

HOME & DESIGN

Dream Retreats

*Dazzling new
homes + makeovers
by local architects*

Farm to Table

At home with Baltimore
CHEF CINDY WOLF

Au Naturel

BATHROOM ENVY

A modern bath by architect Ben Ames celebrates nature in more ways than one

In the design of a compact home in Cabin John, Maryland, architect Ben Ames proved that economy of space does not have to mean economy of style or luxury. Case in point: the 150-square-foot master bathroom. The client's desire for a dressing table and makeup area integrated with a vanity drove Ames's design of the narrow space.

In the finished room, an 11-foot-long double vanity with Pure White Thassos marble countertops and richly grained walnut cabinetry lines one wall, with a makeup station centered between the two sinks. Directly opposite the vanity, a sculptural Victoria & Albert Napoli bathtub adds visual balance. It's flanked by two full-height, IKEA cabinets in a glossy white laminate finish. But what showcases the statement-making tub and defines its niche within the bathroom is a contrasting custom tongue-in-groove inset walnut feature wall, which is reflected in the vanity's triple mirrors.

"I designed the bathroom using the same overall principles I used in the whole house: a reduced palette of soothing, natural materials," explains Ames, who worked with Bountiful Interiors on the project.

Striated Athens Silver Cream marble clads the opposite vanity wall and covers the floors in a textured, bricked pattern, traveling back to a frosted picture window that lets in plenty of filtered light. To the right, the W.C. is discreetly tucked away behind a partial wall, and to the left is the shower, where another large window and glass doors wash the bathroom in more natural light.

"In the shower, I put in a built-in white marble bench, as well as a six-foot long linear drain, allowing for a curb-less transition into the shower," says Ames.

Even the views reflect nature: The shower window looks out on the wooded edge of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Park.

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ARCHITECTURE: Benjamin Ames, AIA, Ames Studio, Arlington, Virginia. INTERIOR DESIGN: Jamie Merida and Denise Perkins, Bountiful Interiors, Easton, Maryland. CONTRACTOR: Karl Voglmayr, Washington Landmark Construction, Washington, DC. TEXT & STYLING: Charlotte Safavi. PHOTOGRAPHY: Robert Radifera.



BATH #2

A SIMPLE
PALETTE



BATH #3

**BATHED
IN LIGHT**





David Waguespack achieves order and a sense of Zen in a once-outdated DC bath

Though spacious, the master bath in a 1990s-era DC residence did not appeal to the property’s new owners. A vaulted ceiling above the tub peaked at almost three times the height of the ceiling above the vanity area. The shower, enclosed in drywall, blocked light and made the room feel choppy. And outdated saltillo tile covered the floors, walls and tub deck. “It was overwhelmingly busy and looked like a Mexican restaurant inside a bathroom,” recalls designer David Waguespack of Case Design, who was called upon to renovate the space.

First, the designer addressed the proportions and layout by dropping the vault in favor of a tray ceiling. Along one wall, a vanity/makeup station by Shiloh Cabinetry replaced the original millwork. Centered on the opposite wall, a sculptural Victoria & Albert tub is flanked by a W.C. and a new shower, which are enclosed in frosted and clear glass, respectively. A dual-zone heated floor includes separate thermostats for the shower/W.C. side of the room and the vanity area.

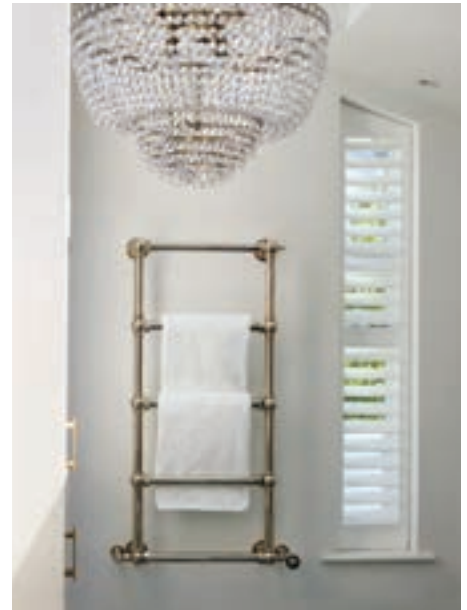
“Lowering the ceiling helped with scale,” explains Waguespack, “and we created a lot more symmetry than before. Even though the bathroom is the same square footage, there’s so much more circulation space, and we more than doubled the amount of storage.” Tall cabinets at either end of the vanity store the wife’s jewelry and bath essentials.

