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A-LIST VIRTUAL
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as seen in
at home
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opposite page: For a dramatic space in an equally grand home, attention to proportion was essential, and meticulous care was paid to the size and symmetry of furnishings as well as architectural elements. **below:** A neutral palette softens and warms the nearly 30-foot-tall space. Natural white oak with a subtle graining was used for all of the casings, moldings and paneling. **right:** To create the custom matching pendants and sconces, the designers used foam-core models hung in place to get the scale just right.



CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS WITH FOREHAND + LAKE

Soft Symmetry

As the central living space of a grand and classic Georgian residence, this design reflects the husband's appreciation of the quiet and expansive feel of the great international hotels he frequents in his business travels. It also respects the more modern lifestyle and furnishings his wife enjoys, with an attention to scale and proportion that gives the extraordinary space an ambience that is simultaneously warm and comfortable.

Achieving this harmonious result required an integration of hundreds of details, starting with the arrangement of openings and massing of key features. The room is bookended with paneled and mirrored chimney breasts; to ensure balance, the three arched openings on the east and west elevations were proportioned appropriately to the size of the room, enhanc-

ing its grandeur. At the same time, the pilasters, chimney breasts and ceiling beams—all massive in size—were clad with finely detailed panels and refined moldings that provide a relatable human scale. Using natural white oak with a subtle graining for the panels also adds warmth to the room.

The designers anchored the comfort factor with two luxurious custom wool-and-silk area rugs, allowing the space to be divided into mirrored sitting areas—another choice that provides more intimacy for the clients and their guests. The generous use of soft finish materials—hand-embroidered drapery, calfskin upholstery, cut velvets—adds tactile enhancement to the room's soothing palette and its atmosphere of relaxed luxury and coziness.

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above left: A three-tiered coffee table sits on a cut-and-loop rug with a subtle stripe pattern. Hermès patterned pillows adorn the chairs to the left, and a custom mohair recliner sits to the right. **above right:** The view of the lake is framed by bronze-and-alabaster hanging lanterns set in front of leather draperies. **opposite:** Two vertical onyx-and-bronze sconces flank the fireplace, and a pair of chocolate leather ottomans with hand-stitched details sit in front. Off to the left is a high-gloss Macassar ebony desk.

FOREHAND + LAKE WITH CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS

Work Retreat

For a client who travels constantly, a library that doubles as a personal sanctuary is just what he needs when he is at home.

Knowing how much time the client would spend in this space, Forehand + Lake, working with Charles Hilton Architects, designed his library to exude comfort and a sense of calm.

The cleaner lines of the walnut beams, with a subtle, darker walnut inset trim detail, helped distinguish this room from the rest of the home. The fireplace surround is composed of six steel panels that bear a uniform but subtly modeled finish, and Asian influences are found throughout, from the high-lacquer vermilion-and-black cabinets to the blackened-nickel-and-parchment chandelier to the bronze-and-alabaster hanging floor lanterns framing the view of the lake beyond. The

walnut beams seamlessly transition to taupe inset leather-wrapped tiles that cover the walls and several doors. The pattern is at once random and uniform, providing both interest and a serene feel.

The curved, high-gloss Macassar ebony desk complements the three-tiered ivory-lacquer-and-Macassar coffee table in the seating area, which also includes a loose-back sofa with inset bronze metal details and a walnut base. The sole must-have for the client was a motorized recliner, so Forehand + Lake designed a custom dark camel mohair chair with camel piping that looks nothing like a typical recliner (and has no wires in sight). A cut-and-loop rug in a subtle stripe pattern grounds the space, and two chocolate leather ottomans with hand-stitched details are cozy perches in front of the fire.

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WINNER at home magazine A-List Awards 2020

traditional architecture / greater than 7k sq. feet



CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS WITH FOREHAND + LAKE

Mid-country Marvel



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opposite page: The façade incorporates five different handmade bricks in buff, red and blackened colors. The bricks, the cornice, the balusters and the windows were all oversized to make the composition appear smaller than it otherwise would. **this page (clockwise from top right):** Oversize openings flood the home with natural light; the grand entry's stone floor pattern introduces the architectural palette; the rear elevation opens to lakefront, providing magnificent views; a tall tray ceiling, generous windows and French doors keep the family room airy; an indoor natatorium was built beneath the rear terrace for the views and optimum ventilation.



More than six years from inspiration to completion, the main house of this Greenwich estate is the jewel of a 13-acre property with frontage on Putnam Lake. The clients, intent on creating a home that reflects their inspirations, were drawn to this area of town and its beautiful Georgian-style residences. Inspired by Belton House, a notable British country estate, and David Adler's 1928 Crane Estate in Ipswich, Massachusetts, the exterior has classic symmetry and an enduring material composition of brick and stone.

