

THIS PAGE: The dining room showcases fern-patterned, silk dynasty wallpaper. The chairs, designed by Chris Lehrecke, continue the metal motif with their prominent metal supports. The custom-made sconces are by Steve McKay. OPPOSITE PAGE: The library, like the living room, features a coffered ceiling framed by simple white moldings that carry throughout the house. A piece of art called *Metal Hanging* serves as a window treatment. The wallpaper is from Scotland, by the textile and wallpaper design studio Timorous Beasties. The library shares a see-through fireplace (seen here, BOTTOM) with the living room.



came up with several answers. A stunning, laser-cut metal wall carving of a rosebud in the entrance hall combines the masculinity of metal with the femininity of the flower. A large, laser-cut metal raindrop pattern surrounds the fireplace in the master bedroom, whose colors are soft, serene blues, grays, and whites. A piece of art called *Metal Hanging*, purchased at an auction, is turned into a window treatment in the library. The metalwork, according to Su, lends an appealing unpredictability to the home's design.

The metalwork also helped Su to establish continuity: All grilles are covered with wave-patterned, laser-cut metal. Metal squares laser-cut with the image of a flower are used as accessories and as corner blocks on entrances to all main rooms. Early on, the designer chose to make certain elements recur throughout the house. Moldings, for example, are kept simple and plain, often creating a frame for

the intricately patterned wallpaper and coffered ceilings.

These common elements were especially important in integrating the look of the two wings: the library and living room (more formal, with metal more predominant, reflecting the client's taste) and the kitchen and family room (more feminine and kid-friendly, reflecting his wife's point of view). "You can see the transition, but it's not his-and-hers," Su says. The rooms "need to read as one."

The home's tone is imaginative and fresh; formal, yet whimsical and surprising. Despite its traditional exterior, which allows the home to fit well into its Chappaqua neighborhood, the interior is often bold: The client is not afraid of strong colors and patterns, and does not like using a lot of white. And Su found inspiration in unexpected places. One day, for example, she saw a woman on the subway wearing a Hermès scarf with a pattern that—after Su and the woman

walked to Kinko's and had it photocopied—inspired the design for the home's exterior railing.

Sometimes, it turns out, two minds are better than one. "Seeing the metamorphosis of the house over the time we've worked together—that," Su says, "is what is so fantastic about this house." *TME*

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