

M a i n e

San Francisco Chronicle

Summer Home Design | July 2011

*Elegant
but fun*

Mixing
vibrant
colors
with
modern
art and
antiques



Home infused with color, art

Jeffers Design Group helps homeowners remodel their house with a formal but fresh look that features art collections, vibrant colors

By Anh-Minh Le

While flipping through the pages of a shelter magazine, one spread in particular caught the attention of the young Hillsborough homeowners: a residence designed by Jay Jeffers that featured vibrant hues, bold graphics and a well-curated collection of antique and modern furnishings. The wife was instantly smitten. "Jay has a great eye for color and pattern without making it feel overwhelming," she says. "His look is formal without being too stuffy, and there's a real element of fun."

The couple — the husband's a hedge fund manager, she's a stay-at-home mom to their daughters, ages 5 and 7 — soon enlisted Jeffers' expertise in devising, as the San Francisco designer put it, "a playful yet elegant" scheme for their home.

When the clients purchased the 1939 Colonial in the fall of 2008, it had been remodeled by the previous owner. By the time Jeffers and Kelly Hollis, a principal at Jeffers Design Group, entered the picture the following spring, another interior designer had also made some changes to the place. But there were still more renovations to come — namely, the addition of an office and a fifth bedroom — and plenty of decor decisions to

be made throughout the two-story abode.

Jeffers punched up the kitchen's black cabinets and marble countertops by reinventing the eat-in area. He brought in a quartet of vintage red Chinese Chippendale chairs, pairing them with an existing table that was given a new top. He also replaced the fabric on the light fixture overhead with a simple geometric.

In the neighboring family



Designed as a workspace for two, the office features a Venetian plaster ceiling and '60s-era Sputnik light. Radiator grilles backed with textile were used on the cabinet doors.





JEFFERS' TIPS FOR COLLECTING ART

Jay Jeffers and Kelly Hehla of Jeffers Design Group (Jeffersdesigngroup.com) often assist clients in developing their art collections. Here, Jeffers provides some advice on acquiring works for your own home.

Love it or leave it: "The most important guiding principle is to collect what you love. While I certainly have my favorite galleries to visit because I know I will always find inspiring pieces, you should visit several dealers and see what resonates with you. My go-to galleries in San Francisco are Dolby Chadwick, John Berggruen, Franziw, Caldwell Snyder."

Variety adds spice: "Collect work in a range of mediums — including oil, works on paper, photography, sculpture, new media. You want a range of textures and styles to give your home a collected look and feel."

Affordable pieces: "Cost does not have to be prohibitive. There are fantastic emerging galleries, like Jessica Silverman Gallery here in San Francisco, that show intriguing, challenging work that is not the price of a new car. Lost Art Salon is also a favorite source for fun, affordable, vintage pieces."

Above all: "Art should never be selected because it matches the furniture."

room, Jeffers used the green grass cloth that was already there as a jumping-off point for the palette — incorporating complementary shades of blue and coral as a warm contrast. The patterned curtains tie together all of the colors in the room as well as match the window treatments in the kitchen, creating a cohesive look in the open space.

The office, which is designed for two, doubles as storage for the home's audiovisual equip-

ment. "We didn't want it to feel like just a room of cabinets," says Jeffers. To that end, he opted for open shelving to display art, a Venetian plaster ceiling by decorative painter Willem Racké and a 1960s Austrian Sputnik light. On the cabinet doors, Jeffers employed a budget-friendly technique, screening them with decorative metal radiator grills (available at hardware stores) backed with a patterned textile.

In the formal dining room, a

1940s Venetian glass chandelier was picked up at Ed Hardy's antiques shop before the venerable institution shut its doors last year. It presides over the Volare walnut dining table by Studio Workshops, which is surrounded by tufted chairs with nail-head detailing. Nearby is a mid-century maple buffet by Pierluigi Colli.

The living room furnishings

A gallery wall in the family room. At the center of the grouping is Dan Jackson's "Ode to Fat Chair," one of many pieces acquired from Dolby Chadwick Gallery.

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