



kitchenbath

so splashy

*firm: ghislaine viñas interior design
site: new york*

“She’s not cautious,” Ghislaine Viñas reports, approvingly, of her repeat client and close friend Paige West, owner of the New York contemporary-art gallery Mixed Greens. “She’s a superconfident girl-next-door.” At West’s family’s home, the top four levels of a six-story structure that radically re-invented a crumbling 1915 warehouse, her confidence comes through loud and clear. The spectacular 8,000-square-foot space by Ghislaine Viñas Interior Design spirals delightfully into conceptual complexity, sometimes even spirited contradictions—and that goes for the three bathrooms and two half baths, too.

Arne Jacobsen tub fittings for the boys’ bathroom in this town house were special-ordered in a powder coat.

The master bathroom’s glittering glass mosaic floor tiles are backed with highly reflective aluminum leaf. For the ceiling, Viñas asked an artist friend, Malcolm Hill, to paint a 1970’s-inspired mural with soft petal and amoeba shapes. “Just in case anybody thought we were taking the bathroom seriously,” she jokes, going on to describe the pair of off-the-shelf mirrors with white-lacquered rococo frames as “frilly and ➤



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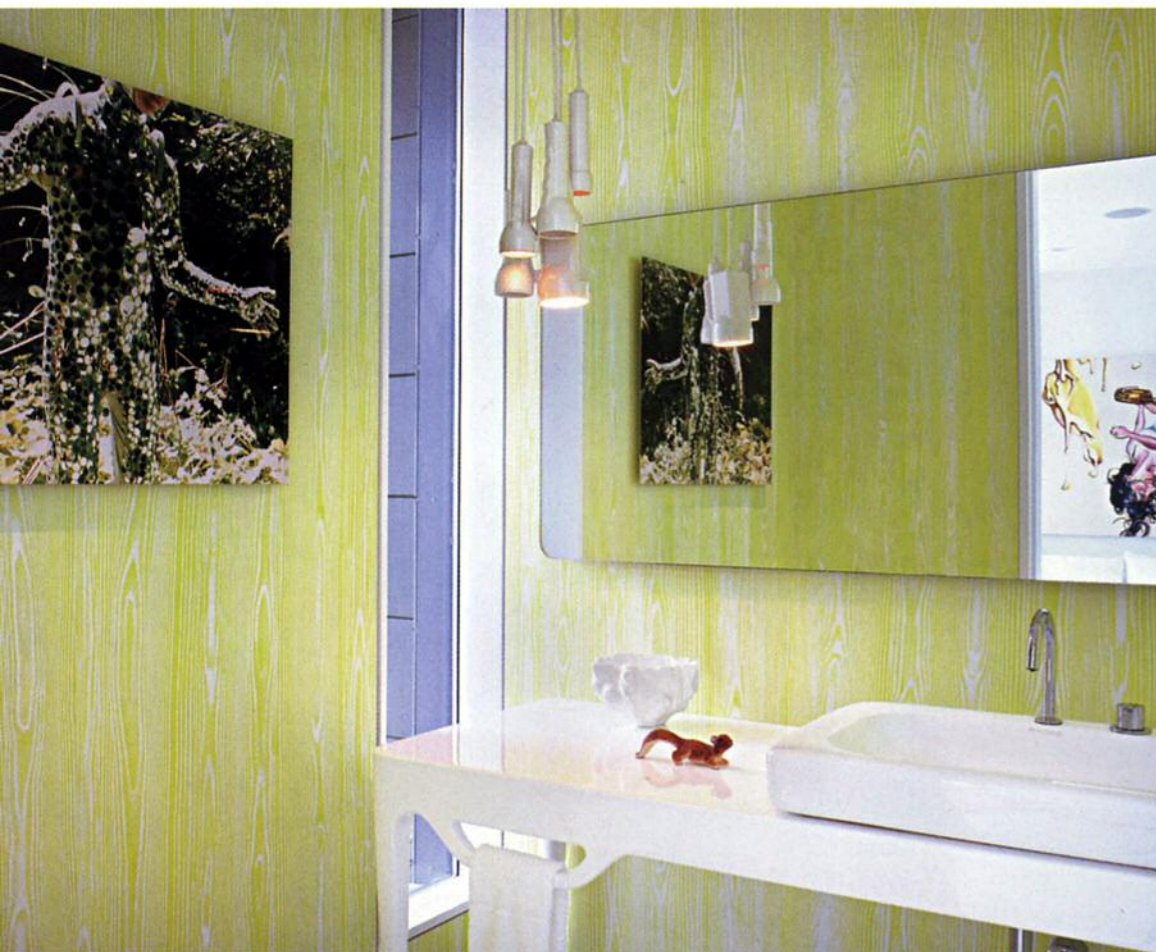
fancy, delicious and disgusting—in a good way.” It turns out that, in context, over-the-top historical elements can appeal to contemporary tastes. Beneath the mirrors stand two Italian bombé chests converted into vanities, each topped with a Carrara marble slab and fitted with an under-mounted sink.