Inside, the main living space reflects a merging of influences of the two clients. The husband, who travels internationally for business, has always loved the respite he finds in the lobbies of Asia's finest hotels. He wanted light, expansiveness and modern luxury, while his wife prefers a softer, more transitional environment. The interplay of grand proportions and

exquisite bespoke details results in surroundings that harmoniously blend the couple's wishes.

Every part of this home was carefully imagined and meticulously constructed. The entryway introduces the color palette of the house, arranged in a pattern inspired by the Campidoglio in Rome. The large volume of the living room was proportioned so that neither the width nor the height of the space is overwhelming or out of balance. All fixtures and openings were custom-crafted to ensure the proper scale, and they produce surroundings that are comfortable as well as memorable. Just as the project was nearing completion, the third and final parcel of land that permitted substantial open space and a formal driveway on axis with the center of the house became available and was purchased by the clients. This grand approach completed the vision of their ideal home.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY



opposite page: A hand-stitched leather paneled niche perfectly frames and aligns with the bed and nightstands. this page: The room is grounded by a pale gray geometric wallcovering. A walnut bench with a hand-stitched shagreen cushion sits in front of the fireplace.

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY ROBERT BENSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Opening to a terrace with a magnificent lakefront view, the master suite of a Greenwich manor house is impressive in its comforting appointments as well as its architectural grandeur. The expansive floor plan and 14-foot ceilings demanded thoughtful attention to filling this private space with furnishings that make a refined and sophisticated statement.

The designers chose a palette of striking materials used in counterpoint. Their goal was for the finishes to be fittingly luxurious while simultaneously soft and calming. The lacquered rosewood bed frame is inset with an embossed lambskin headboard and subtle inlaid polished brass details. This juxtaposition of gleam and texture continues overhead with hand-formed, opaque glass discs hanging from a satin

brass chandelier frame. At the foot of the bed, the television is contained within a cabinet framed in sleek mahogany and faced with soft goatskin in a geometric pattern. The room's furnishings combine in harmony on a hand-knotted gray silk-and-wool rug that has a subtle ombré fade pattern.

A fireplace surround, crafted by a local artisan, runs the full height of the room. Hewn from marble, it was cut and honed into a multifaceted pattern that provides a dynamic yet softening effect not usually associated with this material. The challenge was creating an interlocking motif of varying-size rectangles stepped back from one another and set to different planes, and this puzzle needed to be perfectly random to achieve the desired effect. Positioned as its central feature, this unique element completes the room.

FOREHAND + LAKE WITH CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS

Quiet Opulence

as seen in
athome
magazine



FINALIST athome magazine **A-List Awards 2020**
bedroom: TRAD/CLASSIC

**FOREHAND + LAKE WITH
CHARLES HILTON ARCHITECTS**

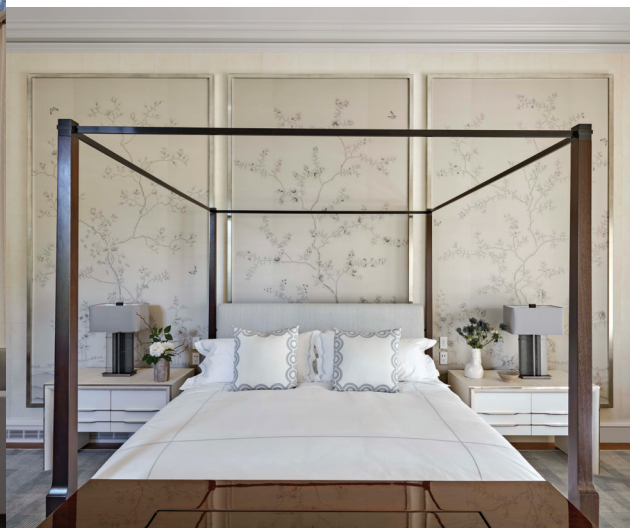
You'd almost swear you're in the French countryside, swathed in shades of pale blues and silvers, in this dreamy first-floor master suite. The homeowners can take in the views of their picturesque gardens through the suite's conservatory, framed by curved windows designed by Charles Hilton, right from their walnut canopy bed, which beckons from below a hand-blown Venetian glass chandelier. The bedroom oozes luxury, from the hand-embroidered linen draperies to the heavenly plush hand-knotted silk-and-wool carpet with a subtle grid pattern that echoes the play of light on the reflective surfaces. Behind the bed, a custom hand-penciled chinoiserie three-paneled mural set in silver-and-black-clay frames lends a vintage vibe, while the polished quartzite fireplace surround transitions to antique mirror with inlaid nickel above. A lacquered goat skin cabinet camouflages a TV so today's tech doesn't seem out of place in this timeless escape.

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