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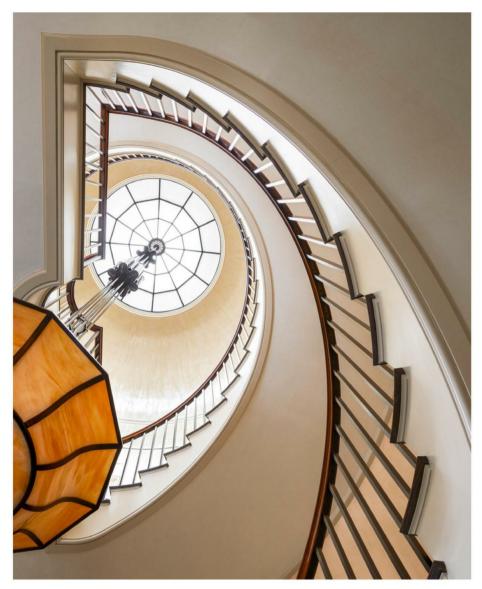
### TOOLBOX

The kitchen is heating up! The latest must-have stoves and appliances. BY AILEEN KWUN

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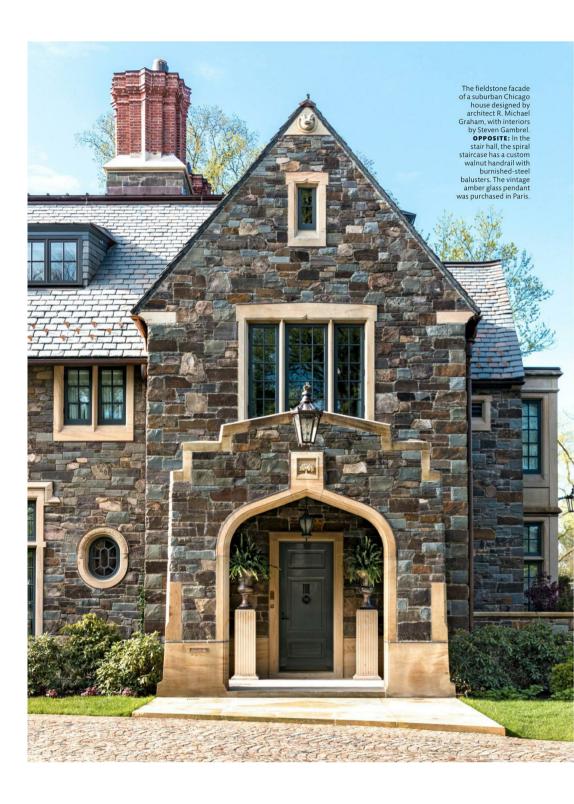
Move over, turkey: Here's a glazed ham fit for your holiday festivities. BY DANIEL BOULUD



# NO STONE UNTURNED

STEVEN GAMBREL BRINGS CANDY-COLORED DRAMA—AND HIS MOST **KILLER KITCHEN** YET—TO A REVIVALIST MANSE OUTSIDE CHICAGO.

BY NANCY HASS PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC PIASECKI



HEN THE CHICAGO-BASED architect R. Michael Graham was asked to design a grand, traditional house in the city's suburbs for an aesthetically fearless couple who had together built an esteemed real estate empire, he knew one thing: It could not be a pale period imitation. There were already too many of those around, teardowns replaced with poorly executed, ostentatious mansions—lots of square footage with little soul or taste. From their years in the business, the clients understood what it meant to be respectfully committed to a project of such scale, and they knew what cut corners looked like; they were too sophisticated to













accept a compromise. "I was aware from the beginning that I wanted to create something 100 percent real," says Graham, who took his inspiration from the early-20th-century Anglo-American country houses that the architectural firm Mellor, Meigs & Howe designed outside Philadelphia. "Every detail is as it might have been built when houses were made like that."

The couple, who arose from humble beginnings and are now in their 60s, had, over the years, taught themselves a great deal about interior design and art to complement their knowledge of construction. While they wanted the house to have the sort of graciousness,

ABOVE: The Sub-Zero refrigerator (left) has custom panels to match the kitchen's cabinetry. The barstools are by Palecek, and the counter is in Breccia Capraia Verde marble. The custom flooring is oak that has been fumed, ebonized, and waxed. LEFT: The sink, also made from Breccia Capraia Verde marble, has Kallista fittings, the custom Roman shades are of an Alessandra Branca fabric, and the curtains are of an Osborne & Little sheer. The sconces are by Besselink & Jones.

