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#### November 2012

Decorating Is Fun!

"The real secret to a beautiful dining room is nice, dim lighting with votives in front of every place setting."

ALEX HITZ













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# BATH OF THE MONTH

Design by LYNN BUTLER BELING

## Southampton, New York

It's the contrasts that captivate: dark and light, rustic and refined, simple and dramatic. And that tub, of course. Interview by CHRISTINE PITTEL

Photographs by TARA STRIANO

Produced by SAMANTHA EMMERLING



### BATHOF THEMONTH







#### CHRISTINE PITTEL: My kingdom for that tub!

LYNN BUTLER BELING: Isn't it beautiful? The back goes up so high that you can rest your head against it, with the water up to your shoulders. It's a real soaking tub. And so sculptural.

That's why I put the dark tile behind it-to show off the shape. It would have been lost if it was just white against white. Most tubs are so chunky, but this one is slim and elegant. It's a contemporary version of an oldfashioned slipper tub, and that fits my aestheticmixing old and new. This is a modern bathroom in an 1880s farmhouse. The tile looks modern

#### but rustic, too, with that weathered patina. What is it?

It's porcelain made to look like oxidized metal. as if you had left raw steel out in the rain. People thought I was crazy

to do one wall dark and the other light, but I think it adds drama. The sink is directly across from the tub, and it's nice to have that dark backdrop when you're looking in the mirror in the morning. It's flattering. The color reminds me of the fieldstone fireplace in the master bedroom.

#### Why did you choose a medicine cabinet that opens like a garage door?

I'm just drawn to that style. My kitchen cabinets open the same way. It feels more European. The electrical outlets for a shaver or a hair dryer are tucked inside to get them out of the way. There's a mirror that runs along a rail in front of the glass shelves, so you can still see yourself when the door is up.

#### Only one sink?

My husband and I thought about two, but we were about 10 inches short on space. This sink

and the countertop are all one piece—it's long enough that we both can get ready at the same time, which seemed like a nice compromise. The sink and the vanity are made by Duravit, and I like how it's mounted on the wall. When you have limited space, the secret is to get things off the floor. The room will seem larger. And the whole length of the vanity is a huge pull-out drawer, so we didn't skimp on storage.

#### That's an unusual faucet. I like the wide, flat spout. The water comes out like

a ribbon.

#### Wait a minute. Where's the faucet on the tub?

It's that simple, flat rectangle with the soap on top. The hot and cold handles are those two little squares above it. As soon as I saw it, it was a done deal. It creates the most beautiful effect, like a mini-waterfall.

#### SHELIKES

"You get deep, rich color with a translucent sheen. so it's like a lipstick and a lip gloss in one. And I like the real brush instead of one of those little foam things."



GOLDEN GLOSS; YSLBEAUTYUS.COM

ABOVE LEFT: Porcelanosa's Ferroker tiles have the look of weathered steel. ABOVE CENTER: The Fogo vanity unit with a Vero sink, both by Duravit, combines dark and light-another theme. Dornbracht's Mem faucet and towel bar in polished chrome. Daltile's 12-by-18-inch Polaris Gloss White tiles from Home Depot. ABOVE RIGHT: Keuco's Edition 300 medicine cabinet comes with frosted light strips and an interior mirror.

#### GET THE LOOK ...

Tub: vandabaths.com. Vanity and sink: duravit.com. Faucets and towel bar: dornbracht.com. Gray tile: porcelanosa-usa.com. White tile: daltile.com.

Medicine cabinet: keuco.co.uk. Paint: benjaminmoore.com.

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