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SPRING 2003
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Chicago Home & Garden • Volume 9, Number 2 • Spring 2003

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Serving as a natural painting, this home's windows frame a stunning view of Lake Michigan's shoreline in Kenosha. Story begins on page 96.

PHOTO BY DAVID SCHILLING

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HORIZONTAL HOLD

Though the exterior of this suburban home is a large-scale Prairie design, featuring projecting eaves and a ground-hugging horizontal form, the interior is a bit more eclectic, borrowing elements from Frank Lloyd Wright's designs, but recasting them with a contemporary flair.

"We live on three beautiful acres of Illinois prairie, and we wanted the house to fit the setting," says the homeowner. "But, the period furniture can be somewhat uncomfortable, so we didn't want to go strictly with that style."

They hired interior designer Marilyn Davis before breaking ground. The designer was involved with all aspects of the interior in the 5,000-plus-square-foot home. She helped to determine cabinetry, doors, floors, walls, trim, and even some interior architecture, while working with the architect, Roger DeVito.

"I immersed myself in Wrightian interiors and philosophy, but I attempted to create something more suited to the clients' modern lifestyle, at the same time respecting the exterior architecture," Marilyn points out.

It was also very important that rooms flow naturally rather than being choppy and compartmentalized, which is apt, since Wright was one of the first architects to introduce and popularize the open floorplan.

The home's large scale called for creative thinking in

The orange-hued painting above the fireplace, *E for Elissa* (1969) is by the late Chicago artist Miyoko Ito. The room features soaring 18-foot ceilings and dozens of windows. Marilyn designed a fireplace surround of ribbon mahogany panels with a Japanese temple-style mantel of honey maple with antiqued copper accents. A custom-designed wool rug tops the French limestone floor and swiveling lounge chairs are upholstered in leather to make the large room feel cozy.

BY LISA SLOAN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID SCHILLING





(previous spread) A buffet-style divider, which mixes maple with mahogany, separates the dining and work areas of the kitchen. The triple-glazed walls in the room pick up colors from the tile backsplash and the hearth in the adjoining sitting area. The metal chair visible near the desk area is an antique dentist's chair.

designing the fireplaces, cabinetry, and selecting some of the furniture, says Marilyn. "The clients' desire was to make even the biggest spaces warm and inviting, and that was a big challenge, especially with ceiling heights up to 18 feet," she notes.

The color palette for the house contains many neutral, earthy colors, in keeping with the Prairie style, but is punctuated by richer tones of ochre, green, russet, and brown.

Another way Marilyn added warmth was by using a variety of wood tones throughout

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the house. In the great room, mahogany panels accent the fireplace and mahogany trim surrounds the many windows. The library floors and wall paneling are also mahogany, as is the powder room cabinetry. The flooring in the kitchen and family room is pecan, the cabinetry and built-ins are maple, and the trim is mahogany. "We absolutely love the interplay of different wood tones," says the homeowner. "After all, that's what nature does."

The great room, with its numerous small windows and 18-foot ceiling, was a challenge both for furniture layout and overall design.

To warm up the wall above the fireplace, Marilyn installed four horizontal ribbon-stripe mahogany panels. For the fireplace itself, she created a Japanese temple-style mantel using honey maple and antiqued copper balls, set against a backdrop of honed black granite.

Large pieces were selected to anchor the space, including roomy chairs and an expansive mohair sofa. The chair and sofa placement in the room had to work on several levels, for conversation around the fire, as well as for viewing a large plasma screen television on the wall adjacent to the fireplace. One solution was selecting leather chairs that swivel on their bases. Moveable accent chairs, made by a California artist of bird's-eye maple and walnut, as well as a French Art Deco table/bench, also provide flexible seating.

At the back of the room, just off the foyer, a built-in banquette offers another seating option. With an armoire fitted out like a mini-bar located in the same corner, it functions as a gathering area for guests.

While guests may gather in the large great room, the heart of the home is truly the kitchen/family room. It's an informal, versatile space where the family spends much of their time both relaxing and entertaining. It also offers access to the outdoors, equipped with a pool and gazebo. "It's our favorite room," says the homeowner. "That's where our family gathers, and there is always room at our table."

(right) Marilyn Davis designed the vanity in the powder room, combining rich mahogany with gleaming copper accents. The glass vessel sink is an unusual oval shape, and the faucet, which is mounted in the mirror, appears suspended in the air. Handpainted muslin wallcovering adds to the room's Oriental feel.









(previous spread) The anthropomorphic sculpture *Life of the Party* (1998), by Chicago artist Margaret Wharton, was made from a deconstructed chair. The painting above the fireplace, *Toomai's Dream* (2000), an acrylic on canvas by another Chicagoan, Ellen Lanyon, reflects the connection between humanity and nature, a theme that fits well with the home's Prairie-style architecture.