# "Gambrel, who trained as an architect, regards **color** with an almost incantational fervor."

fine-bore craftsmanship, and proportion one might have found during the era that F. Scott Fitzgerald conjured, the wife did not want the residence to seem like a gilded museum stocked with antiques or to feel like just another safe, neutral-hued estate.

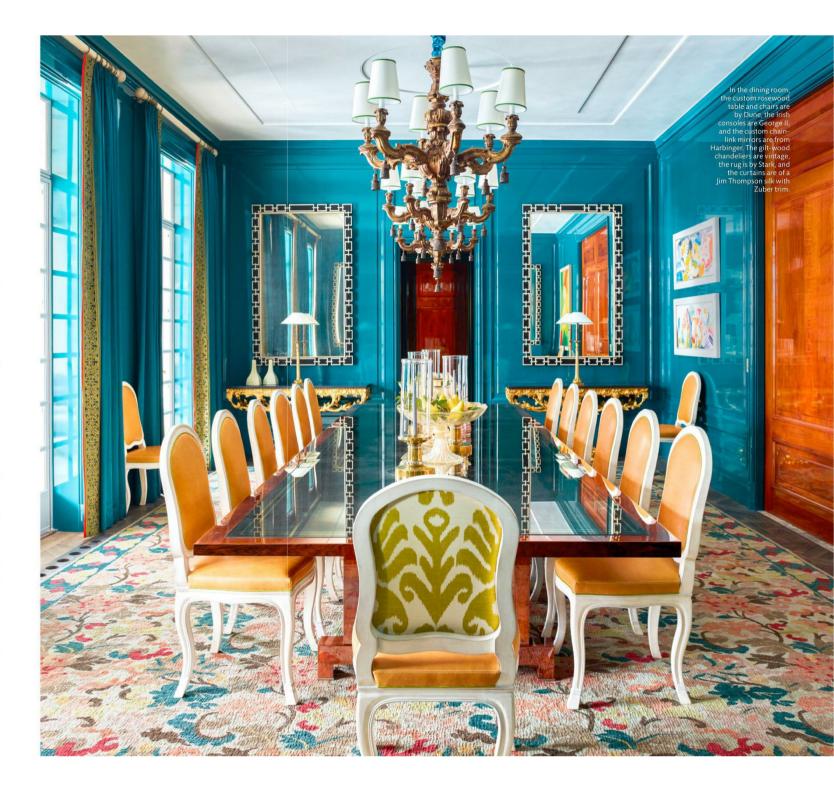
To that end, Graham introduced them to Steven Gambrel, a New York designer and ED A-Lister well known for blending classic calm with pulse-racing color and deliciously wild, expressive gestures. "There really couldn't be a more perfect place to do what I like to do," says Gambrel, who marveled early on at how far down into the details the homeowners had let Graham drill. "When you have a house like this, where every stone, every corner is honed to perfection, and collaborative clients who have confidence, you can take the interiors to an incredible depth."

Gambrel, who trained as an architect, regards color with an almost incantational fervor, an instinct that is on vivid display in the 16,000-square-foot residence. A master of blues especially, he combines shades and intensities in ways that seem utterly fresh; among his signatures are upholstered pieces with as many as three or four different fabrics, each adding dimension. From the vast formal dining room, with its glossy Dutch-blue walls and custom Louis XV-style chairs with backs upholstered in a lime-green ikat, to the violet-lacquered bookshelves of the wife's office, his palette adds levity and light to the opulent surroundings.

But Gambrel also understands that the eye needs to rest. And thus, the rooms alternate between richly stimulating and airily tranquil. The calm living room, for example, has paneled walls striated with pale blue-gray tones, the family dining room is in shades of silver, and the master bedroom is awash with variations of taupe, frost, and wheat.

Conversely, below ground there is a vast entertainment area with a private bowling alley—a nod to the couple's sense of fun—where the walls are upholstered in a bloodred velvet. "I wanted there to be a feeling of transformation as you go through the house," the wife says. "I think design can evoke emotions, and I wanted to have the full range here."

Like many significant early-20th-century houses (as well as the Irish and English castles that inspired







them), this one is configured around a long gallery—painted in a vigorous teal—to showcase a lifetime of art collecting. The couple favors midcentury British painters, but they also treasure the works they bought as art neophytes in the early years of their marriage, mostly in Paris's Clignancourt flea market. Gambrel urged them to mix the more modest works with the distinguished ones.

ABOVE: In the master bedroom, the custom bed is upholstered in an Edelman leather with trim from Lee Jofa and dressed with Leontine Linens sheets and a Garnet Hill silk coverlet. The oak bench, François Daneck nightstand, and Griff sofa, in a de Le Cuona velvet, are all custom. The chandelier is by Niermann Weeks, the 1950s lamps are from the End of History, and the silk wallcovering is by Phillip Jeffries. The curtains are of a Zinc Textile print, and the painting is by Ivon Hitchens. For details, see Resources.

