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LORI GENTILE INTERIOR DESIGN
AS FEATURED IN LUXE SAN DIEGO



GLAM PLAN

WRITTEN BY BRIELLE M. FERREIRA
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM BRADY

LIKE A FAVORITE DRESS, INTERIORS ARE MEANT TO COMPLEMENT AND FLATTER, TO FIT IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES. For the owners of this Rancho Santa Fe home, however, the traditional surroundings they woke up to each morning were starting to feel, well, a little last season. "We knew that we needed a change," says the lady of the house, "but we had no idea what direction we wanted to go in." Their design quest led them to Encinitas-based interior designer Lori Gentile, of Lori Gentile Interior Design, whose unabashed assessment of the couple and their lifestyle resulted in a modern reimagining of the home, borrowing timeless elegance from Hollywood-inspired glamour.

"The wife is so cool and vivacious," Gentile explains. "The old interiors didn't reflect her personality. I wanted to create spaces that she would look good in. I even took her complexion into account when choosing some of the color schemes!" But the deep, rich plum and saffron palettes

INTERIOR DESIGN	Lori Gentile, Lori Gentile Interior Design				
BEDROOMS	4	BATHROOMS	5	SQUARE FEET	5,500



POWER PLAY
 The French-style Ralph Lauren desk in the wife's home office conveys a feminine sense of authority amidst the room's soft shag carpet from Stark and the playful infusion of color from the orange curtains. The chandelier is a custom piece by interior designer Lori Gentile and Black Whale Lighting.



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do more than highlight the homeowner's strawberry blonde locks. They create ambience, making the colors of the Jamali paintings that grace the bedroom and family room pop, and provide a chic backdrop to the furnishings' sensuous silhouettes.

Choosing discriminately from the selection of family heirlooms the couple had acquired over the years, Gentile mixed contemporary accessories with old treasures for a harmonious dialogue that is rooted in both beauty and comfort. This playful blending is established upon entering the home, where an ornate antique mirror reflects proudly over a zebra-print upholstered ottoman, custom designed by Gentile. Some of the most

PURPLE HEART
 A custom sectional designed by Gentile sits below a Jamali painting, which inspired the plum palette that defines the home. The oversized proportions of the macassar ebony coffee table, also designed by Gentile, are a perfect match.



DRINK GARNISH

Gentile carved out a niche in the family room for a custom bar, which she outfitted with LED lights to illuminate the bottles. "The bar really adds something special," says the wife. "The whole space is more livable and usable."



BUSINESS CASUAL

In the husband's office, an inset of cork with silver flecks behind the custom macassar ebony and walnut built-ins adds a hint of glamour and interest to the room's masculine lines. The walnut desk is custom from Gentile; the light fixture is from Ironware International.



NEW OUTLOOK

The painting by Canadian-born artist André Desjardins that hangs above the dining room table is the only new piece of art that the homeowners acquired for the remodel. The designer found it at a gallery in La Jolla.

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brehtaking additions are ones that the designer and the homeowners chose together, like the Hudson Furniture chandelier and table in the dining room. "We went to New York together to see them," Gentile says. "It was such fun, and we immediately knew: 'This is it!'"

There was a similar moment of recognition when they decided on the intricate custom-designed flooring by Hawthorne-based Richard Marshall that replaced the home's original travertine. The hardwood and royal



À LA CARTE

Both Gentile and the lady of the house cite the dining room's chandelier and table, acquired at Hudson Furniture during a shopping trip to New York, as their favorite furnishings in the home. The Michael Berman chairs were found at Kneeder-Fauchère in Los Angeles.



