

New England HOME

Celebrating Fine Design, Architecture, and Building



Transformations

*BOLD BRILLIANCE IN
THE NEW YEAR*



A shadow box—constructed of trapezoidal pieces of the same metallic glass tile—provides an interesting backdrop for the **Victoria + Albert tub**, which is paired with **Grohe fittings**; the flooring is cloud marble.

The bath felt **choppy and small** before, so the designers reworked the floor plan to **double its size**, incorporating what was previously a walk-in closet.

The designers chose **metallic glass tile** because its **reflective quality** helps bring more light into the previously dark space.

Serenity Now

These baths may serve as peaceful sanctuaries, but their design is anything but boring.

BY ALYSSA BIRD

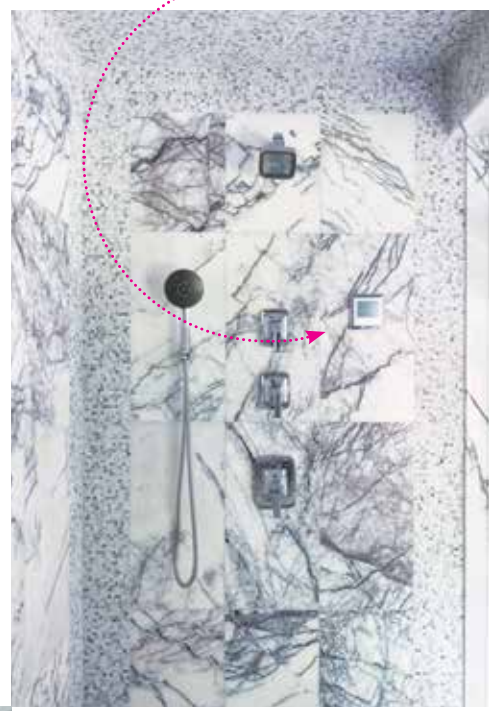
For the homeowners of a 1915 residence in Newton, Massachusetts, their primary suite was the last piece of the puzzle. Having previously renovated the rest of the property they've called home for the past thirteen years, they

recently tapped designers Heather Vaughan and Monica Johnson to reimagine their primary bath and dressing area. "The spaces just weren't functioning well," explains Vaughan. "It felt tight, dark, and choppy."

Adjacent to the primary bath, the wife's new **dressing area** features coordinating custom cabinetry. **Drawers in the island** stow **jewelry and accessories**, plus there's a hidden refrigerator drawer for beverages.



The **steam shower**, which is wired with **Sonos**, is sheathed in a combination of twelve-inch-by-twenty-four-inch **lilac marble tiles** and much smaller **broken mosaic pieces** of the same stone. The fittings are **Kallista**.



Her side of the primary bath includes a **lilac-marble-topped vanity** and **sink**; sconces from **Visual Comfort** flank a **Made Goods** mirror. The homeowners appreciate **technology**, so everything is automated, from the **lighting** inside the cabinetry to the window **shades**.



To that end, the designers reworked the entire floor plan, trading in a walk-in closet to double the size of the bath, and then converting the primary sitting area into a dressing room with separate his and hers spaces. They also raised the ceiling height, widened the doorways, and used frosted-glass pocket doors to make the spaces feel bright and airy. Furthermore, the team selected a metallic glass tile that reflects light for the walls of the bath. High-tech gadgets, such as a mirror television and automated shades and lighting, round out the posh retreat. "The goal," says Vaughan, "was to make it feel like a boutique hotel experience."



<p>INTERIOR DESIGN: Heather Vaughan and Monica Johnson, Heather Vaughan Design</p>	<p>BUILDER: RJ Gallerani and Son</p>	<p>CABINETRY: Heartwood Cabinetmakers</p>	<p>PHOTOGRAPHY: Jessica Delaney</p>
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ROOMS
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To retain the open feeling of the high ceiling, the architects designed a floating cube to accommodate the closet.

Saltonstall Architects designed a sleek oak vanity that floats on one wall of the wooden cube. Kallista sink fittings and backlit mirrors from Robern complete the contemporary look.

There is open access from the bath to the bedroom on either side of the closet cube. "We wanted to question the traditional relationship of bed, bath, and closet," explains architect Will Saltonstall.

