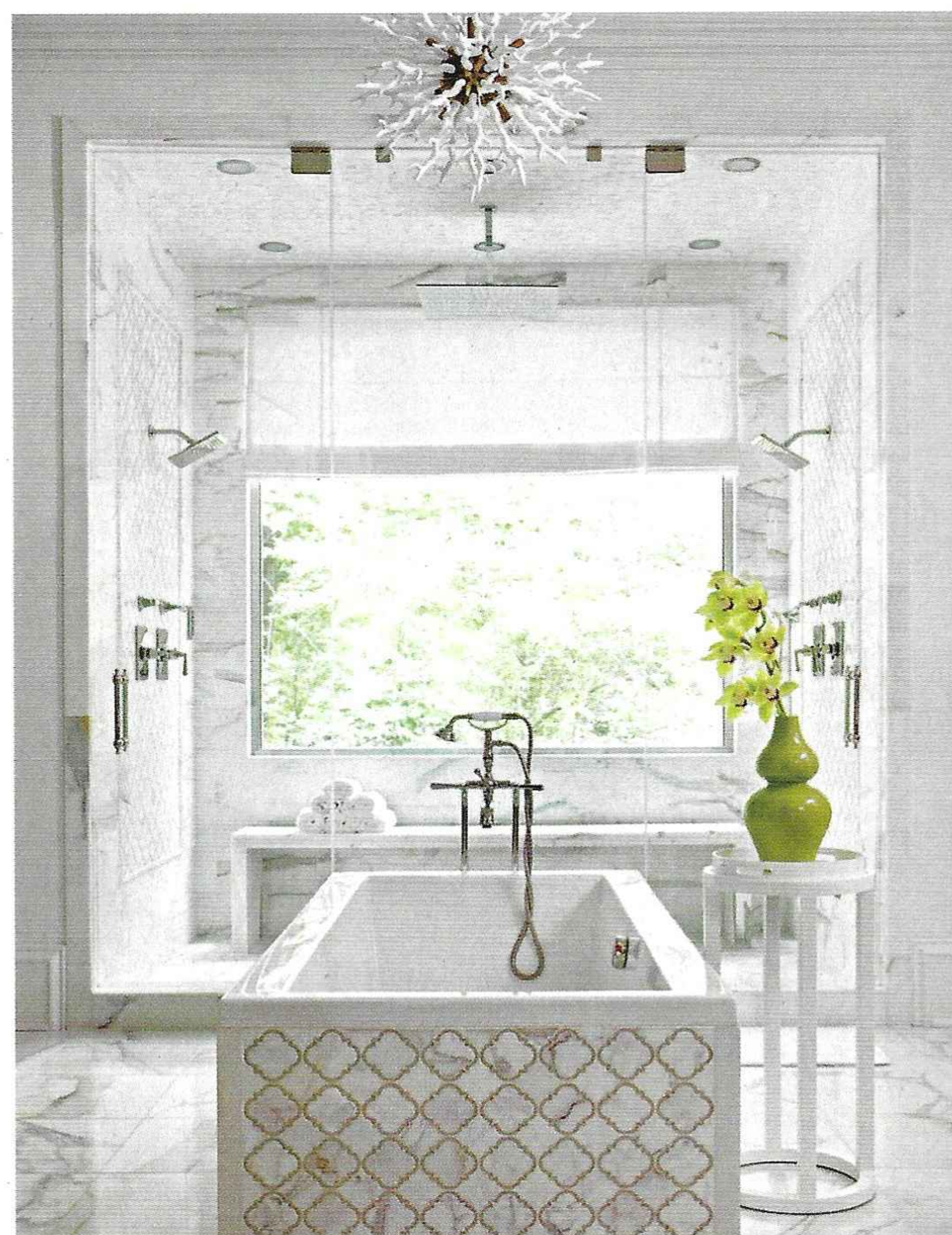


went from there.” Dining chairs are upholstered in a striped fabric of turquoise, deep blue, brown, and cream. One of Mills’s favorite features in the room is the window treatment: A see-through net fabric with a silver stripe is draped over solid blue satin curtains.

Mills was able to reuse many of the Holifields’ existing furnishings but had them streamlined and re-covered for an updated look. Heavy wood bases and finials were replaced or removed, and layers of braids, trims, and tassels eliminated.

In the great room, an existing round ottoman (formerly with an exposed wood base and wrapped with braid trims) was rebuilt and reupholstered in a bold oversized floral with chartreuse and turquoise blooms on a brown background. A pair of bergères were reupholstered in blue velvet, and the once-gilded frames were simplified with a wood finish. In the dining room, ho-hum stained-wood chairs were stepped up with a glossy black lacquer finish.

Colors were repeated throughout the home, but in each room one color takes the lead and others are secondary. “When you look through the house, you see the same colors, but they show up in different amounts so it keeps your interest high,” Mills says.

