

INTERIORS • ARCHITECTURE • FASHION • ART • DESIGN

GrayTM

The DESIGN MAGAZINE for the Pacific Northwest

**RALPH LAUREN
COMES CALLING
AT AN OREGON
SHEEP RANCH**

**THE
COLOR
ISSUE**

**BRIGHT INTERIORS
BOLD PATTERNS
FUTURE TRENDS**

**LUXE LIVING IN
500 SQUARE FEET**

+

Studio Visit

Behind the scenes with
one of Seattle's most
exciting design duos

BEYOND THE BRUSH
Vancouver painter
Zoë Pawlak explores
the art of rug making

ISSUE NO. FOURTEEN • \$7 US, \$9 CDN

0 2>



0 74470 26540 4

Printed in Portland, Oregon, USA



HIGH CONTRAST

Written by RACHEL GALLAHER • Photographed by LINCOLN BARBOUR

OPPOSITE: Jessica Helgerson and Emily Shephard of Jessica Helgerson Interior Design helped transform a tiny galley kitchen in a 1926 Mediterranean-style building. The duo installed wooden beams on the ceiling to match those found elsewhere in the unit, and integrated a vintage Scottish cabinet that the clients bought 30 years ago into a wall of storage. **THIS PAGE:** Built-in shelving optimizes the space. The white Calcutta marble countertop from Oregon Tile & Marble elegantly contrasts the cabinetry, which is painted in Benjamin Moore's Carbon Copy.



Interior designer Jessica Helgerson helps a couple create their ideal kitchen, while respecting the historic integrity of a Spanish-style building.

Ihey say the kitchen is the heart of the home, and for Wilf and Mary Ellen Pinfold, that statement couldn't ring any truer. At the end of each workday, the couple spends time together chatting, reading, or watching *News Night* at the island table. Centered in the Pinfolds's 2,380-square-foot unit in the historic Alhambra building in Northwest Portland, the open, light-filled space is now the perfect place to gather.

Pre-renovation, however, was a different story. "The kitchen was a small galley kitchen with very dated appliances—a layout you would expect from a 1926 apartment," Mary Ellen says. "There was no flow from the front of the unit to the back."

So in the summer of 2012, the Pinfolds hired Jessica Helgerson and Emily Shephard of Jessica Helgerson Interior Design to create a kitchen they'd want to spend time in—"one designed in tune with the building's 1920s Mediterranean style.

"With every decision we made, we kept in mind what was happening architecturally and how it would fit in," Helgerson says. In order to create an effortless flow from room to room, the team worked with contractor Dave Rush to add a large arched opening to connect the kitchen and the dining room, lining it up with an identical opening already in the living room. They also installed wooden beams across the kitchen ceiling to match the original ones elsewhere in the condo. »

At the far end of the room, dark-painted floor-to-ceiling shelving surrounds a window original to the building. Mary Ellen enjoys curling up on the sofa underneath, pulling down a few cookbooks for mealtime inspiration. (She says she will never be done adding books to her collection). Badajoz encaustic concrete floor tile adds a touch of glamour while echoing the pervasive black-and-white contrast throughout.

If the kitchen is the heart of this home, then the island is the soul. Crafted by Portland woodworker Kai Fuhrmann of Master Furniture Makers, the Spanish-influenced turned-leg piece is a popular gathering place for guests to chat while the Pinfolks cook. Metal pendants overhead provide extra light in the evening if either Wilf or Mary Ellen wants to read or catch up on work.

"We love to have friends over for dinner," Mary Ellen says. "Appetizers can be served at the center table, and folks can visit on the window seating and sofa while final cooking is completed. No lonely cooks!" ✦



Bookshelves surround the gold velvet-upholstered sofa. A custom task light from OneFortyThree provides extra brightness. The side table is the perfect place to set a cup of coffee or glass of wine—the Pinfolks had a custom marble top made for the vintage piece.