Large white rectangular wall tiles, installed up to the 42-inch-mark, lie flush with the plasterboard above. There’s just a ¼-inch reveal dividing the two zones, aside from over the tub, where Viñas added a narrow shelf and propped a few pieces of art on it. One is a nontraditional portrait of West: The artist simply painted the words “really and truly long blond hair and almond shaped quite light sky blue eyes” in black on a white background.

With daylight for mid-block town houses mostly limited to windows in the front and rear, many of the bathrooms got dark core locations. Viñas compensated by supplying evocations of nature, albeit highly synthesized ones. In the bathroom shared by West’s three young sons, oversized floor tiles are glazed to realistically reproduce photographs of a lush green lawn. “We were having fun with the idea that we live in a concrete jungle,” she says. The ironic grass perfectly complements Arne Jacobsen fittings in a retro shade of kelly green.

Viñas chose the waterless urinals less for their nature-friendliness than for their raindrop shape, a sculptural presence. “I never thought I would say that about a urinal,” she admits with a laugh. Curves continue with the sinks and the radiused corners of mirrors that appear to hover just proud of a wall, thanks to hidden wood blocking. White neon cloud shapes, floating cartoon-like in the air, echo the curved profile of the Sieger Design tub below. “We kept on adding elements of whimsy and fun,” she continues. The clouds are just one example of the distinctive fixtures that personalize each bathroom.

A cluster of fixtures made from ceramic castings of vintage flashlights ➤



Clockwise from top left: In the master bedroom, a pendant fixture with a ribbon shade hangs over a metallic-painted wooden table. The adjacent dressing room features a Gerard van den Berg chair and ottoman re-covered in wool. A photo by Alyson Shutz, pendant fixtures by Andrea Chin, a sink and vanity by Hayon Studio, and faux-bois wallpaper meet in a powder room.

Opposite, from top: The urinal in the boys’ bathroom is waterless. In the master bathroom, a vintage fixture with glass globes is installed on a ceiling painted by



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is suspended in a powder room. In another, black drum shades drip cut-crystal drops. To sell this glam look, Viñas used a line guaranteed to win client approval. West makes no bones about her weakness for sparkle, which Viñas supplied whenever possible. "You're going to love this," she'd say. "It's like diamonds, baby." Diamonds and a best friend. Could a girl ask for more?

—Craig Kellogg

FROM FRONT VOLA: TUB FITTINGS, SINK FITTINGS (BOYS' BATHROOM), SINK FITTINGS (POWDER ROOMS). **NEMO TILE COMPANY:** WALL TILE (BOYS', MASTER BATHROOMS). **PABLO:** PENDANT FIXTURE (BEDROOM). **THROUGH AUCAPINA CABINET:** SIDE TABLE. **WEST ELM:** THROW PILLOW. **JONATHAN ADLER:** MIRROR (DRESSING ROOM). **THROUGH SIMON'S HARDWARE & BATH:** DRAWER PULLS. **NIEDERMAIER:** CHAIR FABRIC, OTTOMAN FABRIC. **THROUGH JERRY PAIR & ASSOCIATES:** CURTAIN FABRIC.