Clean Break

When Saltonstall Architects was tasked with renovating a 1968 waterfront ranch in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, the goal was clean-lined and modern, yet in keeping with the coastal New England vernacular. "The house wasn't taking advantage of the views of the pool and the estuary beyond, so we expanded the windows and doors and enhanced the look and feel of the architecture," says principal architect Will Saltonstall. High on the clients' wish list for this vacation home was a new primary suite, so the firm transformed two former bedrooms and a dated yellow bath into the current suite, which includes a light-filled bedroom, a spacious bath, and a walk-in closet—all located under a new cathedral ceiling. To retain the open



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New windows bring the **outside in**, and the tongue-and-groove **cathedral ceiling** lends an **airiness** to the suite.

The architects also **designed the bed and bedside tables**, which are mounted on the opposite side of **the cube**.



A **sliding barn door** closes off the water closet, while the **shower and soaking tub**—which sit across from one another—are open to the rest of the bath.

feeling of the high ceiling, the architects designed a floating cube to accommodate the closet while cleverly dividing the bedroom and bath. “The white-oak nickel gap on the cube features varying widths, which softens the modernism and makes it feel less perfect,” notes architect and project manager Tristan deBarros. “Plus, the wood has a weathered look that lends itself to a coastal environment.”



ARCHITECTURE:
Will Saltonstall, Tristan deBarros,
Saltonstall Architects

INTERIOR DESIGN:
Cynthia Hayes, Cynthia
Hayes Interior Design

BUILDER:
Lars V. Olson Fine
Home Building

CABINETRY:
Southcoast Custom
Woodworking

PHOTOGRAPHY:
Jared Kuzia



The window features a **motorized solar shade** hidden behind a **faux roman shade**.

The goal for the new primary bath in this **1895 Colonial Revival** was to **"make it function for a modern couple** while staying true to the **character of the house,"** explains FBN Construction's Shalini Vattes, who helped realize the design concept set forward by Roisin Giese of Twelve Chairs Interiors.

A **Kallista tub** takes center stage in front of an original window.

Giese had FBN Construction **recreate the original wainscoting** found in the entry hall, ensuring that the new primary bath **fits in seamlessly** with the rest of this **historic** property.

Delightful Details

Several years after decorating a family's Milton, Massachusetts, residence, Roisin Giese of Twelve Chairs Interiors was called back to tackle a renovation that included a new kitchen, mudroom, and primary suite. With the help of FBN Construction, Giese conceived

the latter—containing a bath and dressing area in addition to the bedroom—by reworking what was formerly two bedrooms and a smaller en suite bathroom. "The homeowners have three children and wanted a respite," explains Giese. "The house is an 1895 Colonial Revival,

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Pocket doors separate the bath from the dressing room.

A glass-enclosed shower faces a water closet.



“The couple had zero closet space before, so adding a dressing room was an important piece of the renovation,” explains Giese.

The floor tile, a marble mosaic from Bellew Tile and Marble, was the jumping-off point for the soft gray and cream palette. Meanwhile, walnut and black accents lend contrast.

so we kept the palette timeless and classic.” To make the new bath feel like it has always been there, Giese asked FBN Construction to recreate the original wainscoting in the entry hall for this space. This detail melds perfectly with a large original window (now the focal point above the tub) and the original doors that were repurposed as pocket doors. “There were a lot of structural and plumbing challenges that we overcame during this project, but we are most proud of the fact that we were able to match the existing architectural detail in the wainscoting,” says FBN Construction project manager Shalini Vattes. “It really helps solidify the look and feel of the house.”

EDITOR'S NOTE: For details, see Resources.



Another set of pocket doors on the opposite end of the bath leads to the bedroom. An Arteriors light fixture provides drama, and draperies made with Elisha Alexina fabric complement the grasscloth wallpaper.

Giese paired the clients' existing bed with a bench from Bernhardt.



- INTERIOR DESIGN: Roisin Giese, Twelve Chairs Interiors
- BUILDER: Shalini Vattes, FBN Construction
- CABINETRY: Good Life New England
- PHOTOGRAPHY: Joyelle West