Every house has one room that embodies its spirit most essentially, and while that is often a living area or a bedroom, in this case it is the kitchen. For many elaborate homes with bold decor, such spaces are the Rubicon that owners cannot cross. But here, the couple dove in joyously and with abandon: Their kitchen could stand as Gambrel's dernier cri. Its ceiling and walls are covered in handmade glass tiles in shades from aquamarine to jade; fumed, ebonized, and waxed oak floors are custom cut in an Escher-like pattern; and the centerpiece is a vast exhaust hood enameled in forest green. Even Jay Gatsby might have balked at such daring, but the effect is monumental and intoxicating. "Tm not going to say it didn't take some convincing," recalls the husband, "but every day I'm glad we said yes."

### RESOURCES

Items pictured but not listed are from private collections

#### TRUTH IN DECORATING

PAGES 66-68: India Hicks, indiahicks com Martin Brudnizki Martin Brudnizki Design Studio, mbds.com.

### SHOWCASE

PAGE 71: Fabric: Amoir Libre in Orient,

PAGE 72: Wallpaper: Levante in Rianco flatvernacular.com PAGE 74: Wallpaper: Avant in green/ black by Kelly Wearstler, leejofa.com. Wallpaper: Turritella in Bathyal, flatvernacular com

### DANIEL'S KITCHENS

PAGES 92-94: Daniel Boulud of Restaurant Daniel, danielnyc.com. Plates: Richard Ginori, richardginori 1735.com; Mottahedeh, mottahedeh .com. Cup: Mottahedeh. Marble bowl: Terrain shopterrain com Silver trav: Match, match1995.com. Glass: Ralph Lauren Home, ralphlaurenhome .com. Phone case: Louis Vuitton louisyuitton.com. Tall glass: Baccarat, baccarat.com. Butter dish and sugar bowl: Royal Copenhagen, royalcopenhagen.com. Lidded jar: Frontgate, frontgate.com. Fabric Dedar dedar com





Interior design: Steven Gambrel, S.R.

R. Michael Graham, Liederbach & Graham, Architects, liederbachand

Gambrel, srgambrel.com. Architecture:

graham.com. General contracting: Timm T. Martin Company, ttmcompany

### NO STONE UNTURNED

.com. Landscaping: Craig Bergmann, Craig Bergmann Landscape Design, Inc., craigbergmann.com. Lighting consultant: Nathan Oreman Oreman Design, Inc., orsmandesign.com. Upholstery: Dune, dune-ny.com Window treatment: Mark David Interiors, markdavidinteriors.com PAGES 98-99: Banquette fabric: Holly Hunt, hollyhunt.com. Pillow fabrics: Sahina Fay Brayton sahinafayhrayton .com. Light fixture: Charles Edwards, charlesedwards.com. Curtain fabric: Hermès, hermès.com. Lamp: The End of History, theendofhistoryshop .blogspot.com. Sconce: Blackman Cruz, blackmancruz.com. Wallpaper: Gracie, graciestudio.com, Armchairs fabrics: Romo, romo.com; Lee lofa, krayet.com. Ottoman fabric: Edelman Leather, edelmanleather .com. Pendants: The Urban Electric Co., urbanelectric.com. Side table: Avery & Dash, averydash.com. Artwork: Albert Irvin, albert-irvin .com. PAGES 100-101: Range and hood: Officine Gullo, officinegullo .com. Glass tiles: Urban Archaeology, urbanarchaeology.com. Pendant: The Urban Electric Co. Refrigerator: Sub-Zero, subzero-wolf.com. Barstools: Palecek, palecek.com, Sink fittings: Kallista, kallista.com. Shades

fabric: Alessandra Branca, branca .com. Curtains fabric: Osborne & Little, osborneandlittle.com. Sconces: Besselink & Jones, besselink .com. PAGES 102-103: Dining table and chairs: Dune, dune-ny.com.
Mirrors: Harbinger, harbingerla .com. Curtains fabric: Jim Thomp son Fabrics iimthompsonfabrics .com. Curtains trim: Zuber, zuber fr Rug: Stark starkcarnet com PAGES 104-105: Bathtub: Waterworks, us.kohler.com. Fittings: Lefroy Brooks, lefroybrooks com Headhoard fabric Edelman Leather. Headboard trim: Lee Iofa. Sheets: Leontine Linens. leontinelinens.com. Coverlet: Garnet Hill, garnethill.com. Nightstand: François Daneck, francoisdaneck.com. Sofa fabric: De Le Cuona, delecuona .com. Chandelier: Niermann Weeks, mannweeks.com. Lamps: The End of History. Wallcovering: Phillip Jeffries, phillipjeffries.com. Curtains fabric: Zinc Textile, zinctextile.com.