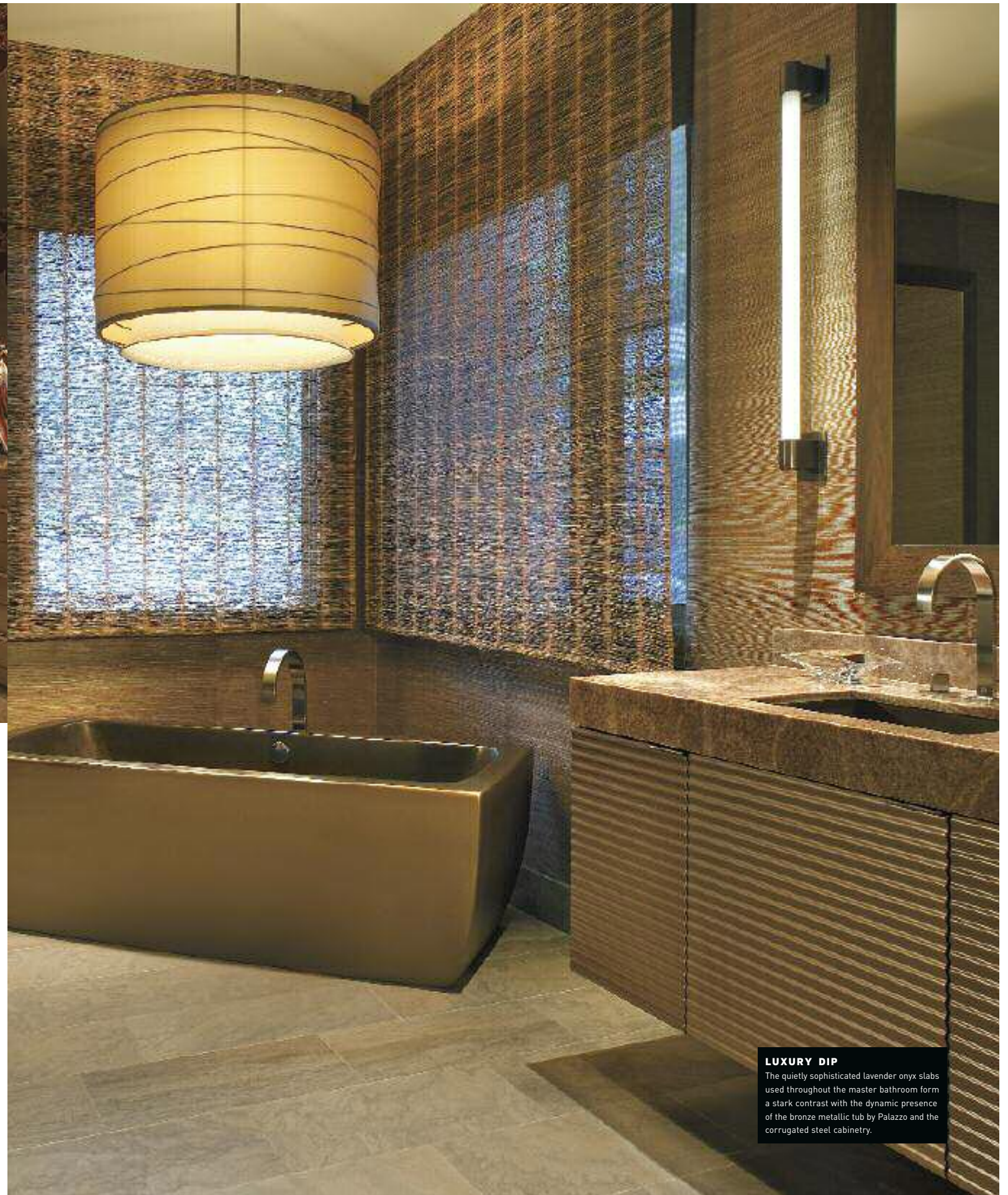
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ebony pattern adds an unexpected element that allows the furnishings and exotic textures to sing: the Gentile-designed macassar ebony coffee table and built-ins in the living room and husband's office, respectively, as well as cork insets, luxurious wallpapers and reclaimed glass-tiled fireplace surrounds.

Perhaps the most memorable touches, however, come in the form of the elaborate lighting fixtures that descend from the home's ceilings like pieces of art. Aside from the jewelry-grade chain chandelier in the dining room, Zia-Priven Design pendants add a hint of whimsy in the kitchen and the bedroom, while a custom Gulassa & Co. shade sets the mood in the master bath. Eclectic lighting in both of the offices reflects each homeowner's personal aesthetic: a long, draping fixture with jellyfish-like tentacles for her and a masculine, spinning axis design for him.

MEAL TICKET

Gentile selected wenge wood Formica cabinetry and granite countertops in shades of brown and gray to bring an earthy feel to the kitchen, executed by the team at Kitchen Expo in La Jolla.



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HIGH GLOSS

Gentile custom designed the headboard, nightstands and chaise in the master bedroom. Wallcoverings from Arte and Phillip Jeffries underscore the room's shimmer and shine.

While Gentile and the homeowners selected most of the materials and furnishings together, the couple was out of town during the final installation. When they returned, Gentile had transformed their once-predictable homestead into a classic residence, with all the inherent grace of a Hollywood grande dame and the non-fussy charm of a house made for living. "When they returned from their trip, they were floored," Gentile says. "The wife called me every day for a week and said it was better than she had ever imagined." It's a sentiment that is repeated often among the couple's frequent guests. "People are blown away when they walk in," the lady of the house gushes. "Everything is different, and it's amazing." **L**

LUXURY DIP
The quietly sophisticated lavender onyx slabs used throughout the master bathroom form a stark contrast with the dynamic presence of the bronze metallic tub by Palazzo and the corrugated steel cabinetry.

LORI GENTILE INTERIOR DESIGN

PHONE 760.635.1105

WWW.LORIGENTILE.COM

LORI@LORIGENTILE.COM

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