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# SMALL SPACE BIG STYLE

By VANESSA KOGEVINAS  
Photography by JOHN ELLIS

For *California Home+Design's* premiere showhouse, LA's top designers transformed a 1,400-square-foot white-walled penthouse in Hollywood into an explosion of color, style and space-saving ideas.

Small-space living and great design go hand in hand. This pairing was put on bold display within the walls of *California Home+Design's* Small Space Big Style, a showhouse squeezed into 1,400 square feet and packed with ideas and examples of how to live with bold style in a small space. "No one, despite their stated disinterest in the history of the chaise lounge or sourcing the perfect scone, can claim a complete disassociation with design once they have attempted to set up a home office in a bedroom or host a dinner for eight in a studio apartment," says *CH+D's* executive editor, Erin Feher, who hand-picked the designers tasked with reimagining a petite penthouse inside The Hollywood Condos.

Each space features a creative concept fit for the home's "residents": a fictional couple dreamed up by Feher and her team. "I imagined them being high-style individuals who just moved back to their native Los Angeles from New York, where small-space living is the norm," says Feher. "They want to prove to their LA friends that they can express themselves fully and entertain without limits in their new home, and that living with less square footage doesn't mean sacrificing style."

Think about how you actually live and how you actually

**USE YOUR SPACE.**

-CHRISTOPHER KENNEDY

## Christopher Kennedy

LIVING ROOM+DINING ROOM

"I'm a child of the 1970s, and that time period was my inspiration—particularly the big super-graphics, which were popular at the time," says designer Christopher Kennedy, who deftly blended pieces from midcentury to the disco era and beyond for the space that takes center stage in the penthouse loft. Kennedy called upon scenic artists from Warner Bros. Studio Services to paint a striped mural that covers the 20-foot-high walls. Known for his use of bold color, Kennedy repeated eye-popping hues—brown, orange, pink and green—in the furniture, creating a clever cohesiveness. A Vladimir Kagan-style sofa covered in Schumacher's Babe's Tweed in Granny Smith green is paired with Kennedy's David chair and ottoman in a bright melon hue to create a seating area in front of the fireplace, while his Robert chair with a Lucite frame sports a bright green Kyle Bunting cowhide. To create a dining area that wouldn't obstruct the narrow space, Kennedy placed a Nakashima-style bench in front of a Rose Tarlow side table. The lightweight and dramatic hot pink recycled seat belt chair from Phillips Collection easily shifts around for extra seating. Kyle Bunting area rugs visually separate the lounge from the dining area. Tying everything together is Schumacher's Chiang Mai Dragon fabric, which is used for the dramatic floor-to-ceiling draperies. The tall windows also sport Crestron shades, which operate as part of a computerized system that includes lighting and music. The cherry on top (or, more appropriately, the artichoke) is a Possini chandelier from Lamps Plus. Says Kennedy, "This project truly shows that we can live graciously and functionally in a limited amount of space."





## Azadeh Shladovsky

### KITCHEN+POWDER ROOM

"I envisioned a kitchen that enhanced the architectural story of the home—in this case, the dramatic ceiling height," says Azadeh Shladovsky. The designer began by ripping out the existing cabinetry on the narrow kitchen's two walls, replacing it with a single wall of floor-to-ceiling walnut casework by Warner Bros. Studio Services. On the opposite wall, white glossy porcelain tiles by WalkOn Tile provide subtle texture, while pure white Caesarstone countertops and backsplashes unify the space. Both sides now fully take advantage of the ceiling height and draw the eye upward. A Thermador dishwasher, refrigerator, range and hood, and a Franke USA sink and faucet—all from Snyder Diamond—make the kitchen a high-end, high-functioning space, yet

the design still allows for a subdued, gallery-like feel. A custom brass spider lamp climbs the wall, and art from Sears-Peyton Gallery is hung above the cabinets. "A room should promote functional, effortless, beautiful living experiences," says Shladovsky. In contrast to the light kitchen, the powder room is sexy and moody, its walls painted Black Blue by Farrow & Ball. "The room represents the 'Hollywood dream,'" says the designer. A series of Dennis Hopper photos taken in Los Angeles in the late 1960s are arranged in a grid, while an image of a camera lens stands in for the expected mirror above the Alape sink—a tongue-in-cheek reference to the Hollywoodism: It doesn't matter what you look like, as long as someone is looking at you.

