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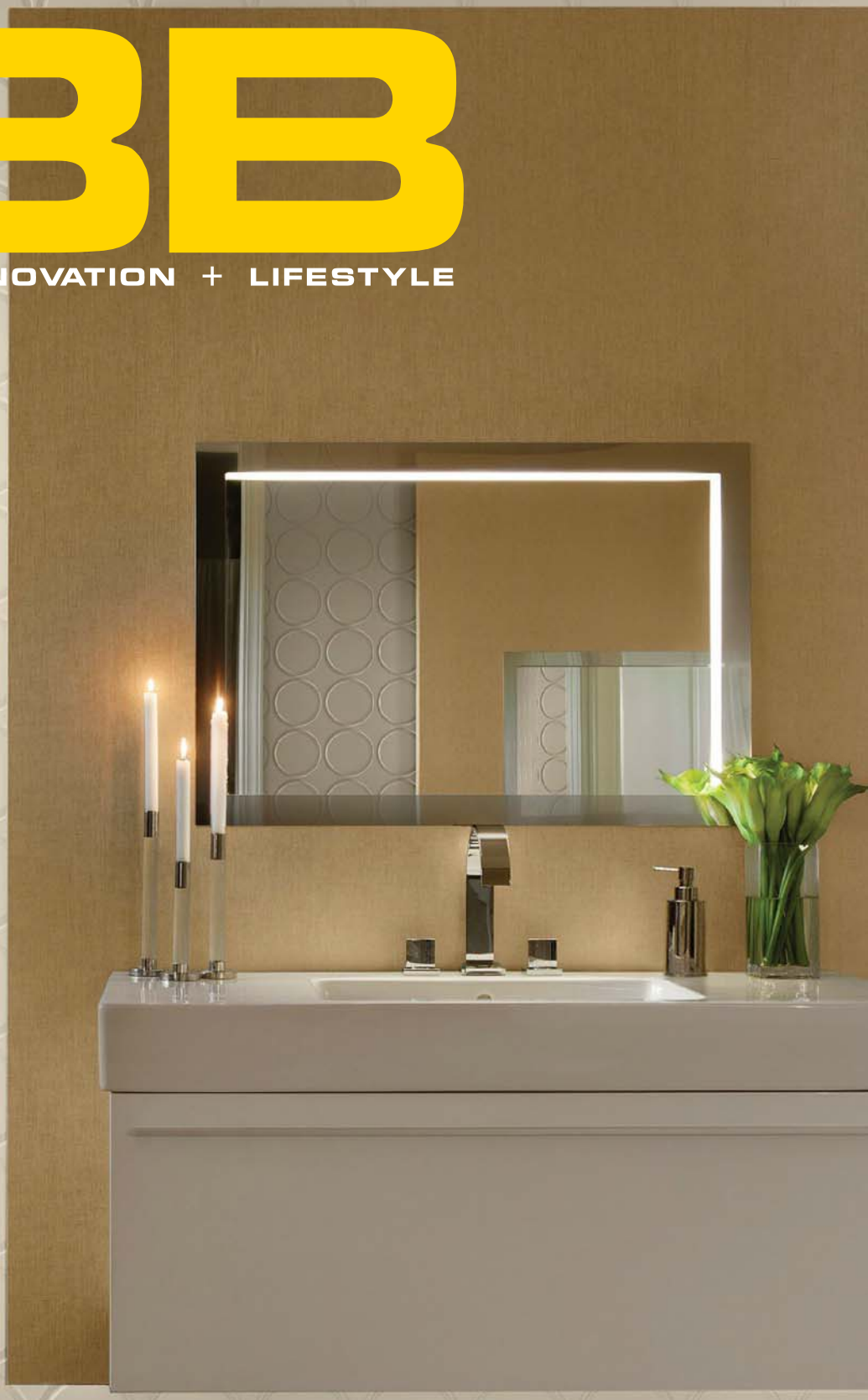

Urbane Living

A "wow" bath on a budget

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From Bland to Glam

Creating a knockout look with a limited budget

By Chelsie Butler

For a couple in Gilbert, Ariz., their goal was to transform every room in their lackluster, plain, traditional house into spaces that featured a "wow" factor, and the master bathroom was no exception. Enter Angelica Henry, ASID, owner of Angelica Henry Design in Scottsdale, who took the entire house in a more modern direction with fresh concepts and materials.

