

MARCH 2009

House Beautiful

the ultimate **color** *issue*

HOW
MUCH
COLOR
IS RIGHT
FOR
YOU?



ARE YOU
NEUTRAL
OR ARE
YOU
BOLD?



\$4.50



COLOR OUTRAGEOUS!

We're always egging you on to be bold in your choices of color. Here, ten designers tell us the boldest they've ever been

Interviews by
CHRISTINE PITTEL

"I once did a basement bar with dark wood paneling and Heath tiles, and we painted the ceiling this mysterious blue-green in high, high gloss. I wanted it to look like it was dripping with water. You could practically see your reflection in it. High-gloss paint is such a neat trick—it made the ceiling feel higher and all the soffits disappeared."

AMY LAU
BENJAMIN MOORE
MILL SPRINGS BLUE HC-137



"This is a true peacock blue, the blue of David Hockney's California swimming pools. It reminds me of those endless, carefree summers as a child. It's a happy blue, beautiful and soothing during the day, but at night it comes alive, wrapping you in its warm, velvety embrace. Lacquer it to bring out the depth of the color."

JOHN GILMER
RALPH LAUREN PAINT
BAL TIC BLUE 1B86

"Most people retreat at the mention of purple, but say black irises and their curiosity is piqued. Black tulips, black violets—the soft, velvety petals yearn to be touched. Translate this blackened violet to the walls in a dining room and you have a jewel box for entertaining. I like it at night because it's rich and exotic. Lacquer it to reflect the candlelight."

CHARLOTTE MOSS
FARROW & BALL
PELT 254



"I was walking through a client's living room and said, very softly, 'Pistachio.' Instead of calling me crazy, she picked up on it immediately and we chose this vibrant green, lighter than pear but with a certain pungent quality. Once you were enveloped in it, it actually became almost neutral. It elevated the whole room and made it feel more sophisticated."

MICHAEL RICHMAN
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS
GLEEFUL SW6709



"I love designing powder rooms because it's an opportunity to do something you wouldn't do in a larger space. For one client, we painted the entire room rosy pink, gold-leafed every inch of the moldings, and did a custom mosaic glass floor in pink and gold. It was over the top. It glowed. And everyone looked fabulous in the mirror!"

JAY JEFFERS
BENJAMIN MOORE
GLAMOUR PINK 2006-40



"We wanted a surprise for the sitting room on the top floor of an otherwise traditional brownstone, so we painted the walls bright tangerine, with white trim and two-inch-thick white Corian floating shelves. After walking up four flights of stairs through sedate colors and formal rooms, it was a very energizing experience. Crisp, fresh, like a Creamsicle on a hot day."

DD ALLEN
C2 PAINT
TANGERINE C2-104



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