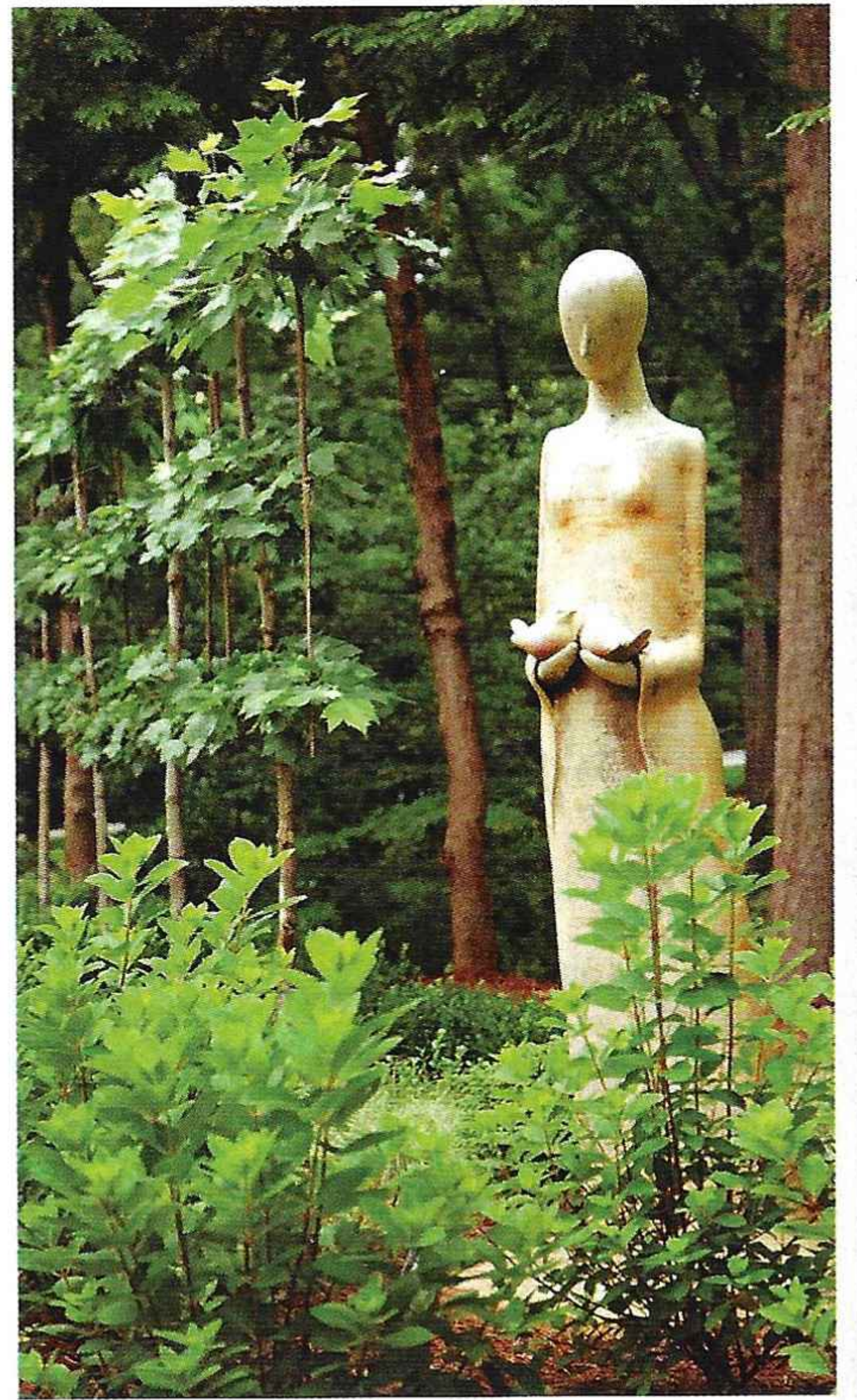




Master suite Matching custom rugs link the hall and bedroom. Art by Martin Quen from Deljou Art Group pops above a console table, which designer Tish Mills had painted a glossy white.

Master bedroom A chest from GuildMaster and a "Marrakech" hanging lamp by Four Hands add touches of glamour. Venetian plaster over jute rope creates the vertical stripe effect on the walls.

Master bath Vanities were glazed with a subtle trellis motif that repeats the laser-cut, marble-and-glass design on the tub surround.





Back terrace A screened porch off the keeping room steps down to the swimming pool and hot tub. **Exterior front** Twin peaks flank the front portico of the symmetrical brick-and-stone Atlanta home. **Family** Kim and Mark Holifield with son River, 19, and niece Briana, 28. **Garden** The property is accented by garden art.

Liberal swaths of color on fabrics, rather than small hits here and there, create a dramatic yet serene backdrop. “Even though we have lots of bright colors, the overall feel is very calm because we used such large amounts. It’s not frenetic,” the designer says. “The colors are so saturated and so bold that they come off as neutrals.”

While Kim pushed for modern styling and incorporating the newest materials and techniques, Mills and Reaves were mindful of the house’s classic architectural features. “We told Kim we really needed to honor the house and its setting,” Mills says.

Dramatic interior features such as mahogany doors and windows, stone fireplaces, a coffered ceiling, and a brick barrel ceiling were balanced with lighter and, in some cases, glossier wall finishes. Dark wood-beam ceilings in the kitchen were updated with acrylic and other contemporary light fixtures and glass backsplash tiles. The island, which grounds the room, is an unusual wood veneer the cabinetmaker found in Ukraine.

“Kim really pushed us to use the latest products and use things in ways they hadn’t been used before,” Mills says. “She wanted to make sure the house looked fresh, not just now, but for years.”

Kitchen cabinets were painted with several layers of a high-gloss, durable finish. The process required multiple applications and sandings to result in a surface that is as “hard as a rock,” Mills says. “It’s even shinier than a piano finish.”

Wall tiles behind the range are glass backpainted with a double circle motif reminiscent of the Gucci logo. “I like how it complements the curve of the barrel ceiling,” the designer says.

A limestone floor in the foyer was replaced with reflective marble tiles installed so the graining creates a striped effect. Walls are painted a gloss white. “We thought about doing a mural, but once the floor was down we saw the walls needed to be quiet,” Mills says. “The floor had a lot of life.”

The dining room ceiling was papered with a silver-and-gold trellis wallcovering, and the windows draped with velvet fabric in turquoise, chartreuse, and brown. “It reminds me of peacock feathers,” the designer says. “The entire design is very transitional with happy colors. Now the house is very much Kim’s personality.” ■

Architect: William Harrison **Interior designer:** Tish Mills

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