

A GUIDE TO THE BEST RESTAURANTS & ENTERTAINMENT

OKLAHOMA

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MAYO

A LEGEND REBORN:
THE MAYO
HOTEL

EXCLUSIVE
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**FINANCIAL
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FOUR ALARM
FASHION

**SPARE SOME
CHANGE?**

THE PANHANDLING PROBLEM

SPECIAL SECTION
ACTIVE YEARS

A muted color palette of whites, grays, blues and browns is featured through the entire home, highlighting the homeowners' vibrant art collection.



Modern Renaissance

Traditional meets contemporary in this Midtown home.

By Heather Sleightholm

Photography by Scott Johnson,
Hawks Photography

When the owners of this Midtown Tulsa home first purchased the colonial-style house, they were looking for a family-friendly place for their daughters to bring friends, and also a place to

display their art collection.

The family embarked on a three-year renovation, seeking to combine traditional style with a modern sensibility all their own. "It was really important to the homeowners that we mix their collection of contemporary art with traditional furnishings while still maintaining the integrity of the house,"



A seating area designed by Kirk Holt occupies the stylish yet functional living space.

explains interior designer Kirk Holt of Cisar-Holt, Inc.

According to architect Brian Freese, the updating of the home became a complete renovation including the reframing of the home.

"The home ended up being virtually reconstructed," Freese says. "Every wall was opened up and rewired for technology and security. It has truly turned into a state-of-the-art home."

After the major construction was completed, the family and their designers settled on a design concept for the home. The homeowners chose a cool palette of whites, grays, blues and browns that carries through the entire house and highlights their vibrant art collection.

On the main floor of the home, the family worked with Holt and Freese to create an open and functional living space that also catered to their passion for entertaining. Walls dividing the dining room from the kitchen were removed to create an open space where activities in both rooms could mingle.

"(The homeowners) really love to cook, so we opened the space up to make it more interactive for family gatherings," says Holt.

The kitchen also features a custom Wolf range and statuary marble on the backsplash. Everything is designed to be pleasing to the eye and to stand the test of time.

In the living room, a seating area personally designed by Holt faces a dark marble fireplace with a recessed television overhead, making the room practical for family life.

Extensive renovations were also made to the adjacent sunroom, which was updated to fit the modern family.

"We added a home office area that would be easy to use for both the children and adults," Holt says. "We also replaced all the windows with Pella windows that look like the windows of an older home but are much more energy efficient."

The views from these windows beckon visitors outside to a large patio where entertaining is the main event. The space was once an office, but it was decided that the area would function better for the homeowners as an outdoor living space.

"Brian (Freese) designed the patio to work with the existing architecture," says Holt. "Working together, we came up with a design that would make the space functional almost year round, with the fire place for fall, fans for the summer and a pizza oven and grill so they can enjoy outdoor cooking."

The backyard gardens were redesigned to offer maximum privacy. The homeowners enlisted the talents of David Land of Tulsa Landscape for a classic garden to enhance the traditional aspects of the home's exterior.

Natural light is an important aspect of the bathroom, with large windows occupying three of the bathroom's walls.



A large patio converted from office space provides a great area for entertaining.



The kitchen was opened up to the dining room to create a more inviting space.



While the family enjoys gathering outdoors, the upper floor offers a haven with its own attractions. The master suite also features the soothing pale color palette of the downstairs rooms, including the tan leather bed and night tables from Cisar-Holt. The home's former sleeping porch was expertly converted into a luxurious master bath.

Natural light plays a large role in the master bath with three walls filled with large windows original to the house. In an effort to preserve the look of the windows on the home's exterior, the cabinets lining those windowed walls were custom cut with window wells, so they don't block the windows.

The master bath also features a two-person steam shower, heated floors and a white porcelain BainUltra air tub.

In the end, everyone involved with the renovations was satisfied. Not only were the architect and designer able to maintain the integrity of the home's original design, but also seamlessly incorporate the owners' personal styles and interests.

"It's something that is not easy to do," Holt says, "but I think all the contemporary and traditional elements come together very nicely here." ■