**"NEVER  
COMPROMISE**  
on diligent and  
thoughtful space  
planning."

—AZADEH SHLADOVSKY



## Molly Luetkemeyer

### MEZZANINE

"I had to find a way to get this quirky, oddly shaped space to function," says Molly Luetkemeyer, who designed a creative studio to reflect the passions of the fictitious resident couple—a fashion design studio for her and a music jam area for him. "The vibe is sort of Southwest on acid." She incorporated natural materials, such as hides (rugs from Studio McMahon and Early California Antiques), raw wood (a Douglas fir stool table by Jason Lees Design) and grass cloth (an Elitis Geisha pink wall covering). The fashion area of the

mezzanine comprises a seating spot featuring a pair of Townsend chairs by Grace Home Furnishings; a desk area created using CB2 table bases and a bronze smoked-glass desktop; and a sewing nook—a former closet creatively transformed and decked out with an acrylic Z-shaped desk chair. In the music area, Luetkemeyer covered the walls with cork to stifle sound and pinned them with hundreds of tear sheets, clippings and postcards. A swiveling rattan papasan chair offers a place to sit, relax and make music.







## Christian May

### MEZZANINE POWDER ROOM

"I dreamed of turning the world's smallest bathroom into a unique and unforgettable space," says Christian May. He custom designed black-and-white-striped wallpaper—dubbed Memphis after the 1980s Italian design movement—with Black Crow Studios. Glossy black porcelain tiles from SpecCeramics extend up one wall of the shower; they are flanked by two walls of white ceramic subway tiles from WalkOn Tile. The variety of sizes, shapes and textures, all executed in bold black and white, give the room an *Alice in Wonderland* feel while also creating the illusion of a larger space. Custom matte black Rubinet fixtures and a Toto toilet—both from Snyder Diamond—offer the essentials, and accessories such as two custom mirrors and a shelf and cabinet, all by Warner Bros. Studio Services, provide elegant touches. "The sliver of a cabinet under the petite sink now hides the unattractive plumbing—and as a bonus, there is now somewhere to hide an extra roll of toilet paper!" says the designer. A Lamps Plus Bulkhead sconce sheds some light on the entire striped situation.

## Potted

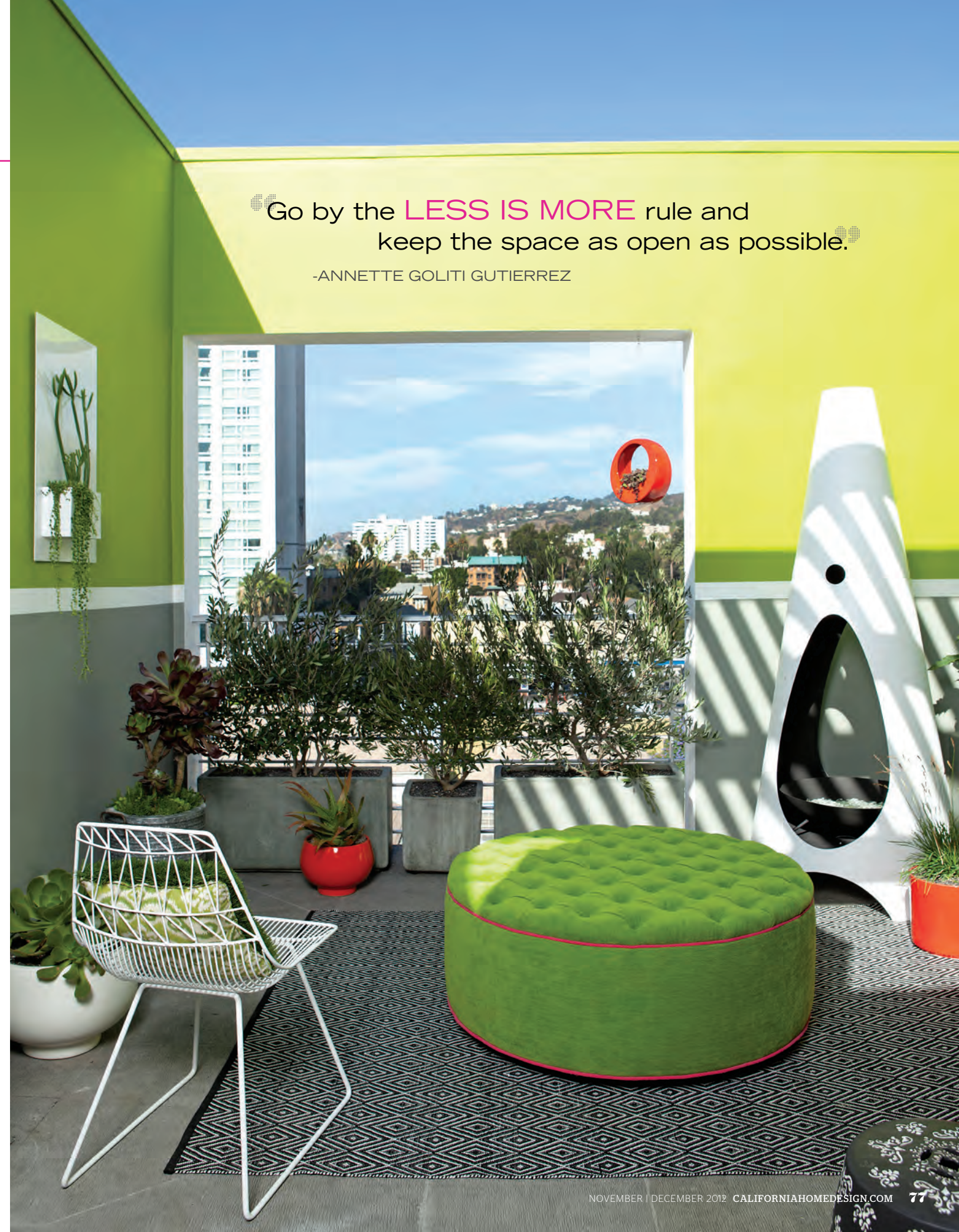
### Mary Gray + Annette Goliti Gutierrez OUTDOOR TERRACES

