PUSHING the ENVELOPE

Inside and outside blend together seamlessly in this modernist brick and limestone Buckhead dwelling.

Written by TATE GUNNERSON. Photographed by EMILY FOLLOWILL. Produced by LAUREN IVERSON.
Greater Heights

Twelve feet high and more than 5 feet wide, the glass-paneled wooden pivot door opens to a cavernous living and dining area with 24-foot ceilings and a collapsible wall of glass doors that frame the infinity pool in back.
Clad with brick and limestone with a series of pitched roofs, the sprawling three-level Buckhead abode by Harrison Design and Intown Builders Group speaks the same language as the more traditional neighboring homes. The inside, however, boasts the sort of seamless flow between inside and out that’s more commonly associated with the West Coast. “These clients were willing to push the envelope,” says architect John Albanese. “I appreciated having the opportunity to bend the rules.”

Measuring more than 5 feet wide by 12 feet high, the front door pivots open to a lofty reception area with 24-foot-high coffered...
Metal Moment

In the bright and airy kitchen, the island’s bold brass cladding plays off the metallic inlay in the backsplash tile by Renaissance Tile & Bath. The Weitzner fabric-covered barstools are by R Jones Designs Inc. Enlus Upholstered with a vibrant patterned fabric by Beacon Hill with trim by Houlès, the powder room walls are the bold statement the owners envisioned. The custom fluted cabinetry is by Karpaty and the brass tile backsplash is by Ann Sacks.
Wide Open Spaces

A nod to the brass leaf inlay in the kitchen backsplash, a two-tiered brass chandelier with complementary wood and mirror is the focal point in the breakfast area, opposite left. Drenched in natural daylight thanks to a 40-foot skylight, the keeping room offers a cozy spot to relax with a predinner cocktail, opposite right.

An abstract family portrait by America Martin, which even includes the family pets, pops against the keeping room's white walls.

ceilings, stone walls and floor-to-ceiling glass overlooking a rear courtyard with an infinity pool and retaining wall planters by King Landscaping. “It’s a mechanism to get the pool into the house,” says Albanese. A bridge over the cavernous space offers a bird’s-eye view of the courtyard, as well as skyline views through the high windows flanking the front door.

Inspired by the jaw-dropping setting, interior designer Tish Mills Kirk eschewed hardwood flooring in favor of Belgian blue stone tile accented by sculptural, jewel-tone furnishings, patterned wallcoverings and bespoke light fixtures. “I love a project like this that wakes me up at night and inspires me to create,” she says.

While dual fireplaces anchor areas for conversation and dining in the grand foyer, the owners can more often be found in a cocoon-like space dubbed “the club,” where a textural horsehair wallcovering plays off the floor-to-ceiling black cabinetry and gold-painted ceiling. A showstopping brass and black marble backsplash

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Graphic Glory

Graphic-patterned draperies flank a custom bed by Bjork Studio with Bart Halpern fabric in the lofty primary bedroom. The lamps are from Circa Lighting.
Bold Blues

A rug by Jaipur Living anchors a sofa by Moss Studio and lounge chairs by R. Jones Designs Inc. in the saturated primary bedroom sitting area. The drapery fabric is by Zoffany. Above: A wallcovering from Anthology distinguishes the primary bedroom vestibule, where a lively abstract by Alessandra Cola hangs over a brass console table from 1stdibs.

Serene Style

A glass Sputnik-style chandelier by Arteriors punctuates the drama in the primary bathroom, where a chair by Noir covered in fabric by Lee Jofa offers a spot to enjoy the spa-like atmosphere. The chest is by Baker.

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Color Crush

Bedside tables with painted mirror doors from Caracole flank a bed by Sonder Living in one of the home’s guest suites. The rug is by Jaipur Living, while flooring is by Holland & Sherry and custom cabinetry with octagon shelving elevate the sitting area in a guest bedroom. The chandelier is by Serien Lighting.

heightens the sense of drama. “Just saying the words gold or platinum elicits emotion,” says Mills Kirk, pointing to the metallic hues throughout. Clad with brass, for example, the kitchen island coordinates with the leaf inlay in the white marble backsplash. It’s a dramatic focal point for the adjacent keeping room, which is flooded with natural light thanks to the 40-foot-long skylight that Mills Kirk suggested, and Albanese wholeheartedly supported. “It’s their own private sanctuary,” he says.

Natural light likewise fills the primary suite, which Mills Kirk outfitted with a tall leather-paneled headboard that takes advantage of the high, pitched ceiling. A supporting role in the primary suite, color takes center stage in an adjacent seating area that’s rendered
Leave of Absence

Pendants by Circa Lighting fill the recessed ceiling in the lower-level bathroom, where a chest by Jonathan Adler and a chair by Lee Industries covered in fabric by Opusen play off the colors in the artwork over the soaker tub.

in peacock blue hues punctuated by an ombre mustard in the sofa fabric.

Pops of color likewise accent the geometric shelving in one of the guest suites. And a vibrant fabric wallcovering creates an aha moment in a powder room with a floating painted vanity and a full-height brass backsplash with an Art Deco motif. Immersed in such saturated colors, Mills Kirk even started dressing in more vibrant hues during the project.

“I tend to obsess about my projects, and this one is special,” she adds. “[The exterior] connects to the city, but once you walk up to the front door, really special things start happening.”

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Resort-Ready

Shapely blue chairs by Kannoa add a bold punch of color to the poolside terrace in this stunning brick and limestone dwelling. The landscaping is by King Landscaping.