

HOME TOURS / MAY 15, 2018

THIS HOME IS AN ANTIDOTE TO BUSY ROUTINES



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THUMBNAIL VIEW 

New Jersey based interior designer and textile designer **Uma Stewart** is known for her clean, modern approach to creating homes full of soul. She describes her homes as the perfect "antidote to busy routines and demanding workplaces." She shares a recently completed project with us today.

You are known for designing for busy families. This home was no exception, correct? How did your clients inspire your design?

She is an attorney and he is a musician. They are a pretty unique family with two children, ages 8 and 10. Their requests were rather simple. They loved my style, particularly a lean towards traditional style that still felt modern to them. And they wanted it to be amazing. That was it! I couldn't believe my good fortune after that meeting!

I was inspired by the fact that this was a fun, relaxed family that I would have expected to want all mid-century or something like that, but they did not. So, we mixed mid-century in with a lot of traditional pieces. The couple hailed from Texas and Nashville and I had that in the back of my mind during the design process as well, though there was no particular request to reference the design styles of those geographies.

What was the home's condition when you started the project?

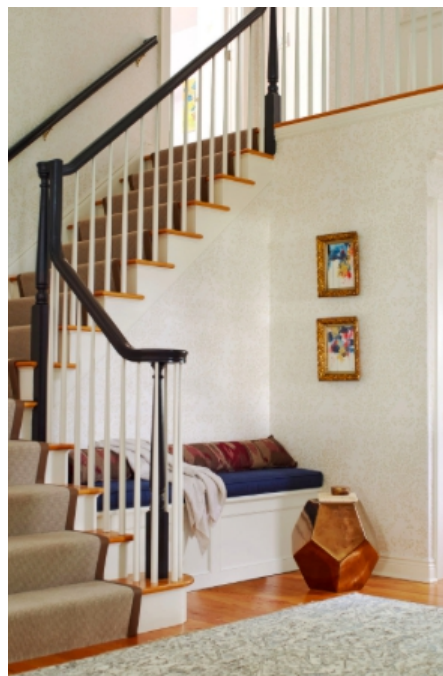
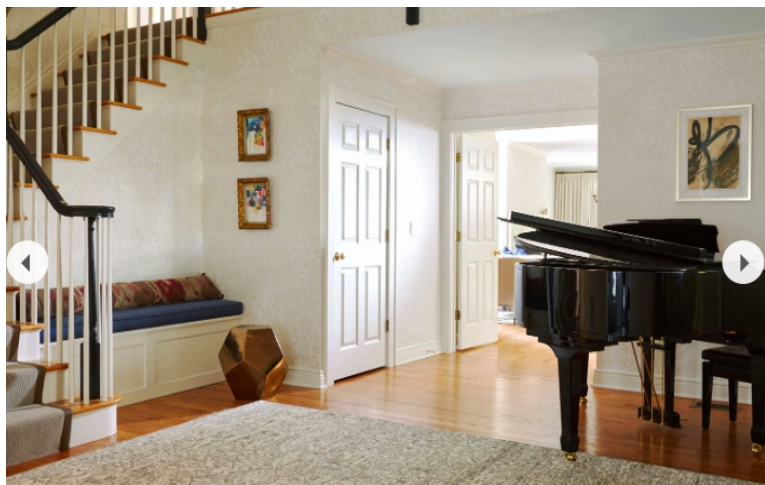
The house had a real mish-mosh of interior millwork from room to room and we had to do a number of adjustments to the interior architecture to reign it in, without doing a wholesale renovation because that wasn't in the project scope.

You've worked as an interior designer for over a decade but have been surrounded by interior design since childhood. How did you end up choosing it as a career yourself?

I grew up in the industry and as a child spent many hours in my mother's studio and on job sites for installations. There was a lot of learning by osmosis going on! When I couldn't find another career that was a fit, interior design suddenly felt like the absolute right path.

See the home in the slideshow!

RUE DAILY



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"The dining room is probably everyone's favorite room in the house, which makes me so happy because it is a truly bespoke environment. I custom designed the glass front cabinets and the dining table. The marble table top is a 2" slab that has a leathered finish on it, which makes it a little easier to wear."

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"The room also features my textiles on the drapes and bench cushions. It was exciting for everyone in our studio to work on such a signature space."

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"We removed a particularly obtrusive mantle and fireplace surround in the living room. I redesigned it with the simple stone surround that we had custom fabricated and installed. I really love how that worked out. It lent some dignity to the space that wasn't there before."

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"I really love how another one of my fabrics, Blanket Stripe, transformed the simple breakfast area into a statement room. To my eye the design of this area is so appealing because it feels unique and familiar all at once."

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