"We wanted to create another living room, not just an outdoor space," says Annette Goliti Gutierrez of Potted, an outdoor living boutique. She and co-owner Mary Gray began by commissioning Warner Bros. Studio Services to build a contemporary pergola that didn't obstruct the sun and sky, but rather provided subtle shade while casting interesting shadows on the terrace. A stunning custom Firefly chandelier by Cleveland Art features faceted pieces of clear glass, which glint in the bright sun during the day and cast a glow from Edison bulbs at night. Underneath, Gutierrez chose Kismet Tile to create a colorful tabletop, paired with white powder-coated steel chairs by Bend and surrounded on two sides by a built-in concrete bench. "We decided to incorporate an existing ledge into the design, and then we painted half the wall to give the illusion of it being an actual bench," says Gray. Plentiful pillows covered in Sunbrella fabric and a faux grass material make for a funky, lounge-like atmosphere. A far corner of the deck, anchored by an impressive six-foot-tall steel fireplace by Modfire, offers another place to relax and linger. The deck is packed with greenery, ranging from succulents to a Pink Slipper plant to aloe to grass, completing what the Potted design team considers an example of the Southern California lifestyle at its best.



Go by the **LESS IS MORE** rule and keep the space as open as possible.

-ANNETTE GOLITI GUTIERREZ





## Erinn Valencich

### MASTER BEDROOM+BATH

"I wanted the room to be sexy and dramatic with a nod to the elegance of Old Hollywood," says Erinn Valencich. She chose her mirrored Erinn V. Maison Astra bed with an antique silver-leafed frame to anchor the room and suspended a stunning Cyan Design turquoise glass chandelier, also from her store, above it. "I was inspired by our savvy clients and their artistic interests," says Valencich. "I drew color inspiration from a watery John Russo photograph that I hung next to the bed." Erinn V. Maison nightstands in white lacquer topped with Lucite-and-nickel table lamps from Grace Home Furnishings stand out against the layered walls, which were executed by artist Erin Leigh in deep navy Roman clay from Portola Paints & Glazes. The delicate Roman shades offer privacy while still letting in plenty of light. For the bath, a custom maple-and-oak vanity designed by Valencich and built by Warner Bros. Studio Services is fitted with a Milano Granite countertop and integral sinks; it perfectly complements the SpecCeramics tile laid in a herringbone pattern on the walls. Glossy fire engine red Rubinet fixtures from Snyder Diamond offer a vibrant and unexpected burst of color.



