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TOP 50
DESIGNERS

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CURVACEOUS DESIGNS



MANOR MODERN

Frank DelleDonne reinterprets
Old World traditions in this
Short Hills Mediterranean Revival



INTERIOR DESIGN DELLE DONNE INTERIORS

TEXT SALLIE BRADY

PRODUCED BY BETSY MARX

PHOTOGRAPHY PETER MARGONELLI

FRESH color

A reproduction Ushack rug inspired the living-room palette, picked up in a custom sofa covered in laremont fabric and wood-backed club chairs, upholstered in Cowtan & Tout wool. Hand-painted TylerGraphic fabric refines the oversize oval ottoman. Custom polished-nickel chandeliers are suspended from the beamed ceiling.

"I'M JUST THE CHEF HERE," SAYS FRANK DELLE DONNE, THE SUMMIT-BASED designer more likely to be wielding a tape measure than a Henckels knife. "I took her taste for traditional and his taste for contemporary and just mixed up all the ingredients." The result, for Short Hills clients with two children, is an 8,000-square-foot Mediterranean Revival worthy of a few Michelin stars for taste and a Julia Child-like respect for classical tradition.

DelleDonne, whose projects always assess the architecture, used the structure's color cues for upholstery and Claremont silk curtains. "The client



COLOR confident

This page: With a chocolate leather herringbone floor, white-oak paneling, a silverleaf ceiling, and a bold Manuel Canovas red floral on a wingback, the library defies stuffy. Inset: The room's custom red felt pool table. Opposite: A corner cabinet; ceiling molding; deep wainscoting; and bold orange walls redefine the dining room.



is from California. She was terrified of window treatments, so there was no way there was going to be any tassel trim in this house," says DelleDonne. Walls in the living room were covered in a fine, oatmeal-colored Donghia hemp, while the home's entry hall and staircase were updated with pigmented Venetian plaster.

The library, the domain of the contemporary-leaning husband, needed a flavor all its own. Here, DelleDonne went for an appetizing palette of toasty white oak walls; chocolatey leather floors; and cherry garnishes of an antique leather stool, Manuel Canovas fabric on a traditional wingback, and a bespoke pool table—creating a sanctuary that serves as the icing on the cake. ~ See Resources.



Main image: A Norwegian wool staircase runner and curved settee were custom fit. Left: Attention to detail spices up a bath.

GREAT
bones

An earlier addition added a groin-vault gallery that runs the length of the living room and looks out to the pool. The designer used a simple canvas-bound sisal in a conscious effort not to compete with the living room's custom rug. Polished-nickel chandeliers illuminate the space, while 12-inch base molding with carved detailing provides an elegant anchor.