ARTQUITECT THROUGH URBAN ARCHITECTURE: SINK, VANITY (WALLPAPERED POWDER ROOM). **IMM LIVING:** PENDANT FIXTURES. **ALPHA WORKSHOPS:** CUSTOM WALLPAPER. **MOOOI:** PENDANT FIXTURES (BOYS' BATHROOM). **THROUGH HOME DEPOT:** SINKS. **DURAVIT:** URINAL. **THROUGH PROPERTY:** STOOL. **IMAGINE TILE:** FLOORING. **FTF DESIGN STUDIO:** CUSTOM TUB (MASTER BATH). **DORNBRACHT:** TUB FITTINGS, SINK FITTINGS. **NELLA VETRINA ITALY:** VANITIES. **BROCADE HOME:** MIRRORS. **ARTEMIDE:** SCONCES. **THROUGH REWIRE:** PENDANT FIXTURE. **THROUGH C TO C TILE:** FLOOR TILE. **HOESCH:** TUB (BOYS' BATHROOM). **LITE BRITE NEON:** CUSTOM PENDANT FIXTURE. **EVANS & PAUL:** CUSTOM SINK (TILED POWDER ROOM). **USONA:** PENDANT FIXTURES. **WATERWORKS:** TILE. **THROUGHOUT RICHARD J. SHAVER ARCHITECTURAL LIGHTING:** LIGHTING CONSULTANT. **PLUS GROUP:** MEP. **FRITZMARTIN ELECTRIC:** ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR. **B+G FULL CONSTRUCTION:** FINISH CONTRACTOR.



Clockwise from top: Custom neon clouds hover above the Sieger Design tub in the boys' bathroom. Ceramic tiles wrap the custom Corian sink in a powder room. Raw cedar lines the sauna designed by the house's builder, DDG Partners, for a space beneath the central staircase.

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more...

snaps

Interior Design's Best of Year Awards, familiarly known as the BoYs, brought 800 attendees to the lobby of New York's IAC Building by Gehry Partners. That's a brand-new venue for the Edelman Leather-sponsored event, which celebrated 45 product winners and 30 project victors, narrowed down from more than 1,000 entries. If you missed the excitement in December, the BoYs are slated to come out in book form in the fall.

BoY Wonder

1. Gehry Partners's IAC Building, facing the Hudson River.
2. Interior Design editor in chief **Cindy Allen** approaching the podium.
3. The 100-foot-wide projection wall.
4. Interior Design publisher and vice president **Mark Strauss** and Cindy Allen kicking off the ceremony.
5. Publicist **Reva Revis**.
6. **Lee Mindel** of Shelton,

- Mindel & Associates, winner for the Apartment category.
7. **Karim Rashid**, whose firm tied for first in Health Care and designed two winning products, for Alloy and Vondom.
8. Interior Design associate publisher **Carol Cisco**, Hansgrohe president **Russ Wheeler**, and **Todd DeGarmo**, CEO of the Office Renovation winner, Studios Architecture.
9. **Richard Shemtov**, whose

- company, Dune, won Contract Guest Seating for Pipeline, with its designer, **Harry Allen**.
10. **Francis D'Haene**, principal of Rural House winner D'Apostrophe Design, and his wife, Anaïs & I owner **Jane Yang**.
11. **Esti Barnes**, design director of Rug winner Top Floor, and Budget winner **Johnson Chou**.
12. **Sina Pearson** of Sina Pearson Textiles, winner for Outdoor Fabric & Upholstery, getting a

- congratulatory hug from Cindy Allen.
13. **Anthony** and **Victor Puharich**, owners of Dreamtime Australia Design's winning Retail project, the Victor Churchill butcher shop.
14. Victory for **Ghislaine Viñas**.
15. Walking away with Ghislaine Viñas Interior Design's BoY Award for Urban/Suburban House.
16. Pratt Institute students

- Ashley Thorfinnson** and **Alvaro Uribe** and TZ Design principal **Mark Goetz**, collaborators on the Cabot Wrenn armchair that won Residential Occasional Seating.
17. **Dean Goodman** of Levitt Goodman Architects, winner for Institutional.
18. A new orange base for Harry Allen's BoY Award lightbulb.
19. SPG Architects architectural designer **Andres Cova** and

- principal **Eric Gartner**.
20. Stylex president **John Golden** and Novità Communications president **Christine Abbate**.
21. Partition & Wall System winner 3form's New York showroom manager, **Julia Barnes**, and Eastern regional vice president of sales, **Rob Healey**.

