

GENTRY

HOME

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ALL ABOUT MAXIMALISIM

A pair of Silicon Valley newlyweds embellish their new home with lavish flair.

“Fun!” exclaims designer Kevin Sawyers. “This project was so much fun. I don’t think we’ll ever do anything quite like it again.” Sawyers’ clients—newlyweds who have each led fascinating lives—wanted to marry their belongings and collections in a new way. “She’s a retired former divorce attorney and divorced single mother of two daughters. He’s an entrepreneur easing into retirement. They are now newlyweds enjoying every second of life—relentlessly traveling nationally and internationally.”

Sawyers met the bride-to-be when she was having her wedding dress altered. “We were at the same stylist and hit it off,” he recalls. The home is filled with rich tobacco tones, bold doses of red and plenty of texture. “My client always said there’s ‘never too much,’” recalls Sawyers. “She was always happy to take things over the top.” Indeed, rich colors and layer upon layer of materials and patterns were a must. “My client really wanted to create a home that would comfort the two of them like a warm blanket,” notes Sawyers. “We went through a process of peeling away the layers of past interior design experiences. It took a lot of listening to get to the real nuggets of information that would direct us. One story she told about parties she’d had in Chicago revealed her love of a red sofa. This sense of *joie de vivre* had to happen in the new home.”

Sawyers drew on his clients’ affinity for Asian artifacts and furnishings and incorporated art pieces from their various collections, including precious masterworks. Throughout the spaces, the designer played not only with color and texture, but scale. “As you enter the home, you’re met with an enormous mural of horses galloping,” says Sawyers. “The main living space is grounded by a wall of stone surrounding the fireplace. It provides a backdrop for the gorgeous, over-sized, modern crystal sconce columns, while a massive chandelier over the kitchen island adds drama.”

The final project is bursting with personality and reflective of its owners. “It just makes you smile,” enthuses Sawyers. ♦

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The kitchen (top left) features a dramatic iron and crystal light fixture. In the master bath (top right) Sawyers covered the walls in rich “Bamboo” by Élitis from Donghia. The den/office has a mix of Jonathan Adler and RH pieces. The walls and ceiling are painted in a deep cognac hue, and the wool rug with deep pile offers a striking dose of texture.