Botanical wallpaper by Cole & Son, selected by the client, sets an organic tone, as does the elegant 12-by-12-inch Carrara marble tile from Architectural Ceramics, applied on the floor and shower walls. “You would think the stone would be cool and harsh,” observes Waguespack. “But with Carrara, the veining grounds you to the earth because it’s so natural.” On the shower floor, he designed a “rug” of tiny hexagonal tiles in matching stone, framed by a mitered border. A Crystorama chandelier with drop crystals adds a dressy touch.

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 BATH DESIGN/BUILD: David Waguespack, CKBR, UDCP, lead designer; George Bergling, project manager; Robert Campbell, lead carpenter, Case Design/Remodeling, Bethesda, Maryland. TEXT: Sharon Jaffe Dan. PHOTOGRAPHY: Stacy Zarin Goldberg.



◀ Plan the perfect shower with Kohler's customizable Choreograph Shower Wall and Accessory Collection. Walls and panels are made of Serica, a durable composite material, and come in a choice of colors, patterns and textures (shown in Sandbar and VeinCut Sandbar). Glass and integrated shelves and hooks keep clutter contained. us.kohler.com



▲ The solid-brass heated towel rail by British manufacturer Drummonds conveys old-fashioned luxury. Traditionally styled, it can be heated by water, electricity or both. Available in multiple sizes and finishes and in free-standing, wall-mounted and floor-mounted versions. Sold through the company's New York City showroom. drummonds-uk.com

bathing BEAUTY

Innovation and creativity distinguish the latest finds for the bath

BY ALEXANDRA BAYLINE

► Signature Hardware brings a touch of Victorian England to its Freestanding Telephone Tub Faucet, pictured here in brightly polished brass. The faucet set comes complete with a lift-and-turn drain and metal cross handles that cradle the hand shower on its flexible 60-inch hose. signaturehardware.com



▲ Handcrafted using traditional sandcasting methods, Stone Forest's Bronze Lunette vessel makes a striking addition to any bathroom. The production process can lead to small anomalies that are the distinctive traits of each sink. Available in golden- and weathered-bronze finishes that will develop a patina over time. stoneforest.com

BAZAAR

▼ To create Dekton, a surface by Cosentino, inorganic elements found in glass, porcelain and quartz are heat-compressed to accelerate the changes that occur in natural stone over time. Now, Cosentino introduces a new Dekton palette that includes Aura (pictured), a strong-veined, marble-like surface. cosentino.com



► Designed by Ramón Esteve for L'Antic Colonial, the Faces collection of ceramic wall tiles is characterized by modern, geometric motifs on multi-dimensional or flat surfaces. Available at Porcelanosa in black and white, or metallic gold and silver. porcelanosa-usa.com



▲ Designed by Patrick Messier, the minimalist, sculptural BBE 02 tub from WETSTYLE's Be Collection is made of eco-friendly soy and vegetable extracts and mineral stone instead of chemical-based resins. Available in matte and high-gloss finishes with an attached shelf that comes in oak or walnut. wetstyle.ca



◀ Elements of classic European architecture inspired Marble Systems' Urban Layer Collection of stone and porcelain tiles. The line showcases parquetry, latticework, trellises, framework, geometric weaves and blocks. Patterns come in soft, neutral hues; the customizable collection is suitable for all interior applications. marblesystems.com

► Fiandre—maker of eco-friendly porcelain surfaces resembling stone, wood, concrete and more—has launched Aqua Maximum, a system of sleek, customizable sinks and shower trays. Shown here, the marble-like Double Integrated Washbasin Up&Down creates a clean-lined, uncluttered look. granitifiandre.com



► The grooves on the WAVE collection of cabinet hardware by Du Verre Hardware evoke the action of waves. The hand-finished, recycled-aluminum knobs and pulls come in satin nickel, antique brass and oil-rubbed bronze. Available at Push Pull Decorative Hardware in North Bethesda. pushpullhardware.com