The first element selected for the area was the Oriental-influenced tile used around the fireplace and backsplash. The subtle gray, green, and rusty tones make the pale maple of the cabinetry and fireplace surround stand out. The walls, wearing a triple-glaze paint treatment in hues of green and gold, take their cue from the tile work.

Because the homeowners delight in entertaining large groups of family and friends for religious holidays and summer celebrations,

contains electrical outlets on either side, so it functions as a serving surface as well.

In the powder room off the foyer and kitchen, another piece of Marilynn's custom-designed cabinetry takes center stage. The mahogany piece accented with copper inlays has a contemporary Japanese feel, and is suspended from the wall with copper supports. "It's more of a sculptural piece, more aesthetic than purely functional," says the designer.

The color palette for the house contains many neutral, earthy colors, in keeping with the Prairie style, but is punctuated by richer tones of ochre, green, russet, and brown.

the area was planned accordingly, with a double dishwasher, warming ovens, and a sink in the island.

Marilynn worked with the architect to eliminate a partial wall and open up the flow of the room, but she uses visual cues to help define the different functions of each area. For example, she designed a buffet-style divider to buffer the dining area from the kitchen work area. It was fabricated of maple to coordinate with the Peacock kitchen cabinetry, with the addition of mahogany accents to match the mahogany trim that was used throughout the house. The elevated granite top matches the kitchen counter and is supported by copper piping. The divider

The handpainted muslin wallpaper, with visible horizontal and vertical brush lines, resembles a woven Japanese screen. These Asian-inspired details are well suited to the home's architectural style—Wright, a collector of Japanese art, used Japanese motifs in many of his own designs and also favored natural metals, like copper.

Throughout the home, careful attention was paid to the lighting. "Lighting was very important to me because I hate dark spaces as well as glaring lights," says the homeowner.

In addition to the abundant natural light that streams in through the numerous windows, most of which are unfettered by window treatments, point-source recessed down-lights in nearly every room offer illumination without glare.

"Glare can be the worst enemy of quality interior design because it diminishes the capac-

(left) The L-shaped upholstered mahogany banquette is in the back of the great room, just off the foyer. The legs were designed to reflect elements found in Frank Lloyd Wright's furniture design. The bronze and glass table is by Oak Park artist David Orth.



These bronze inlay plaques that highlight the library fireplace surround are from the stairwell of a public building in London.

ity to distinguish rich colors and textures,” explains lighting designer Randy Burkett.

Accent lights, like the copper and industrial glass pendants in the kitchen and the sconces in the powder room, work in concert with the architectural lighting. Randy likens the effect to a theatrical production. “When someone on stage turns on a light, light appears everywhere, but you know that is not the sole light source,” he says. “This way, the accent lights don’t have to work so hard.”

Lighting also increases one’s comfort, notes Randy. Linking lighting controls can allow homeowners to set daytime and nighttime lighting levels for an entire area of the home. Such was the case for this home, enabling the owners to meet their lighting needs with the touch of a button.

One room with especially dramatic lighting is the library. In addition to recessed downlights, there are custom-designed ceiling fixtures mounted within decorative moldings. Accent lamps include a vintage Tiffany table lamp with a silver base and tiered glass shade.

Bookcases cover the wall opposite the fireplace, situated so they are not immediately noticed when people enter the room. The vivid

hues in the 100-year-old rug helped shape the color scheme, but the gray wool-felt sofa and chairs, designed and made in France, were the first items purchased for the room. They provided the backdrop for the room’s French Art Deco look, which is carried out in details like a vintage 1920s to 1930s veneered table. The mahogany wall panels and bronze inlays in the fireplace surround add to the intimate feel of the space.

Despite its formal feel, like the other living areas in the home, the library is open to guests, especially those seeking a retreat or place for quiet conversation.

“We are casual people, and we wanted a welcoming home that invites people to come in and feel at home,” says the homeowner. “Our house contains pretty things, but most importantly, people are comfortable here.” **—HG**

(right) Lowered ceilings, complete with wood detailing and custom-designed incandescent fixtures, mahogany paneling, and silk/wool draperies give the library a more intimate feel. The palette for the room came from the colors in the antique oriental rug (circa 1870-1880). The French-made sofa and matching chairs, upholstered in gray wool felt, were purchased before the house was built. Accents, including the 1930s Tiffany table lamp, add an Art Deco flavor to the room.