Large statement pieces **MAKE MORE OF AN IMPACT.**

-BRIAN PATRICK FLYNN



## Brian Patrick Flynn

### SECOND BEDROOM+BATH

"I had to make the best use of a small area through clever space planning, a play on scale and use of color and pattern," says Brian Patrick Flynn. To ground the bedroom's soaring 20-foot ceiling, Flynn broke the walls into two parts: The lower wall is upholstered in faux ostrich with nailhead accents, and the upper wall is covered in a custom-designed gingham teal wall covering by Astek. The technique offered a tailored way for dealing with the tall, narrow room. Warner Bros. Studio Services fabricated a wingback headboard, covered in Kravet's Versailles velvet in Peacock, which is flanked by Zuo Modern mirrored chests. "The use of reflective surfaces creates the illusion of more space," says Flynn. In the closet,

the designer installed a desk—painted a vivid teal and illuminated with a Jonathan Adler lamp from Lamps Plus—and hung a clothes railing above. The best part? The whole setup can be concealed by a pair of custom doors covered in luxurious, salmon-hued taffeta from Schumacher. "I blended two styles that aren't necessarily seen together all that often: preppy and Hollywood," Flynn says; a crystal chandelier from Crystorama, however, definitely tips the scales in favor of glamour. For the bathroom, a shower partition made from an industrial casement window adds a masculine touch, while bathroom accessories—such as a walnut buck's head that doubles as a place to hang towels—provide utilitarian touches of whimsy.





Create accent walls, **DON'T OVERTHINK YOUR DESIGN** and don't clutter up the space.

-DANIELLE CORNWELL

## Danielle Cornwell

THE RESOURCE LIBRARY+LOUNGE

"I'm a firm believer in the Japanese concept of wabi-sabi; the notion that something doesn't have to be excessively or perfectly decorated in order to make an impact," says Danielle Cornwell of Kanner Architects, who, with architectural design consultant Birgit Hansen, created a quiet contemporary space in the neighboring penthouse unit. Dubbed the Small Space Big Style resource library and lounge, it is a place for crowds to gather as well get more information about the products featured in the showhouse. Cornwell and Hansen began with a custom, white-and-

yellow paper sculpture by LA artist Emily White, which appears to float near the ceiling like a graphic cloud. Instead of conventional seating, a lounge was created with vivid red and orange pods loosely arranged in front of a custom Corian-and-wood bar—all fabricated by Warner Bros. Studio Services. In the mezzanine, a FLOR tile patchwork carpet is paired with a playful glowing ball lamp from Smart & Green, while a courtyard featuring SpecCeramics tiles and seating areas warmed by a Modfire outdoor fireplace offers an open-air place to pass the time.



**Townsend Chair, Grace Home Collection**  
Molly Luetkemeyer reupholstered this low-slung feminine chair in Malabar fabric; [gracehome.com](http://gracehome.com).

**Caesarstone Pure White 1141**  
Azadeh Shladovsky opted for cool white Caesarstone countertops in the kitchen; [caesarstone.com](http://caesarstone.com).



**Crestron**  
Thanks to Crestron's home-integration system, the shades and stereo system in the living room can be controlled from any mobile device; [crestron.com](http://crestron.com).

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF THE COMPANIES



**Rubinet Matthew Quinn Series Single Control**  
Erinn Valencich went with a faucet in showstopping red with satin nickel finish from Synder Diamond; [snyderdiamond.com](http://snyderdiamond.com).



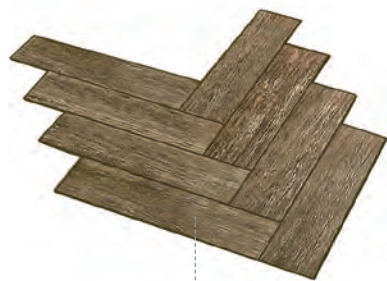
**Glossy White Porcelain Mosaic Tile**  
The pure white tiles from WalkOn Tile were paired with a black matte option in Christian May's high-contrast mezzanine powder room; [walkontile.com](http://walkontile.com).

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF THE COMPANIES

**Possini Euro Design Icicle Leaf Chandelier**  
Christopher Kennedy lit up the living room with this dramatic chandelier from Lamps Plus; [lampsplus.com](http://lampsplus.com).



**Beginning January 7**  
Purchase even more of the furnishings and accessories from CH+D's Small Space Big Style showhouse on [OneKingsLane.com](http://OneKingsLane.com).



**Woodway Collection Tile in Oak Tobacco**  
This textured tile by SpecCeramics is laid in a herringbone pattern in the master bath; [specceramics.com](http://specceramics.com).

## SHOP THE SHOWHOUSE

Fabulous finds from within our Small Space Big Style showhouse.



**Custom sofa from Warner Bros. Studio Services**  
Christopher Kennedy worked with set-design experts to design a Kagan-style sofa; [studiofacilities.warnerbros.com](http://studiofacilities.warnerbros.com).



**John Russo Photography**  
The abstract works of LA photographer John Russo inspired the color palette in the master bedroom; [erinnvmaison.com](http://erinnvmaison.com).