

interiors

MAGAZINE

LYNNE
SCALO
DESIGN

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Who

does elegance with a wink better than Philippe Starck?" muses interior designer Lynne Scalo who selected his *Cicatrice de Luxe* chandelier featuring hand-cut leaded crystal vases and intrepidly hung it over the kitchen island in a renovated Victorian. A similar notion of classic-meets-whimsical defines Scalo's style. A designer who can introduce 1960s inspired swivel chairs (a la George Jetson) topped with faux fur to antique silver candelabras in the living room, and nonchalantly give a Queen Anne chair a gutsy makeover with chrome legs while fostering a lively repartee with a 70s inspired lacquered shagreen cabinet of her own design—Scalo is a sophisticated trend setter who can deftly and dramatically mix.

"I like to take elements of all periods of furniture to create a sense of today," says Scalo, who has been designing from her Westport, Connecticut studio for over a decade. "I think it's possible to have a sense of humor and still have a sense of elegance."

To make her point and to please her client—a 30-something energetic mother whose platinum hair has a hot pink streak—the designer broke ranks with her signature shades-of-white style and peppered the interiors with bold strokes of color and unexpected accents. "On the outside you have this Norman Rockwell slice of Americana," says Scalo about the storybook Ridgefield, Connecticut neighborhood. "But inside it needed to reflect who the owners are and the way people live now."

Contrasting the exterior, which is painted with hues based on the original architecture, the entry is a refreshing study in white and silver that serves as a place to cleanse the palette before sampling the goodies within. White magic continues in the living room and kitchen, both calm counterpoints to the dining room's deep royal blue wallpaper and turquoise drapes. "I like to do color blocking," she says about the selective hue saturation. "It's a more modern expression of color like a Rothko painting."

In the sunroom, the prime family gathering place, the blue and white throw pillows and folk art style rug are nods to New England, while the tufted white patent leather bench—"Easy to wipe off little fingerprints," says Scalo—an acrylic coffee table, and a chandelier that spins like a disco ball are not so subtle reminders that this is not your predictable 1826 Victorian.



A hint of the past returns in the second floor master suite, where a lapis silk velvet headboard and elegant drapes are meant to embrace its occupants in luxury. "Because of the layout we had no choice but to put the bed in front of the street side window so I swathed the walls with a platinum leaf wall covering and layered the room with several different textures to create a protected sensual retreat for the owners," says Scalo.

And inspired by that hot pink streak in her client's hair, the designer created fairy tale little girl bedrooms with rosy glows. One features heart shaped mirrors and upholstered Victorian chairs and the other boasts a custom upholstered princess bed and pink floral wallpaper.

According to Scalo, it's color that expresses the joy and exuberance of the home's owners but items like the Saarinen dining room table, the 60s mod leather sofa and even that disco ball chandelier that will allow the house to stand the test of time. "There's something about them that resonates with us," she says. "These are things that never go out of style and we never grow tired of living with them" ■ Lynne Scalo, Lynne Scalo Design 23 Jesup Road, Westport, CT 203 222 4991 lynnescalo.com



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Victorian
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