Pottery Barn. Silk barstool upholstery and curtains, Christopher Norman, 6-158 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-822-0760; custom trim by Merwitz, as above. Chairs, Betty M, as above. Wallcovering, Anya Larkin as above. Wood-Mode cabinets, Sub-Zero refrigerator, Scottsman icemaker, GE cooktop, Credo ovens, Whirlpool microwave, Elkay sinks, and Chicago Faucets all through Kitchen Shoppe, 6105 22nd Ave., Kenosha, WI 53143; 262-657-3304; Fax: 262-654-5477. Dining Room: silver-leaf cabinet, Interior Crafts, 614 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-943-3384. Chairs, Neidermaier, Inc., 401 N. Western Ave., Chicago, IL 60612; 312-492-9400. Upholstery, silvered water buffalo by Edelman, 1873D Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-467-4433. Plaster sconces, Sirmos by Donghia, as above. Flatware, Cristofle. Glassware, Baccarat and Lalique. Living Room: chaises, oval back chairs, and square table, Donghia, as above. Upholstery on chaise, wool by Gretchen Bellinger, 1804 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-755-1820. Chair upholstery, silk by Donghia, as above. Upholstery on pillows, chintz by Rose Cummings, 6-117 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-787-5300. Upholstery for braid, Brunschwig, 6-121 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-329-0178. Lamps, Mirak, as above. Rusted metal tables: Crate & Barrel. Curtains, striped silk by Christopher Hyland, 1-160 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-644-4073; custom trim by Merwitz, as above; fabrication, Parenteau Studios; 230 W. Huron, Chicago, IL 60610; 312-337-8015. Large painting: Wisconsin artist, Gary Truman Erickson. Loggia and deck: furniture, Brown Jordan, 9860 Gidley St., El Monte, CA 91731; 626-443-8971. Fabric:

Perennials, P.O. Box 567646, Dallas, TX 75356; 214-638-4162. Obelisk: Sutherland through Donghia, as above.

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Interior designer, Marilyn Davis, Marilyn Davis Interiors, 2881 Summit Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035; 847-432-3597. Architect, Roger A. DeVito, 1250 W. Westgate Terrace, Chicago IL 60607; 312-226-4628. Lighting designer (all overhead lighting and kitchen fixtures), Randy Burkett, Randy Burkett Lighting Design Inc., 127 Kenrick Plaza, Suite 207, St. Louis, MO 63119; 314-961-6650; www.rblidi.com. Audio-visual systems, Blair & Associates; 847-516-4434. Paint treatments, Hester Decorating Co., Inc., 7340 Monticello Ave., Skokie, IL 60076; 847-677-5130. Family room/kitchen: Kilim rug, ORI, 6-140 Merchandise Mart. Leather sofa, Hancock Moore, through Baker, Knapp & Tubbs, 6-187 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-337-7144. Chairs, custom by designer. Room divider and fireplace surround, Marilyn Davis, built by Glenview Custom Cabinets, 1921 Pickwick Ln., Glenview, IL 60025; 847-724-7400. Fireplace screen and tools, custom, through Holly Hunt, 1728 Merchandise Mart; 312-644-1728. Figure by fireplace, early 20th century folk art, Richard Norton Antiques, 612 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-644-9359. Dakota Jackson accent chair and ottoman, with Jakarta/Flame fabric by Roger Arlington, available through Holly Hunt, as above. Accent table, custom sized and colored, by Harris Rubin, through Thomas Job, 1636 Merchandise Mart., Chicago, IL 60654; 312-822-9944. Painting over fireplace, Ellen Lanyon, through Jean Albano Gallery, 215 W. Superior St., Chicago, IL 60610; 312-440-0770. Sculpture, Margaret Wharton, through Jean Albano Gallery, as above.

Kitchen cabinets, Christopher Peacock Cabinetry, 1370 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-321-9500. Tiles on hearth and backsplash, Walker Zanger through Tithof Tile, 1657 Old Skokie Rd., Highland Park, IL 60035; 847-831-3444. Granite countertops, Tithof Tile as above. Powder room: Cabinetry with copper inlay, designed by Marilyn Davis. Sink, Starfire vessel, Cherry Creek Enterprises, 3500 Blake St., Denver, CO 80205; 303-295-1010. Faucet, Kronin Inc., Cambridge, MA, 800-OK-KROIN. Walls, "Surface" handpainted muslin, "Tatami": Callard & Osgood LTD., 1611 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-670-3640. Mahogany and nickel sconces with silk shades, Boyd Lighting Co., 1040A Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-644-4300. Murano glass bottles, Holly Hunt, as above. Great room: Barkley lounge chairs, customized with hidden swivel and casters and upholstered in spinneybeck leather, J. Robert Scott, Inc., 430 N. Wells, Chicago, IL 60610; 312-27-2907. Sofa, "Marco," Holly Hunt, as above. Upholstery on sofa, Mohair blend, from Thomas Job, as above. Steel and wood table, "Ecart," available through Thomas Job, as above. Wool rug, custom-designed and fabricated to fit the space, Hokanson, Inc., 1881 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-832-0455. Fabrication of mahogany panels, Highland Park Millwork, 1580 Old Skokie Rd., Highland Park, IL 60035. Painting over fireplace, Miyoko Ito, through Jean Albano Gallery, as above. Banquette, custom designed by Marilyn Davis. Fabric on banquette, Glant, Pavillion/Tile, Holly Hunt, as above. Pillow fabric, Donghia, "Boboli," 631 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-822-0766. Bronze/glass table, Orth Furniture, 1107 Chicago Ave., Oak Park, IL 60302; 708-383-4399. Pear: Portals Gallery, Chicago. Wood chairs, "Van