### LIFE OF THE PARTY

nterior design: Bronson Van Wyck, Van Nyck & Van Wyck, vanwyck.net. Contributing interior designer: Celerie Kemble, Kemble Interiors, kemble interiors.com. Architecture and general contracting: Made Design/Build, designhuildmade com

PAGES 106-107: Sofa fabric: Claremont, claremontfurnishing .com. Cocktail table: Rose Tarlow Melrose House, rosetarlow.com.

Pendant: lamb, jamb,co.uk, Photograph: Chris Levine, chrislevine .com. PAGES 108-109: Chandelier: High Style Deco, highstyledeco .com. PAGES 110-111: Sconces: High Style Deco. Range and hood: Electrolux electroluxappliances .com. Pot rack: Urban Archaeology, urbanarchaeology.com. Lad-der: Putnam Rolling Ladder Co., putnamrollingladder.com, Chandelier High Style Deco. PAGES 112-113: Marble: Walker Zanger, walkerzanger .com. Wall paint: Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com. Wall tiles: Mosaic House, mosaichse.com. Shower fittings: Newport Brass, newportbrass.com. Headboard: Kemble Interiors, kembleinteriors .com. Bed linens: Dea, deafinelinens .com. Bedside table: David Linley, davidlinlev.com



OUTSIDE CHANCE Kelly Wearstler, kellywearstler.com. PAGES 114-115: Table and chair: Kelly

Wearstler, kellywearstler.com. Bowls, teacup, and dessert plate: Christiane Perrochon, christianeperrochon .com. Catchall: Kelly Wearstler. Vases: Morgan Peck, morganpeck.net; Kelly Wearstler; Christiane Perrochon. Cup: Heath Ceramics, heathceramics .com. Highball glass, flatware, and nankin: TableArt tableartonline com Plates: Morgan Peck; Alex Marshall Studios aleymarshallstudios com Serving tray: Michael Verheyden, nichaelverheyden.com.



### WORLD CLASS

nterior design: Patricia Greene Isen. Architecture: Daniel Romualdez Daniel Romualdez Architects, 212-989-8429

PAGES 116-117: Sofas: RH, Resto ration Hardware, rh.com. Cocktail table: Matthews & Parker, matthews andparker.com. Side tables: Roost, roostco.com. Rug: Tita Flying Carpet, titacarpet.com. PAGES 118-119: Range: Wolf, subzero-wolf.com, Dishes on table: Tory Burch, toryburch.com. Tiles: Mosaic House, mosaichse.com Pendants and dishes on shelves: BDDW, bddw.com. Dining chairs slipcover fabric: Jasper, michaelsmithinc com Tablecloth fabric: Lisa Fine Textiles, lisafinetextiles.com. Chandelier and sconces: Robert Ogden, rtolighting.com. Photograph: Jackie Nickerson, jackienickerson .com, Wallcovering: Christopher Hyland, christopherhyland.com. Wainscoting paint: Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com.

PAGES 120-121: Armchairs fabric:

berber.com. Photograph: David Benjamin Sherry, davidbenjaminsherry Matouk, matouk.com. Sofa fabric: 7immer + Rohde zimmer-rohde .com. Sink and fittings: Waterworks, waterworks com Mirror: RH Restoration Hardware. Wall tiles: Mosaic

Designers Guild, designersguild.com

Curtains fabric: Carolina Irving Tex-tiles, carolinairvingtextiles.com.

Rug: Breuckelen Berber, breuckelen



#### GLOBAL ENTRY

Cheval Blanc St-Barth Isle de France, chevalblanc.com. Interior design: Jacques Grange. Landscaping: Madison Cox, Madison Cox Associates,

PAGES 124-125: Ottomans: Walker Zabriskie, walkerzabriskie.com. Chairs: Serena & Lily serenaandlily.com Cocktail table: Delphine Messmer, delphinemessmermosaique.com.

### CORRECTIONS

In the "Elle Decor 30 Rules to Live By" story in the October 2019 issue (page 80), decorative painter Mark Giglio's contact information and location were incorrect. He is based in New York City and can be reached at 212-431-8926

In the Toolbox story in the October 2019 issue (page 114), the price for the Ressource Peintures paint was misstated. The correct price is \$100 for one liter of Yves Klein undercoat and one liter of Yves Klein paint.

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