"The clients didn't want the bathroom to look like any other bathroom they had seen before," said Henry. "It was a very fun project because they were excited about innovative material applications and willing to take risks."

Perhaps the most obvious example of this is illustrated with the two bright vanities, which actually float against a shimmering gold wallcovering and glow from behind with concealed LED lighting. The wall-hung units, which replaced dark and heavy floor units, feature sanitary ceramic tops, power sources on the inside for plugging in appliances and compartments divided by glass shelves.

"Working with the bathroom's existing footprint was a bit of a challenge because we had to make the plumbing locations work," said

The goal of this master bathroom in a Gilbert, Ariz., home was to take it in a more modern direction with fresh concepts and materials. Angelica Henry was able to maneuver through the challenges of working with a limited budget and an existing floor plan to create a luxurious, yet functional space.

The bathtub was replaced with a simple, white, freestanding tub, and the windows that separated the bathtub and shower areas were replaced with the center-piece bowls as a focal point.

Henry. "So we challenged what a vanity space might look like and then made it work within the given space. It's not only a cabinet floating on the wall — it creates more of an art-like effect."

The wall cladding is made of inexpensive MDF panels that were routed with a circular pattern and then painted to look like custom wall panels. Framed centerpiece bowls from a local retailer make up the striking art above the bathtub for a high-impact look on a limited budget.

"The owner wanted to be as budget conscious as possible," said Henry, "so I used materials creatively to obtain a luxurious look that would work within the budget."

The existing drop-in bathtub with a tile surround was replaced with a simple, white, freestanding tub, and the windows that separated the bathtub and shower areas were replaced with the bowls as a focal point. The full-length wall mirrors were moved into an adjacent closet, and Henry chose clean-lined, modern faucets and hardware in the new design — but nothing too "hard-edged."

"A durable, golden-colored, 18-in x 18-in. porcelain tile on the floor helps ground the color palette and provides a simple backdrop for the feature elements," added Henry. The previous flooring was a tumbled travertine.

One of the goals of the project was to lighten up the former space, which was accomplished with the light-colored tile, as well as a dramatic chandelier that comes to life under a transparent, chrome fixture. Because both designer and owner wanted the chandelier to be the main light feature in the bathroom, the lighted mirrors above the vanity were selected in lieu of decorative sconces.

"The design has a timeless quality to it because of the neutral palette, freestanding tub and crystal chandelier," said Henry, "however the floating vanities and 3D wall material are certainly on trend. The resulting aesthetic is a fresh take on a glamorous and modern, yet low-maintenance bathroom." ■

sources

Designer: *Angelica Henry, Angelica Henry Design, Scottsdale, Ariz., www.angelicahenrydesign.com* ***Manufacturers:*** *Bathtub: Eago; Chandelier: Moooi; Vanity: Duravit; Vanity faucet: Graff; Wall and floor tiles: Villagio Tile; Wall art: Crate & Barrel; Wall covering: Elitis; Wall panels: Linear Fine Woodworking.* ***Photographer:*** *© Mark Boisclair Photography*

EAGO*'s oval, freestanding whirlpool bathtub replaced the built-in tub with a tile surround to provide a more sculptural and simple look. This high-gloss acrylic, two-person bathtub is designed to prevent bacteria and odor buildup and features seven different lighting settings, a touchscreen control panel, water hydromassage jets and digital stereo sound.*

As the bathroom's main source of lighting, the ***Moooi*** *Light Shade Shade is a one-way mirror that reflects its environment, as well as concealing the chandelier inside. Made of a semi-transparent mirror film shade with a metal frame structure, the shade is available in three sizes and can be bought separately from the chandelier. It can be easily cleaned with a non-smear glass cleaner and cloth.*

The designer specified the ***Sade*** *arched faucet — shown here in polished chrome — as a clean-lined, modern option without being to hard-edged. The faucet is also available in Steelnox, Polished Nickel and Olive Bronze finishes.*

Sleek, wall-hung vanities conceal power sources for personal care items, and the sanitary ceramic tops require low maintenance.