

# SPECTACULAR HOMES

of New England



AN EXCLUSIVE SHOWCASE OF THE FINEST DESIGNERS IN NEW ENGLAND



# SUZANNE NOVIK

SUZANNE NOVIK INTERIORS



Suzanne Novik relies heavily on the firm belief that art is everywhere—one can simply look outside to see the way colors and textures naturally come together to produce harmonious landscapes. A former art teacher, Suzanne now lends her artistic eye to the beautifully balanced designs she creates with Suzanne Novik Interiors, the firm she opened in 1994 and now runs alongside office manager Linda Natale, assistant to the designer Laurie Siegel and design assistant Jan Bullard.

When designing a home, Suzanne looks outdoors for inspiration in order to choose colors and patterns that create a continual visual flow from the outside in. For instance, a coastal landscape insists on lighter colors—blues, whites and soft taupes—as opposed to bolder jewel tones, such as deep reds, greens and purples. By creating aesthetic continuity with the environment, Suzanne’s designs foster in residents feelings of balance and connectedness.

Suzanne cultivates this design continuity between rooms as well. When beginning a design project, she works with clients to select a theme to tie each room together, a

neutral color such as taupe, gray or camel that will appear throughout the home in various forms. By relating the rooms through color, Suzanne can move freely through various historical and stylistic periods to fuse potentially disparate elements in a unique and cogent way.

After establishing and building a theme, Suzanne adds a surprising twist to the design, something unexpected that gives a room a distinct flair. She will add an antique light fixture in a contemporary room, a bold floor pattern in a kitchen or an eye-catching

#### ABOVE

The floral theme of this master bath is adorned with 20th-century amber and clear crystal sconces with a flower motif. Vintage buttons on the balloon shade add a unique detail.

*Photograph by Pam Soorenko, Photogroup*

#### FACING PAGE

Suzanne designed this sitting room for the Kinderwood Showhouse as a dressing room inspired by her mother’s collection of vintage hats, suits and accessories. Black-and-white movie stars’ photos from the '30s, '40s and '50s add to the glamour.

*Photograph by Pam Soorenko, Photogroup*



ceiling covering in a dining room—an element that evokes interest and delight. An especially memorable example is her addition of leopard-print chairs to a traditional library with dark cherry wood walls and furniture and a prevalent mix of neutral autumnal colors throughout. The leopard pattern enlivened the room, lending to it a sense of unpredictability that the clients loved. Distinctive designs like this one have appeared in such publications as *Fairfield County Home Magazine*, *Connecticut Home & Garden*, *Ridgefield Magazine*, *All About the House Magazine*, *Weston Magazine*, *Westport Minuteman* and Ralph Kylloe’s *Adirondack Home*.

Suzanne’s designs are proof of her belief that rooms should embody their specific purposes—bedrooms should emanate restfulness and calm; dining rooms ought to fill one with a sense of warmth evocative of family gatherings. She fully explores each space from floor to ceiling to reach this goal. Indeed, she states that a home is like a sculpture one can move through—it is a three-dimensional space, and every surface is important in establishing its atmosphere. Thus in her clients’ homes, art literally is everywhere.



#### TOP LEFT

This Asian-style New York apartment living room is the epitome of serenity. The large Japanese painting dictates the neutral colors and sets the tranquil mood.

*Photograph by Pam Soorenko, Photogroup*

#### BOTTOM LEFT

By request of the client, this living room is open to the dining room for entertaining large groups. The antiques are juxtaposed with the reproduction dining table in a timeless and classic balance.

*Photograph by Pam Soorenko, Photogroup*

#### FACING PAGE

Two opposing stone walls in this exceptionally high cathedral-ceilinged family room dictated the monochromatic taupe and gray palette, emphasizing texture. The faux chinchilla throw on the mohair sofa completes the luxurious and relaxing mood.

*Photograph by Pam Soorenko, Photogroup*



# Q & A

## MORE ABOUT SUZANNE ...

### WHAT PERSONAL INDULGENCE DO YOU SPEND THE MOST MONEY ON?

Clothes, shoes and accessories. If I hadn't pursued a career in interior design, I would have chosen one in the fashion industry.

### WHAT COLOR BEST DESCRIBES YOU AND WHY?

My favorite color, lavender. It denotes creativity and is also the color fine artists use in the shadows of their paintings of nature, which represents my artistic background and love of things natural. Moreover, lavender is a subtle neutral that coordinates with most other colors, as I am a person who relates to most other people.

### WHAT IS THE HIGHEST COMPLIMENT YOU'VE RECEIVED PROFESSIONALLY?

I brought together a couple at odds in taste and style to a happy conclusion, only to be informed at the end that he was a doctor of psychology and was most impressed with my ability to accomplish this goal.

### WHO HAS HAD THE BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON YOUR CAREER?

Ralph Lauren. His timeless style with a twist is genius.



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