

SUMMER COLOR: INSPIRING PALETTES, PRETTY ROOMS

ATLANTA HOMES™ & LIFESTYLES

DESIGNING WOMEN

Artists, Designers
& Entrepreneurs
Defining Local Style



Interior Design
Lizbeth Kasper
atlantahomesmag.com
June 2006



The Ultimate
Bedroom Retreat

The Power of Paint

Choosing the right color can make a room dramatic, serene or even give it multiple personalities. Three local designers show us how.

Written and Produced by Christen Rose Smith | Photographs by Erica George Dixon

GO FOR DRAMA



For an odd, L-shaped powder bath with tall ceilings, designer **Barbara Westbrook** chose to cover the walls in Sherwin Williams' daring "Lamp Black" paint, making the space more intimate. "Powder rooms should be dramatic," says Westbrook. A focal point of the space is the assortment of framed oils that line one of the walls, their gold frames seemingly glowing against the black background. Working with such disparate elements takes experimentation—even for a professional. "We held up contemporary artwork," says Westbrook, "but the oils looked better in the space. You have to have artwork that creates a little life."

Westbrook says that lighting is also critical when working with dark colors. Overlighting a space is a common offense. If it's a dark, moody room, go with it; don't force it into something it's not. "The lighting is there to enhance the mood," she adds.

In lieu of a mirrored wall above the vanity, the designer chose an overscale hanging mirror to keep the space from feeling overdone. And to continue to offset the dark color, balance was key. Cream-colored, half-inch mosaics lighten the floor, while a sexy vanity—an Italian walnut console—keeps the room from being cramped, which could have been the case with a built-in piece. "By keeping the piece leggy, you have the illusion of more open space," says the designer.

Paintings from *Avry Fine Art*, (404) 266-8886 and *Madison Gallery, ADAC*, (404) 866-9033; Sink, *Waterworks*, (404) 266-1080; Mirror, *Regis Antiques*, (404) 227-4898.

Barbara Westbrook, *Westbrook Interiors*, (404) 333-9438.