Muyden," walnut with curly maple seat, fabrication and design, Robert Erickson Woodworking, 17790 Tyler Foote Rd., Nevada City, CA 95959; 530-290-3777. Flank console, Orth, as above. Library: Antique rug, Lavar Kerman, circa 1870-1880, Matt Camron, 1795 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-832-0044. Custom ceiling lighting fixtures, Marilyn Davis, fabricated by New Metal Crafts, 812 N. Wells, Chicago, IL 60610; 312-787-6991. Drapery fabrication, Exquisite Draperies, 1100 W. Cermak Rd., Chicago, IL 60608; 312-421-5171. Antique 1920s floor lamp, Lang Levin Studio, 1867 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-644-7064. Armchairs by fireplace, Holly Hunt, as above. Upholstery fabric on chairs, Cable/Framboise, J. Robert Scott, as above. Small Biedermeier chair in mahogany, William Switzer, 1850 Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654; 312-832-0044. Ostrich leather on seat, J. Robert Scott, as above.

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For the Interlochen Arts Festival 2003 concert lineup and to purchase tickets, call the Interlochen Box Office at 800-681-5920 or visit www.interlochen.org. For information on the Interlochen Arts Camp and Interlochen Arts Academy call 231-276-7472. For information on Traverse City area lodging, attractions, antiquing, orchards, and wineries, contact the Traverse City Convention & Visitors Bureau at 800-872-8377 or visit www.tcvistor.com. Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr., Thompsonville, MI 49683; www.crystallmountain.com; 800-968-7686. Grand Traverse Resort and Spa, 100 Grand Traverse Village Blvd., Acme, MI 49610; www.grandtraverseresort.com; 800-748-0303. **CHG**

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Interlochen performance ticket sales go towards the Interlochen Scholarship Fund, which supports students attending the Interlochen Arts Camp, Interlochen Pathfinder Day School, and Interlochen Arts Academy. Annually, over 5 million dollars is raised from performance sales to maintain the scholarship fund.

"What Interlochen Arts Festival patrons receive when they buy a ticket is not only a memorable experience, but the knowledge that they are helping to support the education of young artists from around the world," says Thom.

The Interlochen Arts Camp was founded in 1928 to help young musicians, dancers, actors, visual artists, and writers develop their talents. Over 81,000 stu-

dents have attended the camp in 75 years. Interlochen alumni comprise more than 10 percent of the members of the nation's major symphony orchestras. The World Symphony Orchestra is the foremost high school ensemble at Interlochen Arts Camp and is comprised of 130 men and women who come to Interlochen from all over the world to perform with prominent guest artists and conductors. Past conductors include Lorin Maazel, Neeme Jarvi, JoAnne Faletta, John Nelson, Main Alsop, and Maxim Shostakovich. Violinist Itzhak Perlman, cellist Yo-Yo Ma, and pianist Andre Watts have appeared as virtuoso guest artists.

Famous Interlochen alumni include veteran newsman Mike Wallace; actors Meredith Baxter, Anthony Rapp, and Linda

Hunt; dancers Peter Sparling and Janet Eilber; musicians Jewel, Peter Yarrow, Jessye Norman, Peter Erskine, and Lorin Maazel; writers Pamela White Hadas and Cathy Guisewite; and visual artists Wendy Midener and Keane Paradiso.

Young artists from all 50 states and over 40 foreign countries, in grades nine through post-graduate, comprise the Interlochen Arts Academy's student body of 430 students. Founded in 1962 as the nation's first independent high school dedicated to the arts, the Arts Academy boasts of graduating 31 Presidential Scholars. Ninety-five per cent of the Academy graduates continue their artistic education at distinguished colleges and conservatories. During the Interlochen

festivals, many guest artists conduct master's classes. Past performers that have taught students are pianist Misha Dichter, soprano and Academy alumna Cheryl Studer, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Galway Kinnell, actor Tom Hulce, and dancers from the Feld Ballets.

The Interlochen Arts Center's cultural contributions to the Traverse City area extend beyond its celebrated Arts Camp and Academy. The campus is home to Interlochen Public Radio, one of the strongest subscriber-supported public radio stations in the country.

By the time the weekend's over, you'll have found that music and nature combine for a beautiful harmony at Interlochen and in its surrounding towns and villages. **CHG**