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# MARSHAL arts

AN ORDERLY DESIGN STRATEGY  
LEADS A WASHINGTON, D.C.,  
MOM TO FUNCTIONAL—AND  
GORGEOUS—RESULTS

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PRODUCED BY EILEEN A. DEYMIER



## “ ELEGANT FABRICS AND GRACEFUL FORMS SOFTEN AND ENHANCE THE FEELING OF A HOME.”

Stewart began her part of the redo with a face-lift in the foyer, including new striped wallpaper plus a pair of graphic etageres standing on either side of an arch. But not everything was so symmetrical. A round table was charmingly draped to the floor in shimmering silk topped with a square of taupe- and-ivory damask.

The living room's major change resulted in a new term that would become part of the Scalias' renovation lexicon—"Donald Doors." Lococo's solution for providing easier access to the large yard was to replace existing windows in both the living and family rooms with French doors. In the living room, the doors are set on either side of the marble fireplace and lead to a new side porch fitted with a clever wall of painted shutters that control light and provide privacy. The addition of the porch not only pleasingly alters the home's exterior but also supplies an architectural reference to Trish's native New Orleans. Putting a porch on the side of the house greatly improved the traffic pattern, says Lococo. "Exchanging the windows for full-height French doors started that journey."

Traffic flow is important in any home, but Trish had a particular reason for hassle-free circulation. Every year, in honor of her hometown tradition, she and Gene host a large Mardi Gras party, and Trish didn't want any of what she describes as "dead ends."

The dining room, where fundamentals of geometry guide the design, glows in natural light. Understanding that Trish and Gene didn't want the room cluttered by walls loaded with paintings, Stewart had oversized circles stenciled in gold onto the raffia-covered walls, giving the traditional space a contemporary lift.

As one might imagine, an avid cook with six kids puts a great kitchen at the top of her renovation list. But unlike other couples who opt for an open kitchen/family room space, Trish chose a kitchen that stands on its own.

"We have a lot of togetherness, so separation of spaces was important," she explains. "I wanted to be able to be in my kitchen and have the opportunity to talk with one of my children without everyone else being privy to the conversation."



Master bedroom serene oc'ete and lean-back searing define this space. Pillows by Lee Jofa decorate the sofa, and Bergamo's "Fiji" covers the ottoman. At the foot of the bed, a bench is upholstered in aqua "Caterpillar" from Schumacher. The carpet is "Oracle" from Galleria, *Rolling Clouds 2*, a painting by Caroline Adams, commands the space above the fireplace.

Porch The New Orleans-style porch features shutters and a painted gray floor.

Exterior The Scalia home was built in the 1980s,



**FRESH, YOUTHFUL LOOK OF THE HOME'S RENOVATION.** —designer Whitney Stewart

Trish employed a tactic from which many could profit: She photographed every item in the cabinets and drawers of her old kitchen and presented the photos to kitchen designer Nancy Thornett so she could accommodate Trish's work style in the room's redo.

Walls dividing the existing pantry from the kitchen were knocked down and replaced with glass cabinets to create an airy transition into the work space. Two islands allow for handy figure-8 circulation and eliminate unusable space that often accompanies oversized islands. Since the Scalias do not allow computers in the children's rooms, a pair of computer desks flank the opening to the breakfast area.

The lengthy renovation process required a lot of patience from everyone, but, insists Trish, "The finished product was worth the wait. We changed the house by observing our entire family in action. It's a home created for our needs and layered with memories." ❧

**Architect:** Donald Lococo **Interior designer:** Whitney Stewart  
**Kitchen designer:** Nancy Thornett **For more information, see sources on page 144**

