



EMILIE MUNROE BRINGS NEW ENERGY TO A COUPLE'S PALO ALTO HOME



TOP, LEFT: A MARTINEAU LANTERN BY GREGORIUS[PINEO TAKES SHAPE IN THE ENTRY. RIGHT: A SOFA FROM A. RUDIN FACES A TAVOLINO WOOD AND IRON COFFEE TABLE BY FORMATIONS.

PHOTO CREDIT: THOMAS KUOH

WHEN UPDATING THIS 8,500-square-foot Tuscan home in Palo Alto for a couple whose kids were heading off to college, Emilie Munroe of Studio Munroe was challenged to create an intimate design that would fill the stately structure. “The house needed a design suitable for adult living,” says Munroe, “But we also wanted to be sure it had a welcome, vibrant, and fun vibe that would draw the kiddos back home for entertaining and hanging out.”

Since the home is nestled in the rolling, grassy hills of the Bay Area’s Upper Peninsula, Munroe and her team focused on pulling the outside in, through color and texture. “We used shades of blue to tie the upholstery to the bright California sky and creamy taupes to reference the soft grasses along the hillside,” says Munroe. A variety of blue hues, from navy to seafoam, were used throughout the house to add serenity and formality when needed. “There is an elegance to the icy blue of the living room that maintains the more formal feeling of the space,” says the designer. “It’s a subtle hint of color that brings a whisper of crisp morning air.”

The scale of the home called for palatial design; however, the clients desired a cozy ambiance that would help maintain the same level of comfort and energy after their children left for school. To achieve this, Munroe added new details like an expansive, decorative, dodecahedron-shaped chandelier in the entry that, while grand, was warm in tone. Each selection and piece of furniture pays tribute to the Tuscan architecture while contributing to the welcoming spaces, perfect for the family’s modern way of life. — Lindsey Shook

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—EMILIE MUNROE



PHOTO CREDIT: THOMAS KUOH



OPPOSITE PAGE: A GLIMPSE
OF THE BRETON CONSOLE
BY IRONIES. THIS PAGE,
TOP LEFT: THE ALTA BED
FROM SERENA & LILY SITS
ATOP A ROUND JUTE RUG,
ALSO FROM SERENA & LILY.
TOP, RIGHT: ORANGE CUBE
LEATHER POUFS FROM
JONATHAN ADLER AND A
PAIR OF A. RUDIN SWIVEL
CHAIRS COVERED IN ROGERS
AND GOFFIGON PLAID BRING
VIBRANCY TO THE ROOM.
BOTTOM: THE JAEGER
CHANDELIER BY IRONIES
ADDS TEXTURE TO THE
DINING ROOM.

