

HOME & DESIGN

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5 PROS AT HOME

HOT NEW TALENT



indulgent **RETREATS**

Four luxurious baths celebrate the beauty of natural materials

Text by SHARON JAFFE DAN

PRESERVING HISTORY WAS A PRIORITY IN THE RECENT renovation of a couple's 1815 manse on Smith Row in Georgetown. Architects Dale Overmyer and Laura Rowland and interior designer Tracy Morris balanced the husband's classicist aesthetic with the wife's penchant for modern glam. "This was not a small undertaking," says Morris about the project, which included the transformation of a sitting room off the primary bedroom into a new owners' bath.

The architects drew up a plan for a large, open space housing a tub and custom vanity as well as a separate shower and WC. Determined to salvage the room's existing fireplace, the owners decided to cover its original brick with a new material. When they discovered book-matched slabs of Aurora Blue quartzite on a shopping trip with Morris, "Their eyes lit up and I knew it would be a stunner," the designer recalls.

Overmyer and Rowland detailed the protruding fireplace wall to integrate seamlessly with the room's architecture. Crown molding pays homage to Greek Revival style while contemporary touches—from the vanity's tapered legs to the sculptural tub—place the project firmly in the 21st century. "Tracy wove a real compromise between the clients," says Rowland. "They were very adventurous and open-minded in a lot of ways."

CREDITS + DETAILS—Renovation Architecture: Dale Overmyer, AIA; Laura Rowland, Overmyer Architects. Interior Design: Tracy Morris, Tracy Morris Design. Contractor: Goldsborough Design Build. Photography: Jennifer Hughes. Marble Floor Tile: architessa.com. Quartzite Fireplace Slab & Marble Countertop: marble systems.com. Tub: vandabaths.com. Tub & Sink Fixtures: kallista.com. Custom Vanity: jtdylaninc.com. Mirror: riverglassdesigns.com. Sconces: circalighting.com.





Jonas Carnemark transforms an outdated Washington relic into a calm, minimalist oasis

SOON AFTER A COUPLE MOVED INTO a Kalorama apartment, they asked Jonas Carnemark to replace their bulky whirlpool tub with a new shower. But as they discussed taking the 1990s-era primary bath in a fresh, modern direction, the project quickly morphed into a total overhaul.

First, Carnemark made a clean sweep, removing everything to arrive at an open space housing a large shower, a double vanity and a toilet screened by a partition.

He proposed displaying an oversized stone slab as an organic work of art in the shower. A hunt ensued until his clients fell in love with a quartzite specimen at Gramaco. “It has some really cool richness and picks up the trees outside,” says Carnemark. “We tried to minimize everything else in the room.”

A sleek Artelinea vanity fit the bill. Made entirely of glass, it combines matte, back-painted-glass door fronts and an undulating “frosted-glass top that flows into polished glass in the bowls themselves,” explains the designer. Completing the minimalist picture are heated and slip-proof porcelain-tile floors, touch-latch shower niches to stow away toiletries and a linear shower drain.

“This kind of bath is so peaceful to me,” reflects Carnemark. “Some might say there’s not enough going on, but I like it when there are just a couple of points that really draw your attention.”

CREDITS + DETAILS—Bath Design & Contracting: Jonas Carnemark, CR, CKD, CLIPP, CARNEMARK design + build. Photography: Anice Hoachlander. Floor & Wall Tile: architessa.com. Quartzite Slab: gramaco.com. Slab Fabrication: eurostonecraft.com. Plumbing Fixtures: fantini.it through konstunion.com. Vanity & Mirror: artelinea.it through konstunion.com. Custom Glass Panel: proshowerdoors.com.

A design team crafts a posh bath with Old World soul in a DC townhouse

SOMETIMES A PROJECT'S GREATEST challenge is to create a sense of character where there isn't much. Such was the case when a client called on Thomson & Cooke Architects and interior designer Zoë Feldman to revamp her '90s-era townhouse in DC's Foxhall enclave. "It was a nice blank space, but underwhelming in architectural value," Feldman recalls.

The owner, who'd just returned from a stint in California, sought a Spanish Mediterranean vibe. Another jumping-off point for the primary bath was the Greenwich Hotel, her favorite destination in New York, which boasts luxe, marble-and-brass-appointed bathrooms.

The team took the interiors down to the studs. Armed with inspiration, Feldman conjured an Old World-style bathroom complete with a tub for two, a large shower with an arched opening, a water closet, Carrara marble surfaces and unlacquered-brass fittings that will patina over time. Built-in cabinets keep clutter at bay.

A marble ledge by the tub is a resting spot for wine, candles or bath salts, says the designer, who had the walls coated in blush-colored plaster. "When done properly," she avers, "plaster is even more waterproof than tile or stone. It also adds texture and really softens a bathroom."

"It is amazing," Feldman concludes, "how a few architectural tweaks and treatments can make a room feel timeless and give it soul."

CREDITS + DETAILS—Interior Design: Zoë Feldman, Zoë Feldman Design. Renovation Architecture: Neal Thomson, AIA, and Patrick Cooke, AIA, Thomson & Cooke Architects. Contractor: Hyp Renovations. Photography: Stacy Zarin Goldberg. Tub, Plumbing Fixtures & Flooring: waterworks.com. Marble Backsplash & Counter: atlasstonefabricators.com. Tub Sconces: urbanelectric.com. Mirror: mirrorlot.com. Vanity Sconces: circalighting.com. Vanity: sinklegs.com through weaverhardware.com. Rug: districtloom.com.





*Kate Abt and Chris Snowber
create a spa-like oasis while
revamping a vintage DC gem*

DURING THEIR COMPLETE OVERHAUL of a 1912 Mount Pleasant row house, architect Christopher Snowber and interior designer Kate Abt bridged old and new in its reimagined primary bath.

They gutted and slightly expanded the cramped existing lavatory (which had a combination bathtub/shower), making way for a more efficient layout that includes a soaking tub, a walk-in shower and a water closet opposite the vanity. Dual skylights more than compensate for the room's lack of windows. "The goal was to create a bright and clean oasis, accentuated by a carefully detailed mix of modern components," says Snowber.

Walnut millwork and Dolomite marble on the floor and tub surround nod to tradition but are applied in a modern way. "It's very much streamlined, without a lot of fuss," says Abt. "And the wood vanity warms up the marble."

A countertop in stain-resistant quartz was selected as a matching but practical alternative to stone. Black metal accents in the form of Visual Comfort sconces, a heated towel warmer and the steel frame of the custom shower enclosure convey a crisp, industrial edge. "The steel-framed partition became a driver of the design," explains Snowber. "It serves as a way to separate the spaces while bringing a surprisingly sensuous feel to the room."

CREDITS + DETAILS—Renovation Architecture: Christopher R. Snowber, AIA, Hamilton Snowber Architects. Interior Design: Kate Abt, Kate Abt Design. Renovation Contractor: AllenBuilt, Inc. Photography: Stacy Zarin Goldberg. Dolomite Marble Tile: architessa.com. Tub: ferguson.com. Plumbing Fixtures: brizo.com. Shower Door Fabrication: wellbornwright.com. Sconces: visualcomfortlighting.com. Quartz Countertop: rbratti.com.

